

Joseph & His Dreams



MEMORY VERSE: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud." 1 Corinthians 13:4



GENESIS 37:1-4 Favoritism

1. What do we learn about Joseph in verses 1-2a?
2. What caused Joseph's brothers to be so angry and jealous of him? vv. 2b-4
Can you think of a time that you have shown favoritism and it was hurtful to someone else?
3. What does jealousy mean and why is it so dangerous?



GENESIS 37:5-8 First Dream

4. Joseph's dream was from God and told about his future. What was Joseph's dream?
5. Why were Joseph's brothers so angry about his dream?
6. The brothers hated the way Joseph talked about his dream. How could he have handled it differently?



GENESIS 37:9-11 Second Dream

7. Draw or describe Joseph's next dream.

8. How did Joseph's dad respond to this dream?

9. Do you think Joseph allowed his dreams to make him prideful? How can we avoid being prideful?

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

God has a special purpose to fulfill thru the lives of His faithful servants. We will study how God works through Joseph, the 11th son of Jacob. Joseph is 17 when we meet him. His brothers hated him because their father loved Joseph more than them. To make matters worse, Joseph began telling his dreams to the family—prophetic visions showing Joseph one day ruling over his family. God used dreams to foretell the future and to let people know that He is in charge.

PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Father in Heaven,
Thank you for the example of Joseph.
Please open my heart to what you have for me to learn from his life. Please reveal any areas of my life where I am jealous or prideful. Help me to be one of Your faithful servants. Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



One way to deal with jealousy and pride is to practice being grateful. Take a moment to list your blessings.



Genesis 37:1-11 (NLT)

Joseph's Dreams

1 So Jacob settled again in the land of Canaan, where his father had lived as a foreigner.

2 This is the account of Jacob and his family. When Joseph was seventeen years old, he often tended his father's flocks. He worked for his half brothers, the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah. But Joseph reported to his father some of the bad things his brothers were doing.

3 Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe. 4 But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn't say a kind word to him.

5 One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. 6 "Listen to this dream," he said. 7 "We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!"

8 His brothers responded, "So you think you will be our king, do you? Do you actually think you will reign over us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dreams and the way he talked about them.

9 Soon Joseph had another dream, and again he told his brothers about it. "Listen, I have had another dream," he said. "The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed low before me!"

10 This time he told the dream to his father as well as to his brothers, but his father scolded him. "What kind of dream is that?" he asked. "Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow to the ground before you?" 11 But while his brothers were jealous of Joseph, his father wondered what the dreams meant.

Jealousy - desire to have the achievements and advantages of someone else.

Pride - having an excessively high opinion of one's own importance, superiority, whether in the mind or in conduct.

Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.