

Overview of November Segment 3 lessons



UNIT THEME: Bible History

This month the lessons are about Bible history. The focus is on happenings in the life of the Bible patriarchs, predominantly Isaac's son Jacob and Jacob's son, Joseph.

Maybe you've heard of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. We read about them often in the Old Testament. With so much attention paid to them, they must be pretty important, right? But you may be asking yourself, "Why do men who lived thousands of years ago matter today?" Well, the key to that answer lies in the eternal covenants and promised blessings God gave them.

Abraham was a great prophet. He was righteous and obedient to God's commandments. God made a covenant with Abraham that his posterity (Isaac and his descendants e.g. Jacob and Joseph) would be great and would have the same blessings he had received. They would take the fullness of the gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations of the earth.

As a member of the Church, you are a part of the posterity of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The covenant they made with God applies to you! It is hoped that these lessons will stir and strengthen your own faith in God and will inspire your students to develop a relationship with God and recognize that they too have the blessings of Abraham.

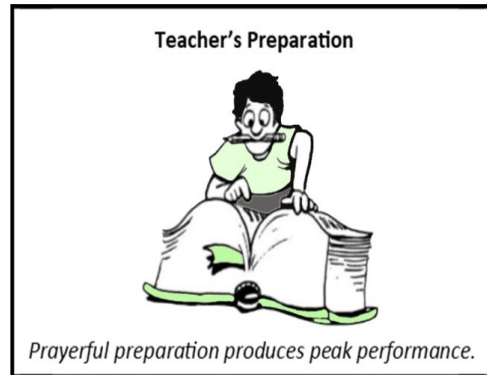
November Segment 3 Lessons

- 1st Sunday Esau and Jacob (Jacob tricks Esau)
- 2nd Sunday Jacob reaps what he sowed
- 3rd Sunday Joseph and his multi-coloured coat
- 4th Sunday Joseph is sold into slavery

LESSON

Children 12 years and under

November 4th Sunday



November 4th Sunday.... Joseph's Forgives His Brothers

Topic: Joseph's Forgives His Brothers

Main Text: Genesis 42-43:16; Genesis 43: 17– 45:28

Central focus: I can forgive

Golden Text: Genesis 50:20(NIV)—You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

Specific Objective/Learning Outcome

Cognitive Domain– Knowledge (What will students know?)

- The Golden Text
- Joseph's story before the reunion with his brothers
- Joseph meets his brothers again
- Joseph forgives his Brothers

Psychomotor Domain - Skills (What will students do?)

Learn the Golden Text

Affective Domain- Attitudes (What will students feel /experience?)

Today we should feel determined to forgive.

Materials: Copies of picture to colour, crayons

Teacher's Inspiration

As you prepare to teach your students, may you be inspired by the following reflection;



Joseph Forgives His Brothers

Joseph: An Example of Forgiving And Forgetting

And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food. **Genesis 42:7**. Read: **Gen 50:15-21**

Just when he thought God has opened a new chapter of his life, just when he thought God has finally fulfilled His promises over his life; he named his first son Manasseh, meaning, God has made me forget all my toil, and my father's house. His second born he named Ephraim, God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction (**Gen 41:51-52**), his brother soon showed up to open an already healed wound afresh. Hmm! The Bible says Joseph knew them but pretended not to because his memory remembered his dreams and all they did to him, as a result, he put them in the ward (prison) for three days. But as the end, Joseph with tears in his eyes (which represents those hurts) and combined with God's grace forgave his brother.

But his brothers (after their father's death) not sure of Joseph forgiveness sent messengers to begged Joseph not to used what they had done to him against them, Joseph called them with tears in his eyes assured them of his forgiving and forgetting all they had done to him, they meant it for evil but God turned it to good to preserved their lives and others. Joseph forgave and forgot his brothers' wrongs. You too can with God's grace.

Ref: <https://flatimes.com/daily-devotional-joseph-example-of-forgiving-forgetting/>



OPENING ACTIVITIES

- Welcome** Greet each child
- Devotion:** Foster the Holy Spirit's Presence: Song –Prayer
- Topic:** Joseph's Forgives His Brothers
- Main Text:** Genesis 42-43:16; Genesis 43: 17– 45:28
- Central focus:** I can forgive
- Golden Text:** Genesis 50:20(NIV)—You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

Learn present Golden Text:

Memorization activity:

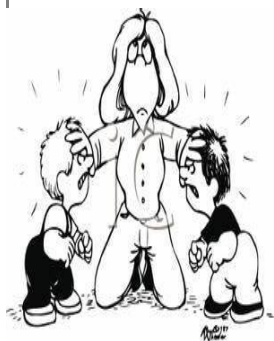
Read it	Record/write it	Recite it
Register/hear it	Rehearse it	Relate/share it

LESSON

INTRODUCTION

The Imaginative Learner

Why do I need to know this lesson?



Today our lesson is, Joseph forgives his brothers.

It's natural to feel angry or bitter when you are hurt by someone. As bitterness builds inside of you, it's usually followed by a swarm of other emotions—feelings of anger, resentment and rejection accompanied by a desire for revenge. This is not healthy for you even though you are the one being hurt. The more excellent thing to do is to forgive.

Forgiveness is a conscious, deliberate or intentional decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance/anger toward a person or group who has harmed you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness.

Ref: <https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/topic/forgiveness/definition>

Have you ever been hurt by a friend or a family member and finds it difficult to forgive?

The story is told of two little brothers, Harry and James, who had finished supper and were playing until bedtime. Somehow, Harry hit James with a stick, and tears and bitter words followed. Charges and accusations were still being exchanged as their mother prepared them for bed. She said, “Now boys, what would happen if either of you died tonight and you never had the opportunity again to *forgive* one another?” James spoke up, “Well, OK, I'll *forgive* him tonight, but if we're both alive in the morning, he'd better look out.”

How often do we hold onto our grudges...and choose not to *forgive*.

Ref: <https://www.family-times.net/illustration/Forgiveness/201374/>

Joseph's story of hurt cause by his brothers is certainly the opposite of the story above, instead it highlights the proper attitude toward someone who does us wrong.

This lesson is very important for you to know as it presents amazing insight into how God sovereignly works to overcome evil and bring about His plan. What others intend for evil God can turn it out for your good. After all his ordeals, Joseph was able to see God's hand at work. Knowing that God can take the most hurtful experience and turn it in our favour should inspire to forgive.

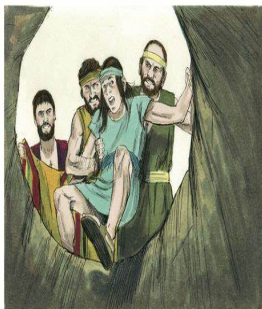
The topics to be covered are:

- Joseph's story before the reunion with his brothers
- Joseph meets his brothers again
- Joseph forgives his brothers

BODY

The Analytic Learner

What do I need to know?



- **Joseph's story before the reunion with his brothers**

- * Joseph is thrown in a pit

In the book of genesis we have the story of Joseph the eleventh son of Jacob. Joseph was born to Jacob's wife, Rachel, after many years of infertility— not being able to give birth.

As his first son, through his favoured wife, Rachel, Jacob gave Joseph a coat of many colours. Joseph had dreams of how great he would become in the future. His dreams were interpreted as meaning that one day his brothers would bow down to him. His brothers harboured resentment in their hearts because of the coat and the dreams. One day when Joseph was about seventeen-year-old **the brothers** seized their chance, and threw the unsuspecting Joseph into a pit. A short while later they spotted an Arab caravan passing the scene, and the brothers sold Joseph to the traders. He was eventually brought to Egypt, where he was sold to Potiphar, one of King Pharaoh's ministers.

- * Joseph in Potiphar's House

While in Egypt divine success enabled Joseph to find favour in his master's eyes, and he was appointed head of Potiphar's estate. Potiphar respected him so much that he give him charge over everything he had except his wife. One day, when no one was at home other than Joseph and Mrs. Potiphar, she grabbed Joseph's coat, demanding that he have sexual relations with her. Thinking quickly, Joseph slid out of his cloak and ran away. Mrs Potiphar lied to her husband that Joseph had attempted to rape her, and this accusation landed him in prison.

- * Joseph in Prison

While in prison , Joseph's excellent spirit was also displayed, and the warden of the prison soon appointed him as his right-hand man. In time, his unique qualities expressed themselves in an additional area when the king's royal cupbearer and baker were imprisoned, Joseph successfully interpreted their dreams, correctly predicting that the cupbearer would be released and the baker, hanged.

- * Joseph in the Palace

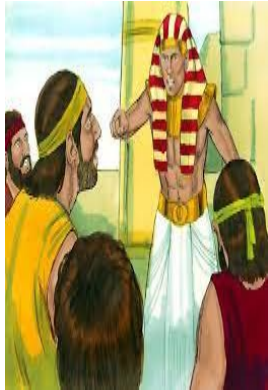
Two years later, King Pharaoh himself had two dreams, which none of his advisors were able to explain. Remembering the Hebrew youth from his prison days, the cupbearer suggested that Joseph be summoned. Joseph, then thirty, interpreted Pharaoh's dreams as being a divine prediction for seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine, and advised Pharaoh to prepare by storing grain during the first seven years. Impressed by Joseph's wisdom, Pharaoh appointed him as governor over all Egypt., second only to the king himself, and tasked him with readying the nation for the years of famine.



BODY

The Common Sense Learner

How does it work?



• Joseph meets his brothers again (Genesis 42-43:16)

Meanwhile, the effects of the famine were felt in nearby Canaan where Joseph's father Jacob and brothers resided. Hearing that there was grain in Egypt, Joseph's brothers journeyed there to buy precious food from the governor (Who was their own brother). When Joseph saw his brothers coming to buy food from him, he pretended that he didn't know them, and they didn't recognize him. They bowed down to him and asked to buy food.

"Where are you from?" Joseph asked them. "We are from Canaan," the brothers answered. "We have come to buy food from you." "You are spies!" Joseph said. "You have come here to spy on us." "No," the brothers answered. "We are all brothers, the sons of Jacob, from the country of Canaan. One of our brothers died" – they were talking about Joseph and how they had lied that he was killed by a wild animal – "and our youngest brother, Benjamin, stayed at home with our father."

But Joseph said, "You are spies. The only way you can to prove to me that you aren't spies is for your youngest brother to come down here. Now, I'm going to put all of you except for one in prison. I'll let one of you go get your youngest brother." Then, Joseph had all of his brothers thrown into prison for three days.

At the end of three days, Joseph changed his mind. He went to his brothers in prison and said, "Instead of keeping all of you here in prison and sending only one of you to go get your brother, Benjamin, I will keep one of you here in prison and let the rest of you take food back to your families and then bring Benjamin back here. When you bring Benjamin back here, I will let your other brother out of prison."

Joseph's brothers whispered to each other, "God is doing all this to punish us for what we did to Joseph."

Then Joseph told his servants to fill up bags full of food for each of the brothers and to secretly put the brothers' money back in the bottom of their bags. The brothers were supposed to pay Joseph for the food he was giving them with that money, but Joseph told his servants to put it back in the brothers' bags. Then, he let all of the brothers go except for one.

When the brothers stopped for the night, they found their money back in their bags and they were confused because they didn't know how it got there.

When they got home and told Jacob what had happened, Jacob started to cry and said, "Joseph is dead, another of my sons is in prison, and now I have to send Benjamin down there so that the man will know you're not spies? No, I will not send Benjamin down because then something bad might happen to him too!"

But a little while later, Jacob and his sons ran out of food again. "Go back down to Egypt," Jacob told his sons, "and buy us some more food so that we won't starve." But the brothers answered, "We can't go back down to Egypt unless Benjamin comes with us. The man said Benjamin had to come."

"Why did you have to tell the man about Benjamin?" Jacob asked. "If you hadn't told the man you had another brother, then he wouldn't have told you to bring Benjamin with you."

"We had to tell him about Benjamin," the brothers answered. "The man kept saying we were spies and kept asking us all kinds of questions about our family. Now, send Benjamin with us so we can buy ourselves some food and not starve to death."

"Fine," Jacob said. "But make sure you take double the amount of money with you this time, in case it was a mistake that your money was put back in your bags the last time you went."

Then, the brothers left for Egypt and took Benjamin with them. So Joseph was able to see his youngest brother again.

BODY

The Common Sense Learner

How does it work?



By Shi and other PowerPoint presentations from www.complextions.com © 2014



• Joseph forgives his Brothers (Genesis 43: 17– 45:28)

When Joseph saw his brothers coming again, he told his servants to take the brothers to his house and to cook a feast for them. Then, when the brothers were brought to his house, Joseph asked them, “How are all of you? How is your father? Is your father still alive?”

(Jacob is Joseph’s dad, too, and Joseph hasn’t seen his dad for about twenty years in this story.)

“Our father is doing well,” the brothers answered.

When Joseph saw his little brother, Benjamin, and he had to run out of the room so he could cry. When Joseph came back from crying and the food for their feast was brought out, Joseph told his servants to give Benjamin five times more than anyone else.

After lunch, Joseph told his servants to fill the brothers’ bags full of food and to put their money back into their bags too. Then, he said, “And I also want you to hide one of my silver cups at the bottom of Benjamin’s bag.”

Then, Joseph let the brother who was in prison go, and all of the brothers left to go back home. A little while later, though, Joseph sent his servants to capture the brothers. When the servants caught up to the brothers, they said, “Stop! One of you brothers stole our master’s silver cup!”

Did the brothers steal the silver cup? (No, Joseph told the servants to put it in Benjamin’s bag.) “We didn’t steal your master’s silver cup!” the brothers answered. “You can check our things, and if one of us has your master’s silver cup, then you can kill that brother and the rest of us will be your master’s slave.”

So the servants checked all of the brothers’ bags and found the silver cup in Benjamin’s bag. Then, all the brothers were sad and they followed the servants back to Joseph’s house.

“What have you done?” Joseph yelled. “You stole my silver cup!”

“We will be your slaves,” the brothers answered, even though they still did not know how the cup got in Benjamin’s bag. “No,” Joseph said. “Only the one who stole the cup will be my slave. Benjamin will be my slave, and the rest of you can go home.”

The brothers answered, “Benjamin is our father’s youngest and favorite son, just like Joseph used to be. Our father was afraid that something bad would happen to Benjamin if we brought him down here, and if we don’t take Benjamin back home, our father will be so sad that he will die. So, please, instead of taking Benjamin, take one of us instead. One of us will be your slave instead of Benjamin.”

Then, Joseph saw that his brothers had changed. Instead of being mean to Benjamin and making him be a slave like they had been mean to Joseph and sold him as a slave, the brothers were actually offering to take Benjamin’s place! When Joseph saw this, he cried out loud and said, “I am Joseph! I am the one you sold as a slave!”

All of Joseph’s brothers were afraid and thought that Joseph was still mad at them and would do something bad to them. But Joseph said, “Don’t be afraid. **I forgive you.** You did something bad to me, but God used it for something good. He gave me the idea to store up food so that all the people in Egypt would have enough to eat during these seven bad years. Plus, He made me the second highest ruler in all of Egypt!

Now, go back to Canaan and bring my father and our whole family down here so you can all live next to me!” Then, all of Joseph’s brothers went home and told Jacob what had happened. When Jacob heard the brothers’ story, he was very happy and said, “My son, Joseph, is still alive. He will go see him before I die.”

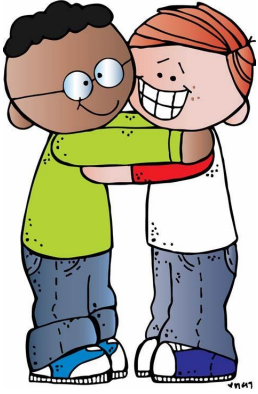
So Jacob and all of Joseph’s brothers and their whole family moved down to settle in the Goshen section Egypt to be with him again.

BODY

The Dynamic Learner

What can I do with what I have learnt?

(Application)



In the story of Joseph and his brothers, we see the themes of forgiveness, the father-son bond, sibling rivalry, brotherly love, God’s sovereignty, and God’s greater good in times of suffering. Just like Joseph, we are called to forgive those who have offended us and see life’s experiences as part of God’s plan to help us serve others.

Joseph recognized that all the travails he had undergone were ordained by God to ensure the survival of his own people. Keeping this in mind enabled him to forgive his brothers and repay animosity with benevolence.

Who would blame Joseph if he had turned his brothers away in their need? Yet Joseph showed them mercy, and God desires that we too exercise mercy/forgiveness above all other sacrifices .

Is there some one you need to forgive today?

Let’s ask God for the determination to forgive all those who hurt us whether intentionally or unintentionally.

CONCLUSION

Today’s lesson is about Joseph forgiving his brothers.

Joseph’s brothers were cruel to him when they paced him in a pit and later sold him to the Ishmaelites who took him to Egypt. In a turn of events the ill-treatment of Joseph worked in his favour. Through the divine favour of God, Joseph, became the governor who was instrumental in saving the Israelite nation during a time of severe famine. Being also affected by the famine in Canaan his brothers sought grain in Egypt and incidentally came face to face with Joseph whom they sold into slavery 20 years earlier. Where as they did not recognize Joseph, he recognised them and decided to utilize this opportunity to observe whether his brothers truly regretted having sold him. Using a succession of dramatic manoeuvres, Joseph tested his brothers’ determination to save their youngest brother Benjamin—Joseph’s only maternal brother—from the plot he set up for him. Once he saw their devotion toward Benjamin, Joseph finally revealed his identity to his astonished siblings.

Joseph’s story highlights the proper attitude toward difficulty and misfortune. The story of Joseph presents amazing insight into how God sovereignly works to overcome evil and bring about His plan. After all his ordeals, Joseph was able to see God’s hand at work. As Joseph revealed his identity to his brothers, they were sure he would utilize his imperial powers to exact revenge against them for their evil conduct. However, the sentiments expressed by Joseph were quite the opposite:

Joseph spoke of their sin this way: “Do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. . . . It was not you who sent me here, but God” (Genesis 45:5, 8). Later, Joseph again reassured his brothers, offering forgiveness and saying, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good” (Genesis 50:20).

We must forgive.

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Cognitive Domain– Knowledge...

1. What was the name of Jacob's last son [Benjamin]
2. Why did Joseph's brothers go down to Egypt [There was a famine so they went to purchase grain]
3. At what point did Joseph reveal his identity by crying out loud and saying, "I am Joseph! I am the one you sold as a slave!" [When Joseph saw that his brothers had changed. Instead of being mean to Benjamin and making him become a slave like they had been mean to him and sold him as a slave, the brothers were actually offering to take Benjamin's place.]

Psychomotor Domain – Skills... (What the students should do to reinforce what they have learnt.)

Recite Golden Text _____

CLOSING ACTIVITY

Affective Domain- Attitudes - (What the students should feel /experience.)

How does today's lesson make you feel?

What attitude or behavior does it make you want to change?

Today we should feel determined to forgive.

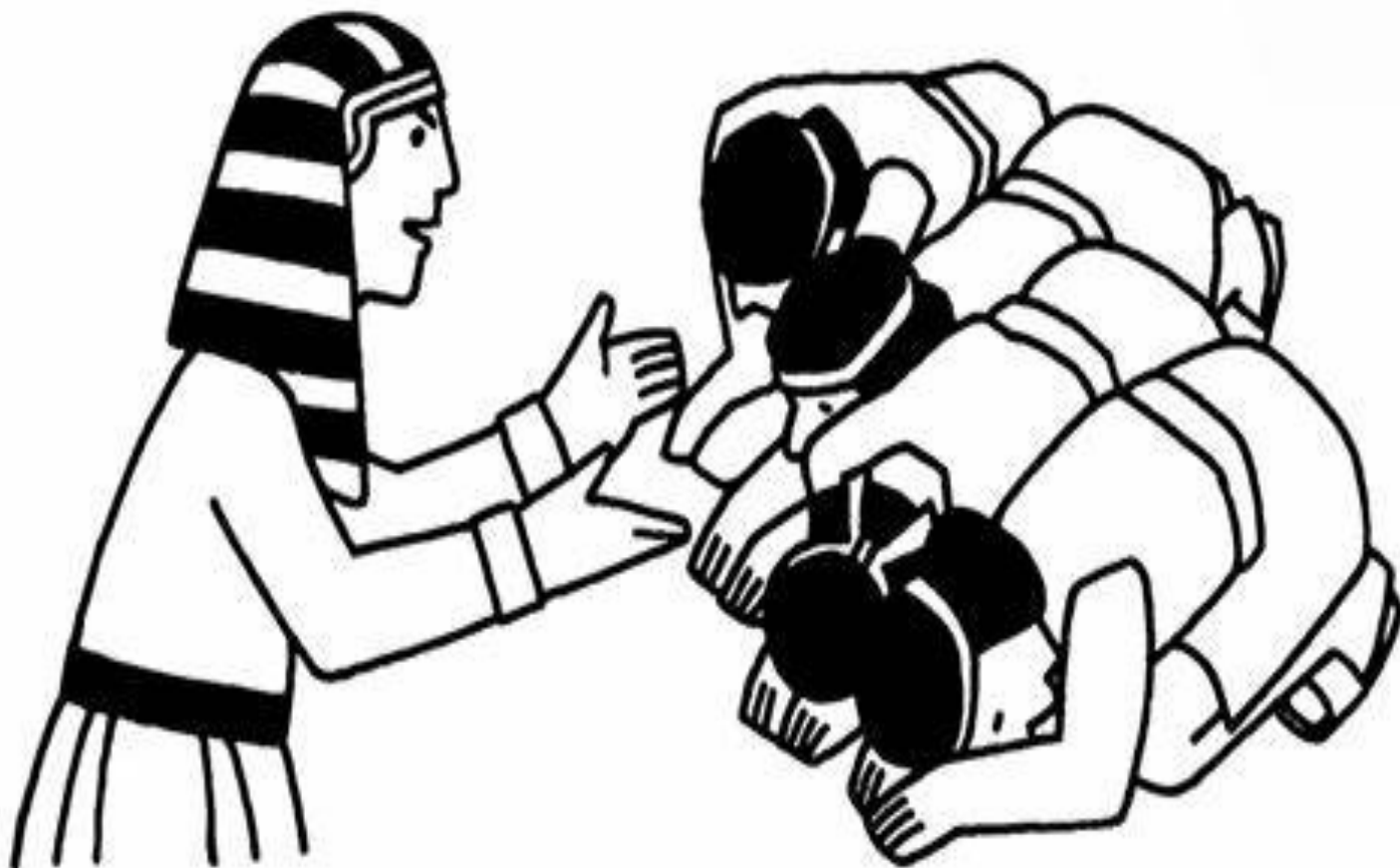
Let's pray and ask God to help us to experience this feeling and to change any attitude or behavior that this lesson features as being displeasing to Him.

Prayer

Next lesson

Activity: Colouring Picture

Colour the picture provided below to make a “look alike picture” of the coloured picture of Joseph and a few of his brothers.



From The Complete Bible Story Clip Art Book. ©Gospel Light. Used by permission.