



It is our prayer that these lessons will:

1. Be an **affordable** resource for the church.
2. Present **God** as the central focus of each lesson.
3. Provide **attractive handouts** for the students to interact with throughout the week.
4. Give more **application tools** to the student and discussion starters for the teacher.
5. Provide **daily Scripture readings** that reinforce the lesson, encouraging Bible reading habits.
6. Be flexible enough to use for a bible study, Sunday school, evangelism or discipleship.
7. Be a **guide** for anyone who wishes to share the Bible.
8. **Teach note-taking.**
9. Work well when used in conjunction with the rest of the six year “**teen Expedition**” series.
10. Encourage **outreach and discipleship** in your church.

As you look at these lessons you will quickly notice that Volume 1 is a study of the characters of Hebrews chapter 11. The lessons launch from Hebrews and connect to the characters of faith in the Old Testament. As they follow the lives of these people of faith, they also study the way God reveals Himself and teaches them to trust in Him. The goal is to build strong young people with vibrant, solid faith.

Whatever your need, we hope to help you grow your church.



Index & Sample **Teacher lesson**



TEEN EXPEDITIONS - lesson guide



VOL. 1 HEBREWS 11

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5. Joseph

Hebrews 11:22, Genesis 37-50

Chapter 37 1- 4 THE FAMILY

Before we begin to study Joseph's life, we must understand the tension that existed already in the home. Joseph's father Jacob (Israel) had met a beautiful young lady named Rachel and agreed to work seven years for her hand in marriage. But he was tricked into marrying her sister Leah first. So he worked another seven years for Rachel. He always had a special love for her that he did not have for Leah. In Genesis 29:31 "God saw that Leah was unloved". Any children born to these two sisters would undoubtedly know the animosity that existed here. Then add to that the strong personalities of Joseph's brothers like the episode in chapter 34. This is where we see Joseph's half brothers, Simeon and Levi, killing a whole village because one man violated their sister Dina. Joseph was always special to Jacob (Israel) because he was the first born to Rachel who was his father's first love. Chapter 37:3 states that Jacob loved Joseph because he was the son of his old age, but the implication was that Jacob and Rachel thought that they may never have a child because they were getting old. Rachel died giving birth to his only true brother Benjamin. This will be a special detail later.

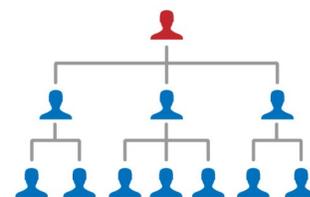
In today's vernacular, we would call this a "blended family". We begin chapter 37 where Joseph is now 17 years old. We see Jacob showing favoritism to Joseph with a special coat. Some say that it was multi-colored but all agree that it was a full length and expensive garment. This coat was much more than some thing to keep him warm, it was a symbol of authority. Wearing this coat gave position and favor like a forman. They would not have to do the work, just oversee that it was done. Wearing this coat would be a constant reminder to the brothers of his fathers special love. This would not bring the family closer, it drove a wedge deeper. v 4.

In the midst of all this, God sees how Joseph is treated and chooses him for a special assignment that will take courage and integrity. Joseph encountered many painful things in his life but never used his past as an excuse for laziness or disobedience in the present.

Verse 5 -11 THE DREAMS

Joseph had two dreams. These dreams were special. Little did anyone know how important these dreams were, especially Joseph. The dreams were slightly different, but both had the same message. Both the sheaves and the stars symbolized and foreshadowed an event that would take place several years later. Notice that there is only one major difference between the two dreams. In the second dream we see the addition of the parents bowing down to Joseph. While these dreams only

Because of the complexity of the relationships in this introduction, it may be helpful to draw or use pictures to help the students understand Israel's family tree and see that Rachel only gave birth to two sons. The rest of the brothers were from Leah or their maidservants.



You can use
Genesis 35:23-26 to
make your chart.

You may ask why God didn't appear to Joseph in front of his family and reveal His plan to everyone so they wouldn't be so mean to Joseph. What we know for sure is that God knows exactly how to help us grow spiritually closer to Him in the exact way we need to learn it. Likewise, He wants to help us today, let Him.

5. Joseph

WEEK 1 *Hope*

P. 2



annoyed the brothers more. His father has a slightly different reaction. On the surface it looks as if Jacob was mad, but the text only says that he rebuked Joseph. His father may have only been trying to keep Joseph from being too bold or to make a public rebuke for the brothers' sake. There is no doubt that Jacob would have known the friction between Joseph and the brothers. By rebuking Joseph in front of his brothers, it would have been a diplomatic way of bringing some closure to the conversation. We see in verse 11 that the brothers were jealous, but the father kept these sayings in mind. Jacob had also had dreams from God in his past, and He knew the power and significance of them ^{Genesis 28:12, 31:11}. Joseph's dreams would serve as a promise from God for Joseph to remember in the hard years ahead, and provide the hope to focus on in that time.

Next week we will look at those difficult years Joseph would have, but today we will jump 23 years to the fulfillment of these dreams.

Read Genesis chapter 42. The first dream would come true when the brothers came to buy grain because there was a severe famine.

Joseph recognized the brothers, but they did not recognize Joseph. The brothers were old enough the last time he had seen them, so they may not have changed much. Joseph on the other hand had changed greatly from a young boy to a man that had seen much grief and experiences. Above all that he would have on Egyptian clothes of authority and spoke a different language. All of these factors helped Joseph hide his identity.

Read chapter 43 and 45: 1-7. Maybe have the students read it out loud.

Note: (Encourage the students to read the entire account this next week. When the students read the rest of this account, have them look for clues about the special relationship between Joseph and Benjamin, his true brother born to the same mother.)

At some point in the last 23 years Joseph had come to trust the plan of God. He stated that all he had been through (even being sold into slavery by his brothers) was all a part of getting him in a position to help them now. Joseph saw the bigger picture and tried to explain it to his brothers who were still in shock that it was him.

As we finish the book of Genesis, we continue to see a special attachment between Joseph and his father. God used Joseph to save his family, but even more importantly the future nation of Israel. God had made a promise to Abraham and Jacob who was renamed Israel. God always keeps His word. After a few years God would rescue his people Israel out of Egypt through His servant Moses and the ten plagues.

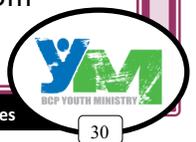
Discussion:

How was life different back then? The primary form of shelter in ancient Egypt was **houses** made of adobe, which are simply bricks made of sun-dried mud. The windows and doors of adobes were covered with mats to keep flies and other insects out, and the homes had flat roofs so that in the summer time people could sleep on the tops of them.

Houses were built around courtyards, and all the cooking was done outside in the courtyard. The main form of travel in ancient Egypt was by boat. The main source of protein was fish when it was caught. **Wheat** was a staple food. Most peasants survived off a combination of wheat and vegetables. Because there were few grazing lands, meat was more expensive and difficult to come by.

Children were also an important part of the family unit. They were considered to be a **blessing** from the gods, es-

➔ Discuss some promises God has made to us in this time, and discuss the Hope that we have because of them.



5. Joseph

WEEK 2 *Contentment*



P. 1

Joseph's unexpected events

Genesis 37: Father's favorite to brothers betrayal

We see in verse 2 of this chapter that Joseph pastured the flock with his brothers, but after Israel gave Joseph a coat of authority and he had his dreams, things changed. This time the brothers go work without Joseph. In verse 13 we see that his father Israel sent him to check on his brothers. This sounds like something a foreman would do. Joseph was not going to work *with* them any longer; he was only reporting *about* them. These three factors could have been big contributors to the events coming next.

1. Jacob, his father, showing favoritism to Joseph would give cause for jealousy in the brothers.
2. Joseph having leadership given to him when he was not the oldest would seem unfair to the first born in this culture.
3. God giving Joseph two dreams that depict the family bowing to him made the brothers hate him more. "The last straw"

DISCUSSION

There is a clue here that Israel did not trust the boys for some reason or possibly that they were taking too long to get back. At the very least we know that Simeon and Levi were fairly dangerous and rough guys. And from what happens next, we see that all of them were not to be messed with.

Another clue that they may not be trustworthy is that Joseph journeyed to Shechem and did not find his brothers where they should be. Joseph found them in the corrupt town of Dothan. It is interesting that the brothers saw Joseph coming from afar off. Is it possible that they are keeping a watchful eye out because they are doing something wrong. ^{Vs.18}

Application: if you have to have a lookout to make sure that the "coast is clear", then you know that you are doing something that you shouldn't. Next time you catch yourself looking over your shoulder to see if anyone is watching what you are about to do, know that God is always watching, and it is Him and Him alone that we should be trying to honor. "Be sure that your sin will find you out."

The brothers were rough with Joseph. Plan number one was to get rid of Joseph by putting him to death. Read 37:18– 24

We see Reuben, Jacob's first son, stepping up and being a leader on Joseph's behalf. He comes up with plan number two: throw Joseph into a pit. Ironically, Reuben was the one who should have been the most offended by Joseph, because Reuben should be father's favored one. We see in vs. 29-30 that he felt responsible for Joseph's safety and was going to rescue him from the others later.

Ask the students if they have ever felt left out or mistreated by a group of people?

Can you imagine having so many brothers like Joseph? On top of that having most of them hate you so much that they can't even talk nice to you or about you? Worse yet, in those days you didn't travel much, meaning, that there were few occasions that Joseph could have separated himself from them. Every day was living torture.

Ask your students how this situation would have been different if the whole family had been loving, compassionate, supportive and forgiving like we know God expects us to be. Sin has a way of making us selfish and bitter.

If they had been nice, they all would have rejoiced at God's revelation to Joseph about his future.

In fact, if the boys had been nice, God may have chosen another way to show them the future.

God, in His perfect way, gave Joseph some hope to hang on to as he went through the next few years of trials. Like Joseph, we can trust God to do right no matter how terrible or uncomfortable we feel.

Our main responsibility is to trust.



5. Joseph

WEEK 2 Contentment

P. 2

Reuben was not present when the rest of the boys put plan three into action and sold Joseph to the Midianite traders. ^{Vs. 29–30} When Reuben rent his clothes it was a sign of mourning or grief. There was no way Reuben could know at this point, that this was all a part of God's plan.

Application: We can be sure that God sees and knows everything we are going through, good or bad, every moment. Humanly speaking, when tragedy strikes, it may be hard to understand how this could turn out for good. We must trust that God is not taken by surprise by anything and that He will make all things right.

The boys banded together and concocted a lie to tell their dad. Making it look like that had nothing to do with it was a bold lie ^{Vs. 31-36}

Application: there are a few ways that sin tempts us to deal with guilt. 1. Pass the blame like Adam did to Eve. 2. Cover it up like Cain did with Abel. Or 3. Just plain lie. The Bible tells us that our sin will always find us out. We cannot hide from the eyes of God. The right way to deal with any sin is to admit it and confess it.

Jacob did not know at this point the truth about Joseph, but we do. Joseph was alive and is a slave because of his brothers.

Joseph passed the tests.

Skip to chapter 39. Even when we think we have everything taken from us, all we really need is God. Read vs 1-6. The Lord was with Joseph and blessed everything he touched.

DISCUSSION

Vs. 7—20 describe an event where Joseph was falsely accused and convicted but he passes the test. He ran from evil and did not sin. The Bible states that choosing to sin is shortsighted. ^{2 Peter 1:9} Remember that God had given Him dreams to hold on to as promise from God for the future. Joseph accepted the hardship, the unknown and seemingly impossible circumstances in light of an awesome God who can do anything.

Vs. 21 He went to jail and immediately we see that God was with him and gave him favor in the eyes of the jailer. Joseph was soon in charge without supervision, and whatever he did God prospered.

Application: Just like Joseph, our lives are not about us. Not about our comfort, our dreams, or our desires. It is about trusting His plan, His methods and His love. When we are content that He knows what He is doing, seek Him and follow His lead, we prosper.

God's plans include helping us find true satisfaction that this world cannot give. Chapters 40—41 show why God brought Joseph there. The path God uses to get us where He wants us is always the best way.

Do you think that Joseph spent all of his time moping around because of his circumstances?

What clues do we have that Joseph was not bitter?

1. Potiphar would not have bought a slave that was acting discontent.
2. The Lord was blessing him, so what he did prospered. That means he was active and not depressed.
3. He was promoted to overseer. That does not happen unless you are making the best of your talents. Joseph was a natural leader.
4. Joseph was trusted so much that he was put in charge and was not checked on. Joseph wasn't plotting a plan to escape when the master wasn't looking.

As you read these passages this week, be looking for other times that Joseph could have shut down or given up or run, but did not.

Sample Teacher Tools



Teacher Journey Log



Teacher Journey Log



Lesson # 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
BEFORE CLASS	Prayed for lesson preparation															
	Prayed for students by name															
	Prayed for my example in class															
	Prayed for other leaders															
	Prepared creative illustrations															
	Set up before students arrive															
INTRODUCTION	Greeted everyone															
	Review last week (lesson and Verse)															
	Attention getting introduction															
	Facilitated note taking															
PRESENT CONTENT	Prayer and Bible reading															
	Show them who God IS															
	Reviewed memory verse															
	Fostered discussion															
APPLICATION	Reviewed main lesson points															
	Encouraged daily Bible reading															
	Encouraged Bible memory															
	Application questions & answers															
BEYOND CLASS TIME	Encouraged projects															
	Encouraged church attendance															
	Contacts (card, visit, text, Facebook)															



Student Journey Log



Student Journey Log



STUDENTS NAME BIRTHDAY GRADE

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE # PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE #

		Lesson #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Activities  Attendance	Dates  Sunday School Church Youth time																		
	Note Taking 																		
	HIKING DEEPER Daily Scripture reading 																		
Evidence of prayer and Bible study																			
 Memory Verses																			
Home & Church Projects 																			
Outreach to friends																			



Vol. 1 Do they qualify for the Summit award? _____



Student Trophy



Summit Award

Suggested Requirements:

complete journal, scripture memory, faithful attendance to meetings and church, outreach services, projects, and any extra Church requirements.

Completed summit award

Six levels—each year completed gets a section of the plaque and achievement level title certificate

First year	Pioneer level
Second year	Sojourner level
Third year	Explorer level
Fourth year	Journeyman level
Fifth year	Mountaineer level
Sixth year	Summit level



Student Journal



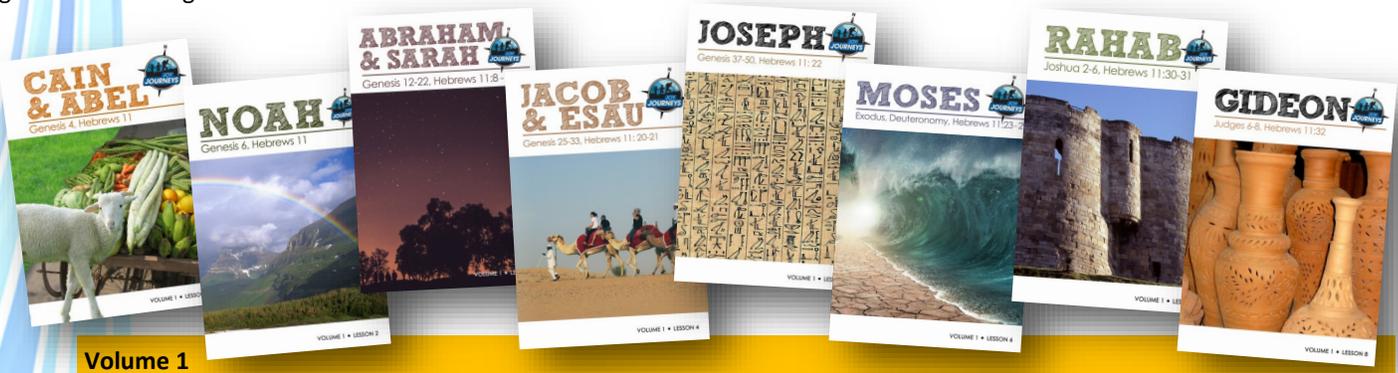
Journey Journal

These student handouts are designed to accompany the Teen Expeditions teacher book. These lessons study Hebrews chapter 11, helping the student apply the Biblical truths to their everyday lives in class and through the week.

This is Volume 1 in a six volume set. Each volume has 33-36 lessons.

THREE REASONS TO USE THIS RESOURCE:

1. **Review:** Have you ever asked your children on the way home from church, “what did you learn today?” and their response was little or minimal. This tool can help to remind them of what they studied and provide a way for you to have a discussion with them about what they looked at from Gods Word.
2. **Retention:** As a teacher you know that it is a risky thing to send a book home with a student for fear that they will not bring it back the next week to continue “in class progress”. This paper is directly linked with one lesson and does not need to be returned. It encourages the student to interact with the truth of this Biblical account all week long. Repetition and meditation on what they learned in class is reinforced when they interact with it through their week and learn to live its principles.
3. **Application:** I am sure that all of us want our students to do more than know the Truth. We desire that they live and obey the Truth. This guide helps the student to have daily Bible reading, asks questions to encourage personal application and guides their thoughts toward who God is.



THERE ARE EIGHT MAJOR COMPONENTS:

1. **Attention getting cover:** today’s youth are accustomed to high quality visuals.
2. **A place to take notes from the lesson:** Note-taking is a great skill to teach early. By adding this element you communicate that the Bible is important and it gives them something to review later on their own.
3. **Daily Scripture readings:** The daily readings are either a breakdown of the Biblical account of the lesson into readable sections or Scriptures that relate to the spiritual truths from the lesson.
4. **Scripture segment:** If the family does not read the Bible together yet, this is an easy way to provide it.
5. **Questions:** These are designed to help the students evaluate their actions and attitudes compared to Biblical truths.
6. **Memory Verse:** Storing scripture verses into our mind so we can recall them and have them guide our life and worship.
7. **Projects:** These are designed to help students interact with the lesson, their family and their church people. We learn by doing.
8. **God and man lessons:** It is imperative that we teach who God is and what He has done. The characters in the Bible and the accounts from their lives, show us .

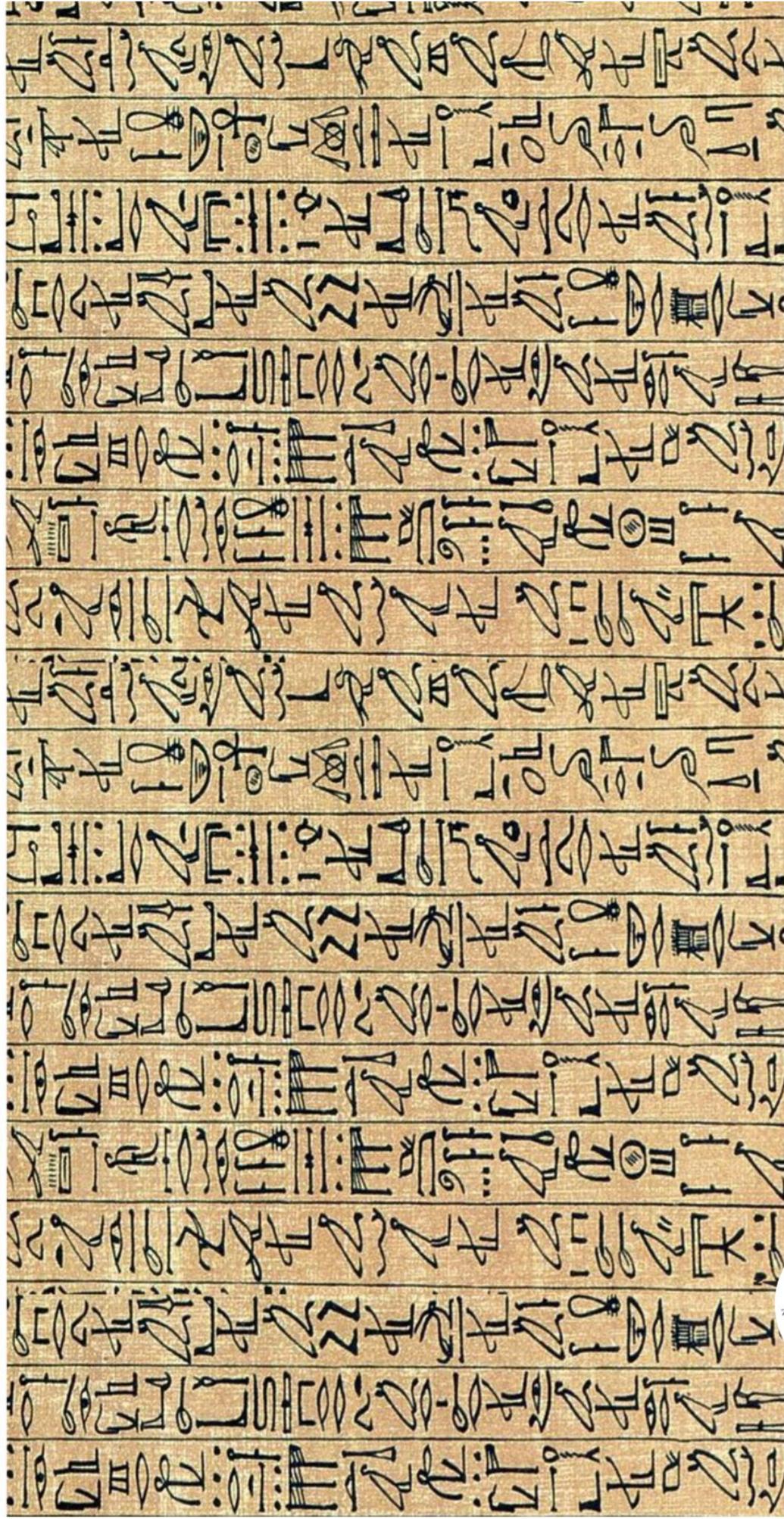
To track the effectiveness and the progress of the student use the Student Journey Log.

JOSEPH



Genesis 37-50, Hebrews 11:22

By en:user:Flembles [Bridgeman Art Library v. Corel Corp.]
[Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons from Wikimedia Commons





What does the Bible say?

Genesis 37:23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph of his coatand they cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it. And they sat down to eat bread....²⁸ then there passed by Midianites, merchantmen; and they drew and lifted Joseph out of the pit and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver...³¹ and they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood ³²...and they brought it to their father.



What does it mean?

Joseph's brothers didn't like him. They were a rough bunch of men. They had treated him poorly for 17 years and then sold him into slavery. Joseph endured many more hardships including being falsely accused and being sent to prison. But God was with him. God turned the horrible things in his life into great blessings. At age 30 Joseph became second in command over Egypt. Only God could do something like this. God can and wants to help you with your life, too. He can do anything.



Self examination

Do you ever feel like life isn't fair?

Do you ever do the right thing and still get in trouble?

Do you ever think that life is hard?

Joseph could have been tempted to have thoughts like these also. What we do know is that he did the right thing. He was a good example to us of patience and trusting in God.

God can use hard times in our lives to help us grow closer to Him. He wants us to rely on Him for everything.

The next time you feel like things are hard, just remember Joseph and Jesus, They both experienced things that were hard and unfair, but they trusted God to help them.



Save to memory

Genesis 50:20

“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it for good.”





What did we learn about GOD?

- God knows you better than anyone else knows you
- God desires to help us
- God always has a plan
- When He asks us to do something, He will provide the way to do it.
- God always keeps His promises
- God cannot lie
-



What did we learn about man?

- We make excuses to cover our lack of faith
- We need to learn to trust God
- God cares for us
- We must not let our emotions control us
-



How can I apply this weeks lesson?



Daily Bible reading

Day 1	Hebrews 11:23-29, Exodus 2
Day 2	Exodus 3
Day 3	Exodus 4:1-21, 7
Day 4	Exodus 8,9
Day 5	Exodus 10,11
Day 6	Exodus 12,13
Day 7	Exodus 14.15

Thoughts



At Home

Imagine how it must have been when God had Moses throw it down on the ground and it became a snake. How would you react. God used this to show others that He was with Moses. God uses us with what we have. We do not need anything more than what He has given us. What do you have and how does it bring glory to God?

At Church

Ask several older people in your church what their favorite miracle is and why it is their favorite. Write them down and show the list to your teacher. Talk to your teacher about why God did those things.



Lesson notes 1



Lesson notes 2



How do I get to heaven ?

The first thing everyone must do is deal with the sin problem.

We cannot fix it ourselves, we must believe in Him totally for that.

The problem is: sin separates us from God.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The only way to be free from sin is to believe he paid your price and rose from the dead confessing that He is the only way.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 10:9 That if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved.

There is nothing you can do to work your way to heaven only repent and believe.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast

After we know him then we can live a life of gratitude free from the bondage of sins power.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

If you wish to become a Christian, just pray and ask God to forgive you because of what Jesus did on the cross to pay your sin debt. We would encourage you to tell your parents, leader or teacher about your decision to follow Christ. I am sure that they would want to know.

Then Follow God on your life map



BCPYOUTHMINISTRY.COM

Life map!

Every journey worth taking has a plan & takes work.



Memorize Hebrews 11:6

Get on the right path.

1. Become a believer and have faith in God alone.
2. Pray everyday for God to show you how to have victory over sin.
3. Read your Bible
4. Go to Church
Put Jesus first
Love others
5. Never stop seeking HIM.

Think of yourself last

"...God is the rewarder of those who seek HIM"