

Joseph in Pharaoh's Palace

Teacher Preparation

1. Study **Lesson 8**, pp. 78–82.
 - Scripture **Gen. 41:1–57**
2. **Visuals** to use in class.
 - Memory Verse Visuals **10a & b**
 - Teaching Visuals **34–36**
3. Have **Focus**, Ls 8 ready to distribute after lesson (1 per student).

Opening Sequence (optional)

Greet teens as they arrive; assistant takes attendance.

Welcome Comments

Prayer Teacher

Announcements Notes

Songs *All That I Need* p. 3 #12
Standin' in the Need of Prayer p. 20 #9
Power in the Blood p. 16 #4

Prayer (Choose 1 or 2 teens to pray.)

Review Memory Verse Visuals 10a & b



Verse Visuals 10a & b

Lesson 8

Pharaoh has a dream and the butler remembers Joseph

The chief butler, who now had his old job back and waited on the king every day, had forgotten all about Joseph. For two years, the butler waited on Pharaoh while Joseph waited in prison. Joseph was now thirty years old.

Then one night, the Pharaoh had two dreams. The next morning, as the Pharaoh thought about his dreams, he became terribly troubled. He wondered what the dreams might mean. He called for all the wise men and magicians of Egypt, but not one of them had any idea of what the dreams meant. Then the king's butler spoke up, "I do remember my faults this day!"

And he told the Pharaoh all about Joseph and how he had interpreted the dreams of the butler and the baker in prison. Pharaoh sent at once for Joseph.

As Joseph was going about his duties in the prison, a messenger came hurrying from Pharaoh's palace with a summons for Joseph to appear before the Pharaoh at once. Joseph was led hastily from the prison, and after a quick bath and change of clothes, he was brought before Pharaoh.

Joseph is brought from prison to appear before Pharaoh



Card 34

There was the king of the greatest nation on earth seated on his golden throne, with elegantly dressed officers and other servants standing before him. What a sight to Joseph after spending those years in the dirty prison! Joseph waited respectfully to find out why he had been called to the royal palace.

"I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it," the king told him. "I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it."

Joseph replied, "It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace." As usual, Joseph humbly gave God the glory for everything.

The Pharaoh's dreams

So Pharaoh described his first dream: "In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river: And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine [cows], fatfleshed and well favoured; and they fed in a meadow: And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill favoured and leanfleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness: And the lean and the ill favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine: And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill favoured, as at the beginning."

Then Pharaoh described a second dream. "And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears [of corn] came up in one

stalk, full and good: And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them: And the thin ears devoured the seven good ears: and I told this unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.”

“The dream of Pharaoh is one [has one meaning]: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do,” Joseph told the king. “The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine. This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh. Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt: And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land; And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous. And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.”

As Pharaoh listened, he agreed that this was the meaning of his two dreams. Joseph continued, “Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years. And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.”

Pharaoh and his assistants liked Joseph’s suggestion very much. As they discussed who should be appointed to head this important project, Pharaoh said, “Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?”

Pharaoh makes Joseph a ruler



Card 35

And so Pharaoh made Joseph ruler over all the land of Egypt and put him in charge of the entire project. He was no longer a slave; he was next to the king in rank and power! Pharaoh placed his own signet ring on Joseph’s finger as a sign of Joseph’s authority, dressed him in royal robes, and put a gold chain about his neck. Pharaoh also gave Joseph the chariot of his second-in-command, and wherever he went the people bowed themselves before him.

Remember, years before, Joseph’s brothers had sold him as a slave, hoping to humiliate and insult him; and now he was the second most important ruler of Egypt, with everybody bowing before him! This is the way God works for those who love and trust Him, causing “all things to work together for good.” God teaches us wonderful things through Joseph’s life.

Joseph also received a luxurious palace home and a beautiful wife, and he became famous throughout the land of Egypt. But all this prosperity and fame did not change the heart of Joseph. He remained kind and fair to all, and the people of Egypt loved him.

Joseph stores up food during the years of plenty



Card 36

Day after day, Joseph went throughout the land and gathered the food which grew everywhere in abundance. This excess food he stored up in huge storehouses for future needs, until he had an enormous quantity laid aside for the years of famine. During this time, God blessed Joseph and his wife with two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. Manasseh’s name meant “Forgetting.” When Manasseh was born, Joseph said, “God . . . hath made me forget all my toil.” Joseph named Ephraim “Fruitful” because, he said, “God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.”

At last, the seven years of plenty ended. Then the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had predicted. All the fields and crops dried up, the harvests failed, and the people began to hunger. There was no food in the surrounding countries either, such as Canaan, Syria, and Arabia, but in Egypt there was plenty of grain in the storehouses. People from far and near begged Pharaoh for food, and he sent them all to Joseph. So now, with the famine raging, Joseph opened the storehouses of Egypt to the Egyptian people and also to those from other lands who came to buy food.

Joseph honored God, and God honored Joseph. Wherever Joseph might be—in the pit, in Potiphar’s house, in the prison, or in Pharaoh’s palace as the second most important ruler of Egypt—God was with Joseph, because Joseph loved and obeyed God.

Prayer

Review **Philippians 4:8**.

Sing *All That I Need* p. 3 #12

Distribute *Focus 8*.



Verse Visuals 10a & b