Lesson 29

Joseph Rules Egypt During the Seven Year Famine

Joseph's Rules and Dominates His Brothers As They Bow the Knee

Genesis 41:54-57; Chapters 42, 43, 44 & 45

With the famine throughout all the lands, (Recite- only in Egypt was there bread). As the people cried to the Pharaoh, (Recite- he sent them to Joseph, the Hebrew-Israelite, second ruler of all Egypt). (Recite- Joseph then opened the storehouses and sold corn) not only to the people, but to the surrounding lands. As food had become scarce in the land of Canaan, Jacob, whose name is now Israel, sent ten of his sons to Egypt to buy corn. Benjamin, the youngest son did not go with his brothers. (Recite- Jacob feared that something bad may happen to Benjamin as it did with Joseph). Jacob still believed that Joseph was killed by a wild beast. Little did Jacob and his sons know that they will soon see Joseph once again! As the brothers arrived in Egypt, (Recite- they came before Joseph and bowed to their knees before him). The dreams Joseph had of his brothers bowing down to him had now come true! Remember the dream (Recite- of the eleven sheaves of crop that bowed to Joseph's sheaf)? Joseph recognized his brothers but they did not recognize him. It has been over thirteen years since they had sold their brother Joseph into slavery! (Recite- They thought Joseph was an Egyptian)! That means that some of Shem's seed and Ham's seed appeared the same in colors of skin. When Joseph spoke to his brothers, he spoke roughly to them and called them spies! To keep his brothers from knowing who he was, (Recite- Joseph spoke to his brothers through an interpreter). This made his brothers believe that Joseph did not understand what they were saying. Now, (Recite- an interpreter is someone who can speak the tongue of more than one languages). (Recite- Language is the way communicate). (Recite- To speak the tongue of a language is how the words are spoken in that language). (Recite- The system we use is English). To speak in the English tongue is how you say the words in that language. For example…using the English language system to say hello, the tongue you would use to say, hello is hello. Now, using the Spanish language system to say the word hello; the tongue you would use to say hello would be hola, (pronounced Oh-la)! This is what an interpreter does! When someone can speak more than one language, (Recite- it simply means that they can speak in tongues)! Remember the story of the tower of Babel? It was there when (Recite- God divided the languages and tongues). One group of people could not understand what the other group was saying because they were speaking a different tongue of a different language! It was from there, (Recite- the different nations were formed).

After being allowed to leave Egypt, Joseph told his brothers to bring their youngest brother Benjamin, to prove that they were not spies. In order to buy more corn, Jacob had to allow Benjamin, Joseph's younger to go with his brothers back to Egypt. After Joseph had subjected his brothers through many trials and sufferings, Joseph finally made himself known to his brothers. He also asked if their father Jacob, known as Israel was still alive. Being troubled at his presence, they could not answer him! (Recite- Before selling Joseph into slavery, Joseph's brothers treated him very badly)! Their bad deeds convicted them! Joseph had to tell them two times who he was! He told his brothers not to be grieved nor angry with themselves. Joseph told his brothers (Recite-that it was God that sent him to Egypt to preserve life). He further tells his brothers that God had made him a father to the Pharaoh, lord over the Pharaoh's house and ruler throughout all the land of Egypt. He then tells his brothers that the famine that has been in the land for these two years will last five more years. Joseph then tells his brothers to hasten home (Recite- and tell their father about him and for everyone to come down to Egypt to live).

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Lesson Review Questions

1. During the famine, where was the only place to get bread?

(A) Canaan (B) Bethel **(C) Egypt**

2. When all of the food was gone during the famine, who were the people sent to for food?

(A) Joseph the Hebrew-Israelite (B) Cain (C) Adam

3. Why did Jacob not let Benjamin go with his brothers to buy corn in Egypt?

(A) Because he said so **(B) He feared something bad would happen to Benjamin** (C) He was too young

4. Once in Egypt, what did Joseph's brothers do before him?

(A) Crawl **(B) Bowed to Joseph** (C) Danced

5. Which of Joseph's dreams came true when they bowed to him?

(A) The dream of the sheaves of crop (B) There was no dream (C) The seven ears of corn

6. Joseph's brothers did not recognize him. Who did they believe Joseph was?

(A) A Ishmaelite (B) A Gentile **(C) An Egyptian**

7. To avoid his brothers from knowing who he was, how did Joseph talk with his brothers?

(A) By telephone (B) Showing pictures **(C) By an interpreter**

8. What is an interpreter?

(A) A person that speaks the tongue of more than one languages (B) A car (C) A horse

9. What is language?

(A) A sandwich **(B) The way people communicate** (C) An animal

10. What is a tongue?

(A) A donkey (B) A chair **(C) How words are spoken in a language**

11. After making himself known to his brothers, Joseph told them that it was God and not them that sent him to Egypt. What was Joseph sent to Egypt to do?

(A) Get away from his brothers **(B) To preserve life** (C) To hurt people

12. Joseph told his brothers to tell their father and their families to come down to Egypt to do what?

(A) To live (B) To die (C) To have a party

Bonus Question: How long will the famine last? **Answer: Seven Years.**

Bonus Question: How many times did Joseph have to tell his brothers who he was? **Answer: Two times.**

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Reader: Please generate questions and help the children find the words. Using crayons, draw a line through each word found in the search word. Change colors for each word.

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G	I	L	X	Z	N	Q	V	K	H	B	C
P	K	M	W	P	E	S	D	L	P	T	U
I	N	T	E	R	P	R	E	T	E	R	O
C	O	B	U	E	A	R	S	X	S	Y	I
R	W	H	Z	S	B	Y	M	R	O	K	B
Y	N	M	T	E	O	G	A	Z	J	O	P
B	A	Z	X	R	Q	B	E	H	W	T	E
W	R	P	O	V	I	N	R	E	J	B	R
Y	U	E	I	E	T	X	D	U	Z	O	Y
G	C	F	A	M	I	N	E	V	L	I	T
L	Q	P	Z	D	P	B	W	T	J	E	O
S	T	O	R	E	H	O	U	S	E	S	R
A	U	V	B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N	Q

SEARCH WORDS

1. BENJAMIN
2. BOWED
3. BREAD
4. CORN
5. DREAMS
6. FAMINE
7. INTERPRETER
8. JOSEPH
9. KNOWN
10. PRESERVE
11. RULER
12. STOREHOUSES

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