

Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh

Week 3



Big Idea: Where others may intend to harm, God means for good.

Key Verse: Genesis 50:20

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

Table Talk

Has anybody told lies about you and gotten you in trouble, like Potiphar's wife did to Joseph?

What did it feel like? Did you do anything to get even?

Has anybody made promises to you and then not followed through, like the drink-tester did to Joseph?

How did that make you feel?

What can you learn from Joseph about patience and continuing to believe in God's plan during difficult times?

Extra Mile

Instruct each family member to bring his or her favorite possession to the living room. It must be only one thing, such as a toy, golf club, stuffed animal, photo, Wii gaming system, or car (of course, this would require a trip outside). Once everybody has chosen something, start with the youngest family member and have her explain why that item is her favorite. Continue around the room until each person gets to share about his possession. After everybody is finished, explain that it's natural to have a favorite thing. Some items just fit your personality and specific tastes better than others. Some things have more sentimental value and mean more to you. But when it comes to families, favoritism can cause some problems. Ask:

How did it make Joseph's brothers feel that Jacob "loved Joseph more than any of his other sons"? (Genesis 37:3)

Were Joseph's brothers justified in selling him into slavery?

Who was more at fault—Jacob or Joseph's brothers—for what happened to Joseph?

Have you ever been in a group or team where somebody else was the favorite?

Have you ever been treated as the favorite? How did that make you feel?

If there has been any favoritism shown (or felt) in your family, take time to discuss the issue and apologize to the child who felt slighted. At the end, pray for God to give your family the wisdom and ability to love each other fully and unconditionally without showing favoritism.

Watch VeggieTales "Little Joe".

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