

{ Dinnertime Devotionals }



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Weekly Theme: Joseph: Part 1

Verse #1: Genesis 37:2

(I use the ESV Bible for these devotionals. Questions are based on that text.)

All Ages Discussion Starter: As a family discuss what you already know about the life of Joseph. What do you know about his father Jacob? How was he tricked by his father-in-law? Did Jacob make any poor decisions that you can remember?

Verse #2: Genesis 37:3-4

All Age Discussion Starter: Why was Joseph a favorite of Jacob? (The text gives a hint at the reason. Think about who his mother was and if they had been able to have children before.) Is there special significance about the coat (or tunic) of many colors? Was it something that would be worn out into the fields to work? Garments of this type often had long sleeves and were rather long in length...not beneficial for working. What message might this have sent about Joseph to his brothers?

Verse #3: Genesis 37:5

Jr. Discussion Starter: How did Joseph's brothers feel about him? Do you think Joseph felt that way towards his brothers? What are some things that you can do to help get along with your family?

Discussion Starter: The problems with Joseph's family didn't start when he came along or with the coat of many colors. Do we get the impression that Joseph hated his brothers? What can you do to get along better with family?

Verse #4: Genesis 37:6-8

All Age Discussion Starter: What was the dream that Joseph had? Were the sheaves symbolic? If you know the events of Joseph's life, how do the sheaves tie in?

Why would the dream anger Joseph's brothers? Why do you think Joseph was given this dream even when God knew it would make his brothers angry with him?

As a family, how can we avoid making an angry situation worse?

Verse #5: Genesis 37:9-11

All Age Discussion Starter: Joseph had another dream...what was it? In addition to his brothers, who else was told about this dream? What question did Jacob ask of his son?

It is interesting to note the difference in the reactions of the brothers and Jacob. The brothers were made even angrier while Jacob kept the saying in mind. What made the difference in the reaction of the younger men and their Dad?