

## God Is With Joseph In Prison

### References

Genesis 39-41.

The Life Of Joseph Translated By: Fr. Marcos Dauod

Tales and Stories from the Holy Bible: Beirut

### Notes for Servants

- ★ O Lord, choose the good things you desire for us, as when we choose for ourselves, we may lose the good things you intend to give us.
- ★ O Lord, choose for us as your wisdom never makes mistakes. However, we are ignorant and blind. Let us continue our struggle patiently and with self-denial enduring hardships without fear of losses as glory lies beyond suffering and the throne lies beyond the cross.

### Objectives

**General:** God's love and care.

**Specific:**

The children will be able to ...

- A. Learn that they should not do wrong things no mater who asked them.
- B. Know that God will count the sin on him no mater what is the reason.
- C. Stay away from friends who ask them to do bad things.

### Bible Verse

**“A faithful man shall abound with blessings”**

(Prov 28:20)

### Teaching Aids

Felt figures and board.

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### Introduction

- (1) Review last week's lesson.
- (2) Who remembers the verse?
- (3) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.
- (4) Servant do not concentrate on the detail of Photifar's wife, just mention that she wanted him to cheat on her husband.
- (5) Teacher should prepare the appropriate questions to emphasize the objectives during the lesson.

## Story Time

In Egypt, Joseph was sold into slavery. As a slave, Joseph did his work faithfully. Joseph's master saw that God was with Joseph and put him over his whole house. Now the wife of Joseph's master was a wicked woman. She wanted Joseph to cheat her husband. But Joseph would not listen. He said, "How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" Later this evil woman told her husband lies about Joseph. He became very angry and put Joseph into prison.

But God was with Joseph even in prison. Soon the keeper of the prison put Joseph to look after all the prison, because he saw that he could trust Joseph. In the prison there was two servants of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. The one was Pharaoh's cupbearer, who brought wine to the king. The other was Pharaoh's baker, who baked his bread. One night both of these men had strange dreams. When Joseph saw that they were sad, he asked them why They answered, "We both had dreams, ... but there is no one to interpret them." Joseph said, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams."

The cupbearer told his dream, and Joseph gave the meaning: "Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position, and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand, just as you used to do." Joseph then asked the cupbearer to mention him to Pharaoh when he was back at his job. The baker also told Joseph his dream, and Joseph gave its meaning: "Within three days Pharaoh will lift off your head and hang you on a tree."

Both dreams came true, just as Joseph had said. But the cupbearer forgot Joseph. And Joseph had to stay in prison two more years. Then Pharaoh had a strange dream. He dreamed that he saw seven fat cows coming out of the river, followed by seven thin cows, who ate up the fat cows. Later that night the king had another dream. He saw a stalk of grain growing with seven full heads on it. Right after that he saw a stalk with seven empty heads, which ate up the full heads.

When Pharaoh could find no one who could tell him what these dreams meant, the cupbearer, who had been in prison with Joseph, remembered Joseph. He told Pharaoh that Joseph could explain dreams. Pharaoh sent for Joseph. When Joseph came, Pharaoh asked him whether he could explain dreams. "I cannot do it," said Joseph. "But God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires." God showed Joseph the meaning of the dreams, so that Joseph could explain them to Pharaoh. He said that both dreams meant the same thing. Egypt would have seven years of great plenty, followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh was much pleased with Joseph. He put Joseph in charge of gathering food in the seven rich years to be placed in storehouses and saved for the seven poor years.

## Discussion

- 1 - Follow up the story by talking about it with the children.
- 2 - Continue the discussion while they do the activity.

## Learning Activities

Activity Sheet.