



Joseph's Dreams

When a Hard Road Leads to Mercy

Genesis 37-50 • Ages 8-12 • Free ₹0

This book belongs to

Read, wonder, talk

Enjoy eight short chapters. Look up the Bible references with an adult. Pause when something surprises you. Finish with the questions and your creative activity.

About this edition

Original retelling and layout prepared for Christ Alive Church, Bengaluru. The text summarises the biblical passages; it is not a Bible translation. New cover illustration created with AI.

To print a folded A5 book, select Booklet in your PDF viewer, use A4 paper and double-sided printing. Check the printer preview before printing.

CHAPTER 01

Dreams and Jealousy

Genesis 37:1-11

Joseph was seventeen. His father showed him special favour, and his brothers grew jealous. When Joseph described dreams in which his family bowed down before him, their anger increased. This family needed wisdom and kindness. Instead, resentment kept growing until it shaped choices that would bring years of pain.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 02

Far from Home

Genesis 37:12-36

Joseph's brothers sold him to traders, and he was taken to Egypt. They then deceived their father about what had happened. Joseph had lost the safety of home through someone else's wrongdoing. The Bible does not call their cruelty good. But their cruel choice would not be the end of Joseph's story.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 03

Faithful in Small Things

Genesis 39:1-6

In Egypt, Joseph worked in Potiphar's house. God was with him, and Potiphar entrusted him with responsibility. Joseph could not control everything about his situation. He could still act faithfully in the work before him. Being far from his family did not mean he was beyond God's care.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 04

An Unfair Prison

Genesis 39:7-23

Joseph refused to do wrong with Potiphar's wife. She falsely accused him, and he was put in prison. Doing the right thing did not bring an easy reward. Yet the story again says God was with Joseph. Even there, Joseph earned trust and cared for responsibilities among the prisoners.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 05

Remember Me

Genesis 40

Two prisoners had troubling dreams. Joseph explained that interpretations belonged to God, and he told them what the dreams meant. One man was restored to Pharaoh's service. Joseph asked him to remember his situation. But the man forgot. Joseph had to endure more waiting after a moment that had looked like a way out.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 06

A Plan for Hungry Years

Genesis 41

Pharaoh later had dreams no one could explain. Joseph was brought before him and gave God the credit for understanding them. Seven plentiful years would be followed by seven years of famine. Joseph proposed storing grain. Pharaoh gave him responsibility, and Joseph organised food supplies that would help many people survive.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 07

The Brothers Return

Genesis 42-45

When famine reached Canaan, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt for grain. They did not recognise him at first. After testing them and seeing their concern for their father and Benjamin, Joseph revealed who he was. He wept with them. The brother they had rejected was now able to help save their family.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

CHAPTER 08

Mercy Is a Choice

Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph's brothers were later afraid he would take revenge. Joseph told them that although they had intended harm, God had worked to preserve lives. Joseph did not pretend their actions were right. He chose to provide for them and their children. Mercy meant refusing revenge and using his power to care for others.

Pause and notice: what changes in this part of the story?

Think together

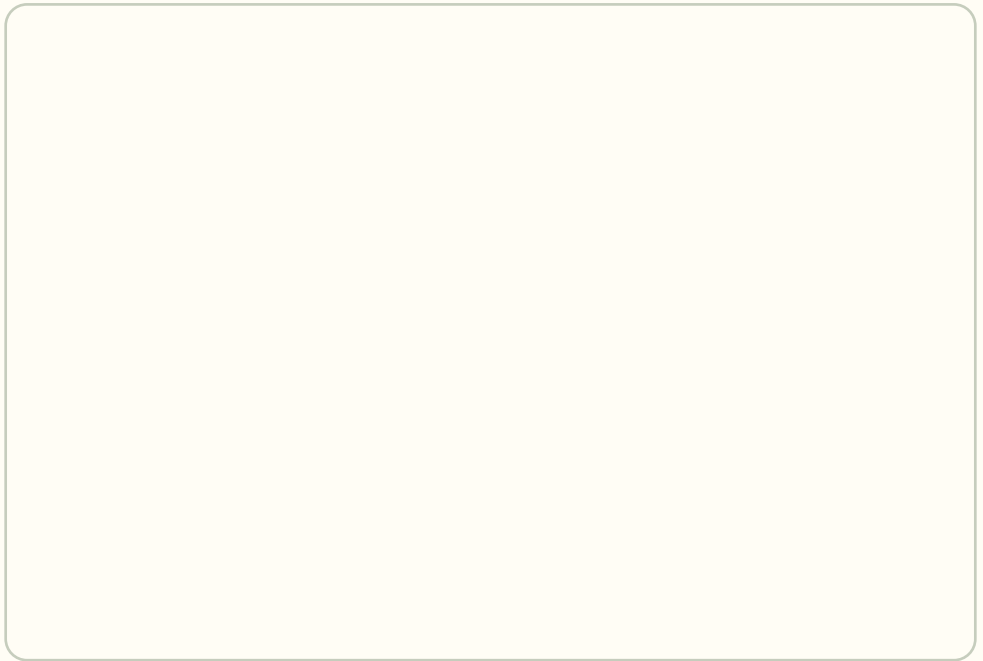
1. Which unfair things happened to Joseph?

2. How did Joseph use his responsibility to help others?

3. Why was forgiving his brothers different from saying their actions were good?

Make it your own

Draw three stepping stones labelled HARD DAY, HELP FROM GOD and HELPING OTHERS. Write or draw part of Joseph's story on each.



A little prayer

Thank God for what you learned. Ask Him to help you live with love, wisdom and courage today.