

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part One



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Joseph's Coat and Dreams

Last week we learned that Jacob started out being dishonest and stealing from his brother, Esau. His mother helped him be dishonest. As a result, he had to flee for his life. He was unable to see his family for many years. But Jacob allowed God to change his way of thinking and his way of acting.

Genesis 37:1-36

Read the Bible

READ: Genesis 37:1-36 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse:

Jacob's sons were jealous
of their brother Joseph.
So they sold him as a slave.
He was taken to Egypt.
But God was with him.
(Acts 7:9 NIrV)

Begin with Prayer

This week we will study about the life of Joseph. He was one of the twelve sons of Jacob. Jacob loved Joseph very much. One day Jacob said, "I will make a coat for Joseph. When he sees the coat, he will know how much I love him." (Genesis 37:1-3)

Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that Jacob had twelve sons.
2. Understand that Jacob's sons thought he loved Joseph more.
3. Recognize that Joseph's dream made his brothers want to kill him.
4. Learn that God was with Joseph.

So Jacob said to the helpers who took care of his sheep: "Shear the sheep so that I can have wool to make a coat for Joseph." Jacob dyed the wool using different colors. He cut the coat just the right size for Joseph. Then he sewed the coat together. When the coat was finished, Jacob called Joseph. Joseph ran to see what his father wanted. Jacob showed Joseph the beautiful coat. Joseph looked at the coat and smiled. He took the coat and put it on. It was so pretty. He told his father thank you for the coat. He loved the coat and ran to show his brothers.

Well, his brothers became very jealous. They thought Jacob loved Joseph best. (Genesis 37:4) Jacob was wrong to show favoritism. The Bible tells us we are not to have favorites. (James 2:1)

One day Joseph had a dream. In the dream, all of Joseph's brothers bowed down to him. When the brothers heard this, they were furious. [This made the brothers hate Joseph even more.] (Genesis 37:5-8)

Maybe it would have been better if Joseph had not told his brothers about the dream he had. He was probably wrong to tell them. But his brothers were wrong to hate Joseph. The Bible says, "Don't get so angry that you sin." (Ephesians 4:26) Instead, we should love each other. (1 John 4:7)

Joseph's Coat and Dreams — Bible Facts

1. Joseph was the favorite son of Jacob.
2. Jacob gave Joseph a coat.
3. Joseph's brothers were jealous.
4. Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery.

One day Joseph was sent to give his brothers a message while they were out in the fields. When the brothers saw him coming, they decided to kill Joseph. The oldest son, Reuben, convinced them to throw Joseph in a well. (Reuben was going to get him out secretly later). When Reuben was away, a group of people came by. Joseph's brothers decided to sell Joseph to be a slave in Egypt. (Genesis 37:12-30)

Next, the brothers ripped up Joseph's coat and put blood on it. They took it back to their father. They lied and told him that an animal had killed Joseph.

Jacob was so upset. He was very sad about what happened. (Genesis 37:31-35)

The Bible teaches us that even though it seemed that many bad things were happening to Joseph, "God was with him." (Acts 7:9 NIV)

Review

1. **Who was Joseph?** (Joseph was the favorite son of Jacob)
2. **What did Jacob do?** (Jacob gave Joseph a coat.)
3. **What did Joseph's brother do?** (Joseph's brothers became jealous.)
4. **What did they do next?** (The brothers sold Joseph into slavery.)

Do you know Jesus?

God understands how hard it is to be nice even when others are mean to you. Jesus suffered lots—He was beaten, spit on, whipped, cursed at, laughed at, then He was nailed to a cross. He knows how hard it is to do good even when others do wrong. Jesus died on a cross for all the bad things we did. He loves us so much that He did that for us—even when we were doing wrong. He loves us and chose to die so that we can have life with Him if we trust Him with our lives. That's the best news in the world! Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus die for our sins.
3. Ask God to help to help you be nice when others are mean.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to know God.

Application

Jacob had twelve sons. His sons thought he loved Joseph more. Joseph dreamed that his brothers bowed down to him. When he told them about it, Joseph's dream made his brothers want to kill him. His brothers sold him into slavery, but God was with Joseph.

Planning for the next week:

Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt — Genesis 42-45

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Genesis 37:1-36 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Have a coat to put on or make sack “coats” for the kids to wear during the story.

Jacob had 12 sons. (Count to 12 with the kids.) One son was named Joseph. Jacob loved Joseph very much. One day Jacob said, “I will make a coat for Joseph. When he sees the coat, he will know how much I love him.”

So Jacob told his helpers that he needed special wool to make a coat for Joseph. (Make sure the kids know that wool comes from sheep)

Jacob dyed the wool using different colors. He cut the coat just the right size for Joseph. Then he sewed the coat together. (Pretend that you are sewing with a needle.) When the coat was finished, Jacob called Joseph.

Joseph ran to see what his father wanted. Jacob showed Joseph the beautiful coat.

Joseph looked at the coat and smiled. He took the coat and put it on. It was so pretty. (Have kids put on coat.) He told his father “thank you” for the coat. He loved the coat and ran to show his brothers.

Well, his brothers became very jealous. (Make sad face.) They thought Jacob loved Joseph best.

One day Joseph had a dream. In the dream, all of Joseph’s brothers bowed down to him. (Bow down as you tell this part) When the brothers heard this, they were furious. [This made the brothers hate Joseph even more.]

One day Joseph was sent to give his brothers a message while they were out in the fields. When the brothers saw him coming, they decided to kill Joseph. The oldest son, Reuben, asked them to throw Joseph in a well (then he was going to get him out secretly later). When Reuben was away, a group of people came by. Joseph’s brothers decided to sell Joseph into slavery. They took the money and waved goodbye to Joseph as he was going to Egypt to be a slave.

Next, the brothers ripped up Joseph’s coat and put blood on it. They took it back to their father. They lied and told him that an animal had killed Joseph.

God took care of Joseph. God had a special plan for Joseph. We will learn about part of that plan next week.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for us.
3. Ask God to help you be nice to others.

Memory verse for younger children:

God was with [Joseph]. Acts 7:9

Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Jacob had 12 sons. Write the verse on 12 pieces of construction paper. Choose 12 children to hold the paper. If you do not have 12 children, have them hold several pages. Have them line up one behind the other. Let the others practice the verse. When the children have read what is on the first piece of paper that child will go to the back of the line. Be sure all the children have an opportunity to hold one of the pages.

•**Test your memory** — Bring a coat with lots of color for someone to wear while you tell the story. Bring 12 bundles of grass or hay. Use them to act out Joseph's dream. Let the children retell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Tint sugar with several colors of food coloring. Mix well to make pretty colors. Now, spread butter on bread and toast. Sprinkle with several colors of sugar to look like a colorful "coat."

Serve Rainbow Wafers to remember the colorful coat. For more fun, spread frosting between two cookies and eat.

•**Think about it** — God wants us to love our brothers and sisters, even when they are mean or hurtful to us. Talk about ways to love them.

God does not play favorites. Joseph's brothers were jealous because they thought their father loved him best. God tells us that He loves all people. In fact, He loves all people so much that He wants us to be in Heaven with Him one day. Talk about how a person can get to Heaven.

•**Touch activity** — Make a coat out of a big paper sack. Use tempera paint to color the coat. Let it dry.

Another idea is to make a paper picture of a coat using paint. Bring buttons to glue on the coat.

Paint a jacket or "paint" a T-shirt with markers.

Preschoolers can make a touch/feel book about Joseph. Cut colorful fabric or scratchy material for the coat.

•**Run and play** — During what must have been difficult times, Joseph sought God. The Bible says that God was with Joseph. Play hide and seek and talk about what it means to "seek" God.

Bring a large appliance box. Pretend that the box is a well. Ask the children to play tag. Whoever gets touched will be "thrown in" the well. For smaller children, lay the box on its side and let them crawl in and out of the well.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us trust Him no matter what our situation is.

•**Sing** — Sing "Seek Ye First," "Beloved Let Us Love One Another," or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray for kids that did not come today. Deliver coloring pages for those who did not attend. If the child can read give him a copy of the preschool lesson. Say the Bible verse you learned. Encourage the child who did not attend to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

Jacob's sons
were jealous
of their brother
Joseph. So they
sold him
as a slave.
He was taken
to Egypt.
But God
was with him.
Acts 7:9

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God

was

with

Joseph

Word Search

M T D T D P F R K B F D
N K V E M C K I L L N R
D J T S R J T N D S T M
N P I G A O S C H V K P
J S D C P D V M G E R N
D K O D S F N A V V K D
L B R N M K R L F C N H
C D G D A A E V M S P P
N A L E C W E H T E D S
K B R O T H E R S R K M
R D A F S M N O D S N L
N T H M S R J N V D H B

JOSEPH

TWELVE

BROTHERS

JACOB

FAVORED

COAT

DREAM

KILL

SOLD

Word Search

M	T	D	T	D	P	F	R	K	B	F	D
N	K	V	E	M	C	K	I	L	L	N	R
D	J	T	S	R	J	T	N	D	S	T	M
N	P	I	G	A	O	S	C	H	V	K	P
J	S	D	C	P	D	V	M	G	E	R	N
D	K	O	D	S	F	N	A	V	V	K	D
L	B	R	N	M	K	R	L	F	C	N	H
C	D	G	D	A	A	E	V	M	S	P	P
N	A	L	E	C	W	E	H	T	E	D	S
K	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	S	R	K	M
R	D	A	F	S	M	N	O	D	S	N	L
N	T	H	M	S	R	J	N	V	D	H	B

JOSEPH

TWELVE

BROTHERS

JACOB

FAVORED

COAT

DREAM

KILL

SOLD

Word Search

G S F P V J D B K V S P
P R J A C O B D L F N G
J T C R B C T W N D S E
S V R J H R E B C O A T
M F S L V C T P D F D B
D R E A M F G T S R P C
F B T G H D M F V P R S
J R B L J O S E P H K S
B G L T V S T R D P Z R
V S T W E L V E T H F R
B R O T H E R S F B L T

JOSEPH

BROTHERS

COAT

DREAM

JACOB

TWELVE

Word Search

G S F P V J D B K V S P
P R J A C O B D L F N G
J T C R B C T W N D S E
S V R J H R E B C O A T
M F S L V C T P D F D B
D R E A M F G T S R P C
F B T G H D M F V P R S
J R B L J O S E P H K S
B G L T V S T R D P Z R
V S T W E L V E T H F R
B R O T H E R S F B L T

JOSEPH

BROTHERS

COAT

DREAM

JACOB

TWELVE

Anagram

ABCJO

AEJLOSU

BEHRRST

EHJOPS

DLOS

AELSV

GPETY

OGD

ADEFORV

Anagram

JACOB

JEALOUS

BROTHERS

JOSEPH

SOLD

SLAVE

EGYPT

GOD

FAVORED