

# { Dinnertime Devotionals }



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**Weekly Theme:** Joseph: Part 2

**Verse #1:** Genesis 37:12-13

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

**All Ages Discussion Starter:** We get a glimpse into the life that Joseph lives. Last week what clue did we get that Joseph lived a privileged life that was different than his brothers? What was Joseph's attitude when Jacob his father asked him to go check on his brothers?

**Verse #2:** Genesis 37:15-17

**All Age Discussion Starter:** Off Joseph goes to Shechem in search of his brothers. (Bonus, this is a bit challenging, what had Jacob done in that region when he was a young man? Do you think this could be why he was concerned about his sons pasturing the flock?) Joseph was found "wandering in the fields." What kind of image does the give us of Joseph? Imagine for a bit as a family what it would have been like to travel in that time. Consider looking on a map to see where Joseph traveled to.

**Verse #4:** Genesis 37:21-22

**All Age Discussion Starter:** It only takes one person to stand up to keep a wrong from happening. Reuben, the eldest of the men, said that they should do what instead of killing their brother? (Bonus for the older kids: How has Reuben made a drastic change from earlier recorded events about his life?) Do you think Reuben risked his own life by trying to deceive his brothers? What do you think his motivations were for doing this?

**Verse #3:** Genesis 37:18-20

**All Age Discussion Starter:** How did Joseph's brothers feel about him? They hated him. They didn't know Joseph was coming but when they saw him from afar their first thought was to kill him. What does Jesus tell us about hate in the New Testament? The brothers who were pasturing the flock discussed amongst themselves and plotted against Joseph. They despised the vision that he had shared with them so much that they called him by what nickname? Can you imagine how much they hated him?

**Verse #5:** Genesis 37:23-24

**All Age Discussion Starter:** I believe that verse 23 is there for a very specific reason. Why do you think the brothers purposefully stripped off that robe of many colors when they seized Joseph? It was a symbol of their hatred and how much they despised him wasn't it? Why do you think v24 notes that there was no water in the pit? What part of the world were they in? What was it like there?