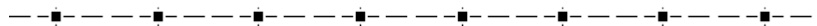


# Old Testament

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 Brothers Go to Egypt

Genesis 41-47

### Memory Verse:

But God was with him.  
He saved Joseph from  
all his troubles. God made  
Joseph wise... Pharaoh made  
Joseph ruler over Egypt  
and his whole palace.  
(Acts 7:9-10 NIV)

### Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that Joseph ruled in Egypt next only to the Pharaoh.
2. Understand that there was a famine in the land.
3. Recognize that Joseph's brothers bowed down to him, just as he had dreamed.
4. Learn that God saved Joseph from all his trouble.

Last week we learned that Jacob's sons thought he loved Joseph more. When Joseph told his brothers about a dream he had where they bowed down to him, it made his brothers want to kill him. His brothers sold him into slavery, but God was with Joseph.

### Read the Bible

**READ: Genesis 44:3-33 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

### Begin with Prayer

Joseph told the king, or Pharaoh, of Egypt that God was going to bring a famine to the land after seven good years. (Genesis 41:14-27) During that time, Joseph helped store grain to prepare for the hard times that would come. (Genesis 41:37-57)

Meanwhile, Joseph's father, Jacob, told some of his sons to go to Egypt (where Joseph was) to buy grain for them to eat. When they walked into the room, Joseph saw them! The funny thing was that they did NOT recognize Joseph! Joseph decided to see if they had changed their ways. He asked his workers to accuse them of being spies. Joseph wanted to know how his younger brother Benjamin was. So, he asked where the youngest child was. He kept one of the brothers and asked the other brothers to bring back Benjamin. (Genesis 42:1-23) He also asked his workers to put money in the grain sack to see if they would be honest and return it.

On the way home the brothers found the money. They were scared. When they got home, they explained everything to Jacob. (Genesis 42:24-29) Jacob was very upset. He didn't want Benjamin to go with them. (Genesis 42:36-38) But Jacob finally agreed to let Benjamin go with them. So the brothers packed up double the payment, a few gifts, and Benjamin, and headed for Egypt. (Genesis 43:1-15)

When they arrived, Joseph invited them to a banquet. When Joseph saw Benjamin, he ran out of the room because he was filled with such emotion. He cried tears of joy because his baby brother was alive. (Genesis 43:16-34)

### Joseph's Brother's Go to Egypt — Bible Facts

1. Joseph told Pharaoh there would be a famine.
2. Pharaoh made Joseph a ruler.
3. Joseph's brothers went to buy food in Egypt.
4. Joseph saw his brothers had changed.

Joseph decided to test his brothers, to see if they really had changed. He told his workers to fill each sack with grain and put their money back in the sack. Then he said to put his silver cup in Benjamin's sack. He wanted to see if the brothers would be honest again. (Genesis 44:1-2)

After the brothers left to go home, Joseph sent some guards to find them. The brothers were upset. They told Joseph that they didn't take the cup, and if one of them had it, that person would die. Sure enough they found the cup in Benjamin's sack. The brothers were terrified. They could not let Benjamin die. Judah spoke up and told Joseph that he would take Benjamin's place. (Genesis 44:3-33) Right then, Joseph knew that his brothers had changed their ways. They were truly sorry for the things they had done in the past.

Joseph was so excited that he shared his identity. The brothers were speechless. They were afraid that Joseph would hurt them. Instead, Joseph told them that he had forgiven them and that God was with him. (Genesis 45:1-15) Joseph gathered the whole family and let them stay in Egypt. They had plenty to eat and God watched over them. (Genesis 47:11-12)

#### Review

1. What did Joseph tell Pharaoh? (Joseph told Pharaoh that there would be a famine)
2. What did Pharaoh do? (Pharaoh made Joseph a ruler.)
3. What did Joseph's brother do? (Joseph's brother's went to buy food in Egypt.)
4. What did Joseph see in his brothers? (Joseph saw that his brothers changed.)

#### Do you know Jesus?

Did you see how the oldest brother was willing to take the place of the youngest brother? Can you imagine if someone took your place if you were going to die? Guess what, someone did. His name is Jesus. He died for us. He took our place on the cross. So, if we trust Him and ask Him to come into our lives, He will. What a friend! Talk to your teacher if you want to know how to invite Jesus into your heart.

#### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die in our place.
3. Ask God to help you forgive others.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to know God.

#### Application

Joseph ruled in Egypt next only to the Pharaoh. There was a famine in the land. Jacob sent his sons to buy food in Egypt. Joseph's brothers bowed down to him, just as he had dreamed. They did not recognize Joseph. Joseph tested his brothers. Later, Joseph revealed himself to his brothers. God was with Joseph and saved him from all his troubles.

Planning for the next week:  
Moses is Born — Exodus 2

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: Genesis 44:3-33 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

Cover a paper cup with foil to look like the silver cup. Talk about how Joseph's brothers had changed.

Joseph's father, Jacob, told some of his sons to go to Egypt to buy grain for them to eat.. Egypt is where Joseph's brothers sent him when they sold him. When they walked into the room, Joseph saw them! The funny thing was that they did NOT recognize Joseph! Joseph decided to see if they had changed their ways. He asked his workers to accuse them of being spies. Joseph wanted to know how his younger brother Benjamin was. So, he asked where the youngest child was. He kept one of the brothers and asked the other brothers to bring back Benjamin. (Genesis 42:1-23) He also asked his workers to put money in the grain sack to see if they would be honest and return it.

On the way home the brothers found the money. They were scared. When they got home, they explained everything to Jacob. (Genesis 42:24-29) Jacob was very upset. He did not want Benjamin to go with them. (Genesis 42:36-38) But Jacob finally agreed to let Benjamin go with them. So the brothers packed up double the payment, a few gifts, and Benjamin, and headed for Egypt. (Genesis 43:1-15)

When they arrived, Joseph invited them to a banquet. When Joseph saw Benjamin, he ran out of the room because he was filled with such emotion. He cried tears of joy because his baby brother was alive. (Genesis 43:16-34)

Joseph was so excited that he told his brother who he was. The brothers were speechless. Joseph knew that his brothers had changed their ways. They were truly sorry for the things they had done in the past. They were afraid that Joseph would hurt them. Instead, Joseph told them that he had forgiven them and that God was with him. (Genesis 45:1-15) Joseph gathered the whole family and let them stay in Egypt. They had plenty to eat and God watched over them. (Genesis 47:11-12)

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die in our place.
3. Ask God to help you forgive others.

### Memory verse for younger children:

**God made Joseph wise. Acts 7:10**

## Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Blow up balloons and put one word or phrase of the verse in each balloon. Have the kids pop the balloons and put the verse in order.

•**Test your memory** — Use fabric to make a Flannel graph to illustrate the lesson. Let the children re-tell the story.

•**Taste activity** — To illustrate forgiveness, bring a glass jar with a little opening. Put something good inside like cookies or candy. The kids should be able to reach their hand inside, but not be able to get the goodies out with their hand gripped around the candy. (A person's fist will take up more room and not fit through the opening.) The person must drop the candy in order to get their hand out of the jar. In the same way, we must "drop the anger" or forgive people who have hurt us in order to get blessings. God wants us to forgive those who have hurt us. He wants us to forget the bad things they have done to us. He promises that He will take care of things. We do NOT have to get revenge.

•**Think about it** — Cover a paper cup with foil to look like the silver cup. Talk about how Joseph's brothers had changed. Talk about what it means to change when a person becomes a Christian.

Talk to the kids about what it means to forgive others even when most want to take revenge. Bring bandages and talk about why we use them (to help protect a wound and help it heal). Give each person a bandage and ask them to help others this week that have hurt feelings, etc.

Talk about Judah offering to take Benjamin's place of punishment. Who took your place of punishment for your sin? Jesus! Did you know that Jesus descended from Judah?

•**Touch activity** — Spell out the word FORGIVE with grains like rice.

Let everyone put one hand in the middle of the circle (it will look like spokes on a bicycle). Encourage your kids to say a sentence prayer!

•**Run and play** — Joseph's brothers had to travel to Egypt to buy food. They probably used camels and donkeys. Let the children pretend to be camels and donkeys and run races on all fours.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to forgive others.

•**Sing** — Sing "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. Say the Bible verse you learned and sing a song for them. Encourage the child who did not attend to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

But God was  
with him.

He saved Joseph  
from all his troubles.

God made  
Joseph wise...  
Pharaoh made  
Joseph ruler  
over Egypt and  
his whole palace.

Acts 7:9-10

## Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God

made

Joseph

wise

## Word Search

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

JOSEPH

FAMINE

EGYPT

BROTHERS

BUY

FOOD

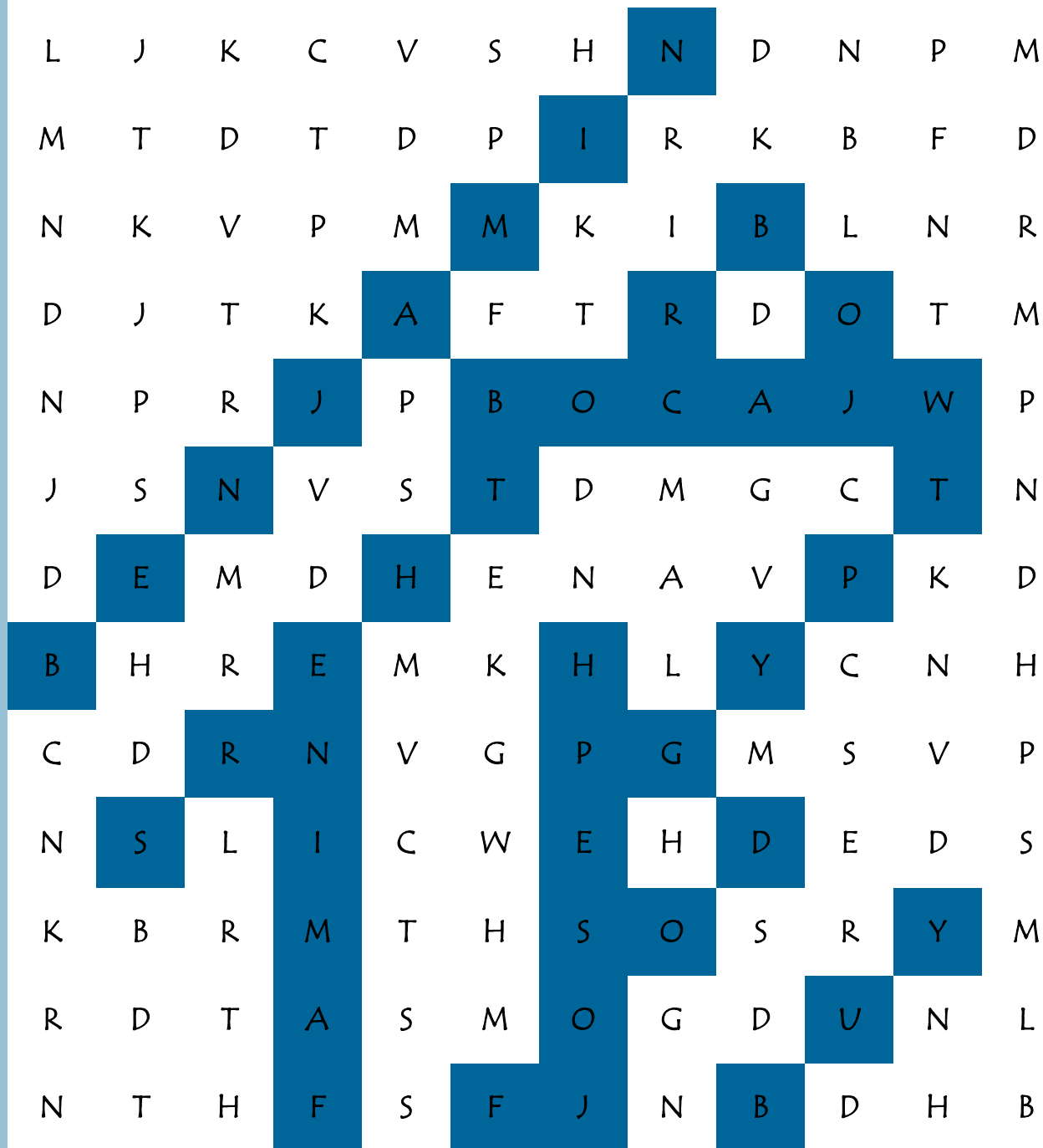
BOW

BENJAMIN

JACOB



## Word Search



JOSEPH

FAMINE

EGYPT

BROTHERS

BUY

FOOD

BOW

BENJAMIN

JACOB

## Word Search

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

JOSEPH

FAMINE

FOOD

BUY

EGYPT

BOW

## Word Search

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

JOSEPH

FAMINE

FOOD

BUY

EGYPT

BOW

# Anagram

AAOHHPR

AEIFMN

DOFO

AELRTV

YTEGP

STFGI

PHEOSJ

AEIBJMNN

LAIYMF



## Anagram

PHAROAH

FAMINE

FOOD

TRAVEL

EGYPT

GIFTS

JOSEPH

BENJAMIN

FAMILY