

DIGGIN' DOTTIE AND THE MYSTERIOUS DREAMS

Preschool
Week 1

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Read: Genesis 37

God is always with us. This is a simple truth. But it sure isn't easy to believe. Our tendency is to feel quite alone in hard and painful times of our lives, and it's easy to doubt that God would have purpose, let alone believe his nearness, when we are walking through darkness.

This is why we read stories like Joseph's. Because in Joseph, we see ourselves. When Joseph was pushed into a pit by his brothers and then sold into slavery, how could he have known that he would one day be second in command behind Pharaoh? Sure, he'd dreamed that one day his brothers would bow down to him, but in his pride and immaturity, how could he know what he would endure before that dream came true?

Of course, we know the end of Joseph's story. But Joseph didn't. Yet throughout his story there is a repeating phrase, "but the Lord was with Joseph." And he was. The Bible is clear that God is faithful, *even when* life is hard. In the pit and as a slave, there were probably many moments where Joseph felt like his life was over. But we know that God had a plan and he took care of Joseph. When we don't know the end to our own stories or seasons of pain and we don't have the gift of perspective, we can still believe that God is always with us and will take care of us, too.

Sometimes the best way to gain perspective on our current situation is to look back at a season when we saw God's faithfulness. When was the last time you were "stuck in a pit", and saw no way out? How did you see the thread of God's constant presence with you during that season? Looking back can help us trust God when we are stuck in current moments of despair and darkness. Looking back reminds us that God is with us. He has a way out of the pit, but he will also never leave us while we're there.

Are you stuck in a pit right now?

How has God been faithful in the past? Does thinking about God's faithfulness give you hope for the future?