



FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

Week of September 25, 2022: Genesis 39:1-23

Memory Verse

Genesis 39:2 - *"The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered"*

A Time to Pray

God, mysterious, above us, below us, around us, and in us. You are with us always and everywhere. We thank you for your everlasting love for us.

We are united by your love. Although we are all different, you love us all the same.

We are sorry that sometimes we forget that we are united by your love. We are sorry that sometimes we fail you by our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

Forgive us, O God, as you have promised. Make us new us, refresh us, unite us once more in your love.

Send us into the world to love and care as Jesus taught us too.

Amen.

The Story: Joseph & His Brothers

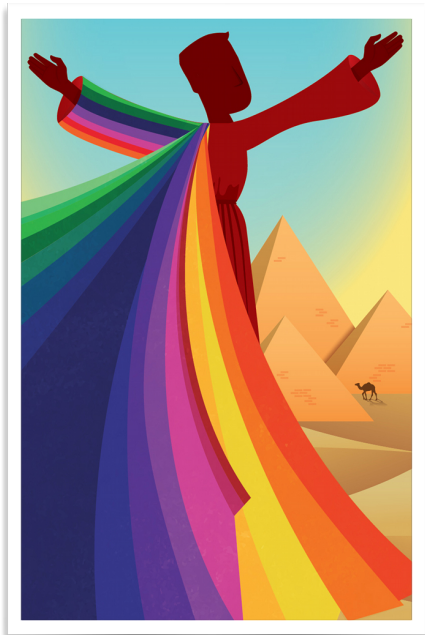
Main idea - God can make good things out of bad

There once was a man named Jacob who had twelve sons. But of all his sons, Joseph was his favorite. Jacob wanted to show Joseph how much he loved him so he had a very special coat made for him. This coat was very colorful, and whenever Joseph wore it all his brothers were jealous. They didn't think that it was fair that Joseph got such a beautiful coat and they got nothing.

One day Joseph had a dream, and he went to tell his brothers. He said, "Last night I had a strange dream. We were tying up bunches of grain out in the field when suddenly my bunch stood up, while all of yours gathered around and bowed to me." The brothers looked

at each other. "Who do you think you are?" The brothers said. "Do you think that you are better than all of us?" This dream made the brothers dislike Joseph even more.

It wasn't long before Joseph's brothers began to talk bad about him and plan what they could do to him because they hated him so much. One day when he came to them in the fields they grabbed him and pulled off his beautiful coat. They threw him into a



Game:

Making something good out of bad

Take a blank sheet of paper. Also, take some torn pieces of colored paper or cut out colors from catalogs or magazines. Have your child make a picture with the "bad" things by gluing the pieces into a picture. Talk about how bad situations can turn to good.

Prayer: *Dear God, thank you that you can take something bad, and turn it into something good. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Story Discussion: Talk to your child about jealousy and envy. Are they envious of something one of their friends own? Do they have something that someone else could be jealous that they own? Tell your children about a time when you were jealous and what you did about it.

Joseph had vivid dreams. Ask your children if they remember any dreams. Do you think that dreams have meaning?

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deep dark well.

Soon a bunch of men passed by who were on their way to Egypt. The brothers pulled Joseph out of the deep dark well and sold him to the men who took him to Egypt as their slave.

The brothers took Joseph's beautiful robe and dipped it in animal blood and took it back to their father. When the father saw this he cried, "Some animal has killed my son." And he cried for many days.

In Egypt, Joseph became a slave but the Lord was always with him. One day the Pharaoh had a dream that no one could explain. Someone remembered that Joseph could interpret dreams so Joseph was brought to Pharaoh. After Joseph heard the dream he explained, "God is warning you. There will be seven years when nothing will grow and there won't be any food for anyone." "What can I do?" Pharaoh asked. "There will be seven good years before the bad years. There will be extra food. Save a little bit of each year's harvest, so there will be enough to get you through the bad years." Joseph said.

Pharaoh believed Joseph and put him in charge of all the land of Egypt. People came from many countries to buy grain from Joseph. Some of those people were Joseph's brothers. Joseph recognized them but they did not recognize Joseph. The brothers bowed to him because he was an important person, just as he dreamed they would. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father alive?" His brothers did not answer because they were afraid. Then Joseph said, "Come here. I am your brother, the one you sold! Do not be angry at yourselves because God has put me here to save people from starving."

So his father, his brothers, and their families came to live in Egypt with Joseph, and they had all the food they needed. (*Discussion continued on sidebar*)