

GOD SAID IT

Preschool
Week 3

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Read: Genesis 37, 39, 41

Joseph was the second youngest of Jacob's 12 sons, and he was his father's favorite. So naturally, Joseph's brothers hated him. Joseph only made things worse by being a tattletale, flaunting his colorful coat in front of his brothers, and bragging about his dreams of dominating them.

Joseph was 17 when his brothers threw him into a pit, sold him as a slave, and sent him to Egypt, where he ended up unfairly imprisoned. Not until he turned 30 was Joseph finally set free. The Bible makes it clear that not only did God never leave Joseph, he allowed him to prosper even during difficulty. While his life as a young man was far from easy, it also changed him into a ruler. Over those years in a pit, as a slave, and in prison, God was refining Joseph. No longer was he the boy who tattled, flaunted, and bragged. Instead, all of his hardships transformed Joseph into a merciful, humble, servant leader.

Joseph didn't seek revenge for all the injustice done against him, nor did he demand a position of power. Joseph didn't sink into despair or give up on God's promise to make him a ruler. Instead, he worked hard wherever he was. Joseph learned to be the best slave, and the best prisoner. He became trusted, and God brought him success after success. Then, at just the right time, God gave Joseph a position of leadership over all of Egypt. Not only did his dream come true, but his success also meant he could save the people from famine.

Joseph didn't know how his story would end. But he kept his faith and God used him.

Whenever you have been in a metaphorical pit, or a prison, do you see ways that God was with you and brought you success?

How has God shaped you from the difficult circumstances you have walked through?