

# { Dinnertime Devotionals }



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**Weekly Theme:** Joseph: Part 16

**Verse #1:** Genesis 47:1-6

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

**All Ages Discussion Starter:** We continue our study of the often overlooked portion of the story of Joseph and his family. How do you think Joseph went about picking out the 5 brothers he would present to Pharaoh? Pharaoh trusted Joseph so much he asked his brothers to...?

**Verse #2:** Genesis 47:7-12

**All Age Discussion Starter:** Such an interesting passage. Jacob reveals to Pharaoh that he is how old? What unique term does Jacob use for his time on earth? (Hint: it starts with an S in the ESV version of the Bible.)

It is worth noting that Jacob blessed Pharaoh not once but twice. What does the Bible mean when Jacob blessed Pharaoh? It is interesting to note that Pharaoh probably believed in the power of God but was not a believer.

**Verse #3:** Genesis 47:13-19

**All Age Discussion Starter:** And you thought that our taxes were high?!? What was the difference between what Pharaoh was doing and a tax? By collecting all the money, livestock, even the people and their land, what was Pharaoh able to accomplish in the land of Egypt?

Lessons from history help us to put into perspective our current situation. Can you explain what Pharaoh is doing to the people in terms that your children can understand?

**Verse #4:** Genesis 47:20-26

**All Age Discussion Starter:** Joseph gives a review of what he accomplished for Pharaoh. Can you name what all he accomplished?

How did the people feel about how Joseph had dealt with them? As you can read, they were thankful to have survived and happy for the fair deal that Joseph struck with them.

When the people planted their crops, Joseph told them that part of the harvest would belong to them and part to Pharaoh. Why?

**Verse #5:** Genesis 47:27-31

**All Age Discussion Starter:** The family prospered in the land of Egypt. After 17 years that time came for Israel (Jacob) to die. When he knew he was about to die he asked Joseph to come see him. What did he make Joseph promise to do?

On the flip side, do you think that Joseph's brothers were concerned that once their father was dead Joseph would get his revenge? Come back next week to find out...