

REMEMBER: In the future, if you go through something hard, God might just have a plan for you and others in it. And always, He wants you to trust Him. When you do, your “faith muscles” will grow stronger.

Name

36 HEROES OF THE FAITH: JOSEPH (PART 2)

In Worksheet #34, we started to learn about Joseph, one of the “heroes of the faith” in the Bible. Joseph had big faith! One reason he had big faith is that, though he faced hard times, he trusted God through it all. And because he did, God rewarded Joseph, and made his “faith muscles” stronger.

First, let’s remind ourselves what faith is:

REVIEW

Romans 8:28 – “And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.”

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OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Genesis	1 Kings	Ecclesiastes	Obadiah
Exodus	2 Kings	Song of Songs	Jonah
Leviticus	1 Chronicles	Isaiah	Micah
Numbers	2 Chronicles	Jeremiah	Nahum
Deuteronomy	Ezra	Lamentations	Habakkuk
Joshua	Nehemiah	Ezekiel	Zephaniah
Judges	Esther	Daniel	Haggai
Ruth	Job	Hosea	Zechariah
1 Samuel	Psalms	Joel	Malachi
2 Samuel	Proverbs	Amos	

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“ROAR” (that’s lion for “Well done!”)

..... (name of Clubber) has finished
“Heroes of the Faith: Joseph (Part 2).” Well done!

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REVIEW

Hebrews 11:1-2 – “Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. That is what the people of long ago were praised for.”

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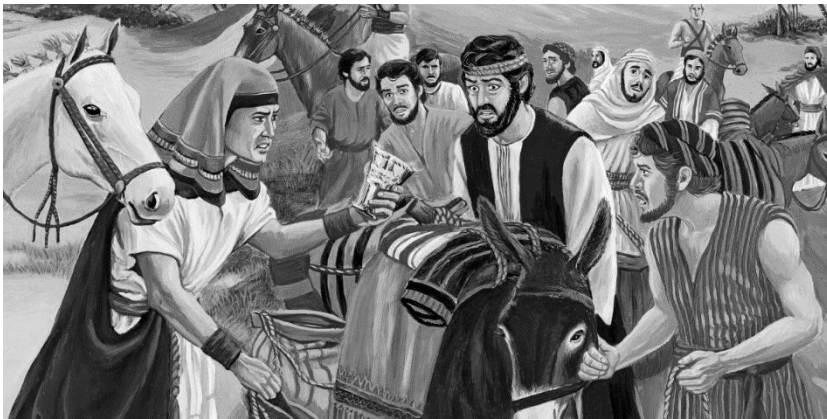
Last time, we saw God miraculously make Joseph the second-in-command of the Egyptian Empire. Only God could do this! During Joseph’s first 7 years of leading his country, God blessed Egypt with great crops. And during these good times, Joseph stored much grain away, preparing for the day when food would be hard to come by. That day came, just as God said that it would. But because of God and Joseph, Egypt had food to keep them alive. Soon people from other countries came to Egypt to buy food. One day, Joseph’s 10 older brothers came to Egypt, needing food. When they arrived, Joseph knew it was his brothers, but they didn’t know Egypt’s leader was Joseph.

Read Genesis 42:6-20

I read Genesis 42:6-20

It might seem that Joseph is angry at his brothers, or being unfair to them. But actually, he is testing them to see what kind of men they are. Remember, the last time he saw them, they sold him into slavery. So, 9 of Joseph's brothers returned home, to Jacob their father. Jacob was very sad that one of his sons was in prison in Egypt, and no doubt he wondered what God was doing.

Eventually, the food ran out, and Jacob told his sons to return to Egypt for more food. But unless the 9 brothers took their youngest brother, Benjamin, with them, Joseph would not sell them more food. Jacob didn't want to send Benjamin, but he did so. Unless Benjamin went to Egypt, they all would starve.



So, the 10 brothers went back to Egypt. When Joseph saw his younger brother, Benjamin, he was so excited, but he had to hide his emotions, lest the brothers find out he was Joseph, their brother. Before long, all 11 of them started on their journey home with the food they had bought. To test the brothers, though, Joseph had his special silver cup hidden in

Benjamin's sack of grain. Then, Joseph sent some soldiers to catch up to his brothers, to look for his missing cup. The cup was found in Benjamin's sack, and Benjamin was taken back to Egypt. The other brothers returned to Egypt, too, pleading with Joseph to not punish Benjamin, to let him go free. The brothers passed the test! They proved to Joseph that they were better men than they used to be. But they still don't know that Egypt's ruler is Joseph...

Read Genesis 45:1-15

I read Genesis 45:1-15

How would you have felt, if you were one of Joseph's brothers, realizing that your brother is actually alive and in charge of Egypt?



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Joseph understood why God allowed those hard things to happen to him. God had a plan to save everyone who lived in that part of the world from starvation. Later on, after Jacob dies, Joseph's brothers ask him to forgive them for how they treated him. Listen (and memorize) how Joseph responds to his brothers:

MEMORIZE

Genesis 50:20 – “You planned to harm me. But God planned it for good. He planned to do what is now being done. He wanted to save many lives.”

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