

## Lesson 2: The Life of Joseph –Pharaoh’s Dream

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Genesis Chapter 41: Joseph becomes Pharaoh’s Second-in-Command and interprets his dreams
- 2) Learn that God will be with us if we follow him – like Joseph.

### Supplies:

#### Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Seven Years of Plenty Color by Number Sheet – one per child

#### **Optional:**

- Pretzels- 10 for each child (make sure they are the ones with holes in them)
- Licorice string (long enough to make a necklace) – one for each child
- OR String/Yarn (long enough to make a necklace and tie it) – one for each child
- Cereal in shapes with holes (like cheerios)– 10 for each child
- Candies with holes in the middle – 5 for each child
- Sandwich baggies – one for each child to put finished necklace in
- Storybook of this chapter in Genesis with pictures to show kids (if available) and/or
- Flannel Display Board and characters to show the story of this chapter. (if available)

#### **Snack:**

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| - Pretzel Sticks         | 8 - 10 per child |
| - Napkins for snack      | one per child    |
| - Juice or water and cup | one per child    |

### Lesson:

#### **1) Introduction to Lesson**

**2-5 minutes**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance. Once children are seated say:

**What did we study last week about Joseph?** Joseph worked in the prison. He interpreted a dream for the cupbearer and baker – the interpretation was correct but the cupbearer forgot to tell Pharaoh about Joseph falsely being in the prison. We also learned that Joseph was a godly young man who fled from sin and did what was right – even when it was hard.

#### **2) Joseph Interprets a Dream for Pharaoh**

**10-20 minutes**

**Optional:** If you have a book with pictures or visuals you can use them while reading the story from the Bible.

Ask students to turn to Genesis 41. Then ask them to follow along as you read. Note: You will have to skip some of the story in the Bible as it is too long to read in one sitting, so tell the kids what part

you are reading, then when done, tell them where to turn to start the next part. Tell the children they can read the entire story on their own during the week if they choose.

### Genesis 41:1-16, 25-52, 56

Discuss the following Questions:

**How did Pharaoh find out about Joseph?** The cupbearer remembered him when Pharaoh mentioned his dream.

**What did the dream mean?** There would be seven years of plenty and then seven years of famine.

**What should that do to warn us today?** That sometimes we will have good years and not so good years – we should save when we are making good money, for the years when times might be hard. Don't spend everything you have so you will always have something if needed.

**How did Pharaoh repay Joseph for sharing the dream that God allowed Joseph to interpret?**

He appointed him second-in-command and gave him a wife! How things quickly changed for Joseph! God had blessed him for his years of patiently waiting in prison.

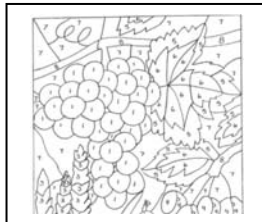
**What qualities do we read here about Joseph?** He was patient, hard-working, gave God credit, was godly, trustworthy and wise!

**What was he blessed with by God at the end of our reading?** Two sons.

Allow for other questions before moving on.

#### 3) Seven Years of Plenty Color By Numbers

15 minutes



Hand out one sheet per child along with plenty of crayons or pencil crayons. Read the title and words on the page so kids who have trouble reading know what color each number represents.

Remind them that this is the seven years of plenty predicted by God through Joseph, which was to be followed by seven years of famine.

Ask students what they remember about the story today and what was their favorite parts. When students are done, have them clean up before moving on.

#### 4) Optional – Pretzel Necklace Craft

15 minutes

Before class, ensure you have all supplies ready – see list above in Optional Supplies section.

During class say: **After Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams, Pharaoh was so grateful he adorned Joseph with a gold chain. We are going to make our own chain necklaces today out of things made with grain to remind us of Joseph and how he interpreted Pharaoh's dream.**

Hand out licorice string or yarn, pretzels, candies and cereal for each child in front of them. Let them decorate their necklace by placing the pieces of food through the string. When they are done, tie the ends to make a necklace! Have sandwich baggies ready so that they can place their necklace in the bag and take it home to eat later. \*Remind them to ask their parents first before eating.

#### 5) Optional – Snack: Pretzel Sticks

5 minutes

Hand out pieces of pretzels enough for each child to have 6-8. Also give each child a glass of water or juice. Explain that, **“When Pharaoh had the dream, God through Joseph was able to show the meaning – there would be seven years of plenty and seven years of famine – these pretzels remind us of the grain that was in Pharaoh's dream – they are like bundles of grain!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking. Go around the room asking what each student remembers about today's event from the Bible.

## **6) Optional – Songs**

**5 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you.

**Songs of Joseph** (See Printed Song Sheet). Keep copies and sing each week.

## **7) Close in prayer**

\*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Pray that God will be with us as He was for Joseph. We pray that God will continuously look out for us and guide us as we serve and remember Him. Thank God for all the blessings He gives us and thank God for teaching us that we need to be responsible and patient like Joseph was. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Thanks for serving Christ in this way!