

# Joseph

## **SLIDE 1 Joseph**

You are going to have a lot in common with Joseph, he was mistreated, abused, abandoned, sold as a slave. What we want to learn from Joseph is attitude and trust in God throughout it all and how God came through for him in a big way. We will see how his life went from tragedy to triumph.

Adam & Eve, Noah, Abraham. Abraham has a son named Isaac who had a son named Jacob who God renamed Israel, and Israel had 12 sons and one of them was Joseph.

## **SLIDE 2**

### **Joseph was Jacobs' favorite son**

He made him a special coat of many colors. This made his brother jealous.

### **Joseph had dreams and could interpret dreams and visions**

Joseph had 2 dreams that meant someday not only his brothers (11 sheaves of wheat) but parents & brothers (sun, moon & the stars) would bow down to him and he would be over them, this really made his brothers jealous.

## **SLIDE 3 Jealous brothers get rid of Joseph**

His jealous brothers decided to get rid of Joseph. First they threw him in a pit and left him to die.

Then they saw some Ishmaelites passing by so they sold their brother to them.

They tore his coat of many colors and put animal blood on it and told their father Jacob that Joseph was eaten by wild animals.

Then the Ishmaelites sold his to Potiphar

## **SLIDE 4 From being a slave to prison**

Joseph the slave rose to be in control of all that Potiphar owned.

Potiphar's wife wanted to have sex with Joseph because he was handsome and because Potiphar was a Eunuch (could not have sex) When Joseph refused and ran away she grabbed his robe and cried rape, so Joseph was put in prison

*Sometimes in life we have bad things happen to us, but they don't need to define us or keep us from great things if you have God on your side.*

While in prison 2 guys who had worked for Pharaoh (the King) had dreams and Joseph interpreted them. One was executed and one went back to work with Pharaoh as a Butler.

### **SLIDE 5 From a slave and prisoner to 2<sup>nd</sup> in command in all of Egypt**

Pharaoh had a disturbing dream and the Butler remembered Joseph could help so the Pharaoh called for him

The dream was 7 fat cows and 7 skinny cows. The interpretation was there would 7 good years then 7 bad years of famine.

Pharaoh made Joseph 2<sup>nd</sup> in command in Egypt.

Joseph prepared and stored food during the 7 good years for the 7 bad years.

### **SLIDE 6 What they intended for evil God turned into good**

People came from all over to get food from Egypt during the famine.

This made Pharaoh very rich because people would trade everything they had in order not to starve to death.

Joseph's brothers came to buy grain also. They all bowed down before him just like in the dream. They did not recognize Joseph but he recognized them. They talked amongst themselves in Hebrew saying all this probably has happened because of what we did to our brother Joseph, he understood them and had to leave the room to cry.

NLT Genesis 45:3-5 "I am Joseph!" he said to his brothers. "Is my father still alive?" But his brothers were speechless! They were stunned to realize that Joseph was standing there in front of them. "Please, come closer," he said to them. So they came closer. And he said again, "I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into slavery in Egypt. But don't be upset, and don't be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives.

Joseph toyed with them a bit and tricked them some, all to end up getting his younger brother to come. Then Joseph revealed himself to his brothers, and they were afraid because of what they did to him that he would kill them but Joseph said

NLT Genesis 50:20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.

So they went back to Israel to get his father Jacob and had to confess what they had done.

Pharaoh was glad Joseph's family could come and helped them to come and he gave them the best of the land for them to live in.

### **SLIDE 7 APPLY**

Your life can go from tragedy to triumph like Joseph's if you will trust & obey God in the midst of your circumstance, because God is faithful and will bless those who follow God's ways and desire to honor Him.

- **Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.
- Learn to find God in your circumstances rather than feeling overwhelmed by your circumstances by looking to and believing God at His Word.

**NLT Romans 8:31b-32** If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since He did not spare even His own Son but gave Him up for us all, won't He also give us everything else?

- God is for you and will bless you according to His Word.

**NLT Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.

- God can turn the bad into good like he did with Joseph.
- **Genesis 50:20** What they meant for evil God turned to good.

Learning to trust God is a lifelong process that we grow more and more into.

**SLIDE 8 Transition to the gospel-** God only turns the bad into good for those who put their faith in Him. Have you done that before? You may have been to church or been baptized but have you come by way of the cross?

**Realize** you have sinned

**Believe** that Jesus paid your penalty for you on the cross, died in your place and rose

from the dead.

**Repent-** change your mind about your sin and agree with God that you are wrong.

**Receive-** Are you ready to receive Jesus as your savior to get right with God, have your sins forgiven so you can have the hope of heaven and eternal life?

Do you believe Jesus took your penalty on the cross? He took the whole world's...but

**Are you ready to repent-** change your mind about your sins and agree with God you are wrong? If so then you are ready.

Raise your hand if so?... Repeat this prayer after me. Say it slow so they can repeat after you silently or aloud.

Jesus thank you for dying for my sins on the cross, thank you for paying the penalty for my sin. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Questions

1. **What did Joseph's father Jacob give him because he was his favorite son?** A coat of many colors
2. **What special gift from God did Joseph have?** He had dreams and could interpret them
3. **What dream did Joseph have about his family?** That they would all bow down to him one day
4. **Why were Joseph's brothers jealous of Joseph? What did they do to him?** Sell him into slavery
5. **What did Potiphar's wife accuse Joseph of?** Rape
6. **What was the dream Pharaoh had and its interpretation?** 7 fat cows and 7 skinny cows means 7 good years and 7 lean years of famine.
7. **What did Joseph do in light of the information?** He stored up grain and food during the 7 good years for the 7 lean years
8. **What did Pharaoh do for Joseph because he interpreted this dream?** Put him as 2<sup>nd</sup> in command in all of Egypt
9. **When Joseph's brothers came to get food what did they do before Joseph?** Bowed down
10. Joseph's brothers were afraid of what he might do to them, but what was Joseph's attitude toward the situation? NLT Genesis 50:20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.