

## The Life of Joseph: Week 1

### Chapter One: Bad Brothers

To understand the magnitude of the account of Joseph we must look into his family history and details concerning his brothers. Trading Joseph away was not the worst thing that this family had done...including the murder of an entire town. Their lifestyles are in direct contrast to Joseph.

### Chapter Two: Favorite Son

Because Joseph was born to Jacob in his old age & he was the son of Jacob's favorite wife... Joseph was his favorite son! Jacob openly \_\_\_\_\_ that Joseph was his favorite son, specifically by making an ornate robe for him.

### Chapter Three: Dreams & Jealousy

Not only did the 10 older brothers begin to \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph because of the robe and Jacob's favoritism, but also because of a pair of \_\_\_\_\_ that he had.

On two separate occasions Joseph had a pair of dreams in which objects within his dreams were bowing down to him. Once it was the brother's \_\_\_\_\_ of wheat bowing at his feet...the other was the \_\_\_\_\_, moon and 11 \_\_\_\_\_ bowing toward him.

This obviously angered his brothers, they were certain that they would never bow to him and he would never reign over them.

### Chapter Four: Sold into Slavery

One day Joseph was \_\_\_\_\_ to check on his brothers who were tending their flocks in a distant town. When they saw him approaching, they planned to kill him, in the \_\_\_\_\_ way that Cain killed Abel.

They disagreed on what they should do with him ...so they \_\_\_\_\_ him of his robe and threw him into a waterless well while they discussed his fate.

At that moment a caravan of merchants was passing by and Judah convinced them to \_\_\_\_\_ their brother to them.

The brothers developed a ruse, by killing a goat & \_\_\_\_\_ the robe into blood...in order to \_\_\_\_\_ their father into believing that Joseph had been killed by animals.

### Chapter Five: Pure in Potiphar's House

Joseph arrives in Egypt and is \_\_\_\_\_ to one of the King's high ranking military officials. Joseph works \_\_\_\_\_ as a servant in Potiphar's household. Joseph walks with the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ his time at the Egyptian official's home. As a result the Lord blesses all that Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ and causes Potiphar to flourish.

The official's wife also takes notice of Joseph and makes a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ advances towards him. Walking with the Lord, he refuses her advances on \_\_\_\_\_ occasions. On one occasion her advances are so \_\_\_\_\_ that Joseph flees from her presence, while she is left holding his robe.

Needing an explanation for the robe in her hand, she screams that she was sexually assaulted and her husband is forced to have Joseph thrown in prison.

### Chapter Six: Promoted in Prison

While in prison, Joseph walks faithfully with God and as a \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord blesses everything Joseph does. Joseph is eventually placed in charge of the entire prison.

Two of the personal servants of the King of Egypt have also been placed in this prison. One night they both have disturbing dreams. By the Lord's power, Joseph interprets the dreams. Joseph asks the one to \_\_\_\_\_ him before the King when his dream comes true.

### Chapter Seven: Summoned by Pharaoh

One night the King has a pair of dreams...dreams of which none of his aids can give an explanation to. At this point, the servant remembers the Hebrew dream-interpreter from prison. Pharaoh, King of Egypt, then summons Joseph out of prison to tell him the meaning of his dreams.

The Lord enables Joseph to determine the meaning of both dreams...There will be 7 years of a devastating famine which will cover much of the known world. Thankfully, this will be preceded by 7 years of abundant harvest.

### Chapter Eight: Executive over Egypt

Because of Joseph's ability to interpret the dreams and his immediate offering of a wise \_\_\_\_\_ Pharaoh gave Joseph his signet ring, along with a fine robe. He then made him the \_\_\_\_\_ Minister of the entire land with exceeding executive \_\_\_\_\_, second only to Pharaoh. Over the next 7 years Joseph oversaw incredible agricultural \_\_\_\_\_ in order to store away food for the coming famine.

### Chapter Nine: Famine in the Land

After the initial 7 years, a great famine began to sweep the land, affecting people 'all over the world'. Once the famine was widespread, Joseph began selling the food back to the people...not only to the people of Egypt but also of any of those \_\_\_\_\_ into Egypt in order to buy food. After 2 years of the famine, the devastation struck Canaan, where Jacob and his sons remained. Having heard that there was grain in Egypt, Jacob sent his 10 oldest sons to get food for the family.

### Chapter Ten: The Brothers Come to Town

Being the governor of the land Joseph was in \_\_\_\_\_ of all food sales. When the brothers arrived in Egypt, they met face to face with Joseph in order to buy food. Joseph immediately recognized them...however they did not \_\_\_\_\_ him, as his appearance had \_\_\_\_\_ greatly.

Joseph implements a series of tests in order to see if his brothers have had a \_\_\_\_\_ of heart since he last saw them. These tactics included accusing them of being spies, holding one brother as a hostage and demanding they bring their youngest brother back in exchange...as well as secretly returning their money.

Jacob \_\_\_\_\_ to let the brothers return with the youngest. However, in a great \_\_\_\_\_ of character, Judah guaranteed his safe \_\_\_\_\_ with his very life.

Upon returning to Egypt, Joseph staged another series of tests...including framing Benjamin of stealing from him...and demanding that he become his slave, in the same manner that Joseph had become a slave. Judah pleads with Joseph and offers himself to \_\_\_\_\_ as Joseph's slave in the place of Benjamin.

Joseph could no longer contain himself...bursting forth with tears, he \_\_\_\_\_ himself to his brothers. Pharaoh was so pleased to hear that Joseph's brothers had come that he gave them a convoy and instructed them to get their families and move to Egypt. Jacob & Benjamin, along with the entire family \_\_\_\_\_ to Egypt to live with Joseph.

**Next week we will cover important background information on this dysfunctional family by going back in time before Joseph was born. We will learn briefly about his father, who himself had two dreams...As well as the overt sinfulness of the 10 brothers, which developed long before their jealousy of Joseph.**