#### Lesson 5:

#### Joseph in Egypt/Butler and Baker

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Genesis 39-40

MEMORY WORK:

Insert your own

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

God wants me to show love and kindness to others, instead of being jealous or resentful.

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| **LESSON STARTS HERE** |

INTRODUCTION:

We have been studying about Jacob and his 12 sons. Who was his favorite son? Do you remember what Joseph’s brothers did to him? Today, we are going to study more about what happened to Joseph and how he did the right thing in a bad situation. Can you think of times when you have to do the right thing even when it is hard?

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Briefly review the previous lesson about Joseph’s brothers selling him to the Midianite (or Ishmaelite) traders.
2. The Midianites took Joseph all the way to the faraway country of Egypt. They sold him to Potiphar, the captain of the King’s (Pharaoh’s) bodyguard. Remember that Joseph was only 17 years old at this time.
3. Joseph must have been afraid at first, because he had never been so far from home, and he didn’t know if he would ever see his family again. But God was with Joseph and helped him in everything he did in this strange new land. Potiphar could see that everything Joseph did turned out well; he knew that there was something very special about this young man. So Potiphar brought Joseph into his house to be his personal servant—to oversee all the other servants.
4. Joseph was a very good-looking man, and Potiphar’s wife noticed him. Potiphar’s wife came to Joseph one day and asked him to spend some time with her as though he were her husband while her actual husband was out of the house. Joseph knew that it would be wrong to treat her as if she were his wife. So he told her that he would not, because he did not want to sin against her, his master, or against God.
5. Potiphar’s wife was angry that Joseph refused to be with her. She asked him day after day, encouraging Joseph to sin! He knew that to love another man’s wife is wrong, and he did not want to do that and hurt, not only himself, but more important, hurt God. Finally, one day she and Joseph were in her house all alone. When she asked Joseph again to love her like her husband, Joseph ran away from her. As he tried to get away, she grabbed his outer clothing, leaving it in her hand. Potiphar’s wife screamed for the other servants and lied—telling them that Joseph had tried to get her to do wrong.
6. When her husband came home, she told him the same lie, and he believed her. Potiphar was so angry that he had Joseph thrown into jail—a jail for special prisoners of the King.
7. Joseph knew that no matter what happened to him, it would never be right to do something wrong. He knew that if he made a wrong choice, he would not only be hurting himself, but hurting God (making Him unhappy
8. God blessed Joseph even in prison because he had chosen to do what is right. While in jail, Joseph impressed the chief jailor with how much he could do, and with what he was willing to do. Soon Joseph was in charge of all the other prisoners. He became friends with the king’s baker and butler (or cupbearer, i.e., person in charge of delivering the king’s drink to him and testing it to make sure it had not been poisoned), who had also been put into prison. They had angered the king.
9. One night the butler and the baker both had dreams that disturbed and upset them. Joseph offered to help them; he said that God would give them the meaning of their dreams.
10. The butler described his dream to Joseph: In his dream he saw a vine with three branches. As it was budding, its blossoms came out, and the clusters produced ripe grapes. Pharaoh’s cup was in his hand and the butler squeezed the grapes into his cup. Joseph said that the three branches represented three days. In three days, the butler would have his old job back.
11. The baker described his dream to Joseph as well, hoping for just as good an interpretation. In his dream, he saw three baskets of bread on his head. In the top basket there were all sorts of baked food for the Pharaoh, and birds came down to eat the food from the basket. Joseph, sadly, told him that the three baskets represented three days. In three days, Pharaoh would “lift up his head” (hang him).
12. When Joseph finished explaining their dreams, he asked the butler to kindly remember him when he was finally released from prison. Joseph hoped that the butler would help him get out of prison. The dreams of the butler and baker came true exactly as Joseph had said, but the butler forgot all about Joseph and his kindness.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces

* ABeka Flash-a-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book;)
* Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file. File will be labeled “05” in the Visuals folder.
* Props for the dreams – baskets, play bread, birds (available near Halloween), play grapes, goblets

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

**“THESE ARE THE** **SONS OF JACOB”**

Author: Traditional

(Tune: “10 Little Indians”)

Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher,

Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin,

These are the sons of Jacob.

**“Three Wandering Jews**

Once there were three wandering Jews. Once there were three wandering Jews.

Wandering, wandering, Jews, Jews, Jews.

Wandering, wandering, Jews, Jews, Jews.

Once there were three wandering Jews.

The first one’s name was Abraham. The first one’s name was Abraham.

Abra-Abra,Ham-ham-ham.

Abra-Abra,Ham-ham-ham.

The first one’s name was Abraham.

The second one’s name was Isaac. The second one’s name was Isaac.

I-I,Saac-saac-saac.

I-I,Saac-saac-saac.

The second one’s name was Isaac.

The third one’s name was Jacob. The third one’s name was Jacob.

Ja-Ja, Cob-cob-cob.

Ja-Ja, Cob-cob-cob.

The third one’s name was Jacob.

They all went down to Canaan’s land. They all went down to Canaan’s land.

Canaan-Canaan, Land-land-land. Canaan-Canaan Land-land-land.

They all went down to Canaan’s land.

### SUNDAY

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* Foam sticker scenes – Paper is not included so put stickers on construction paper or cardstock. The foam stickers can make two scenes: (1) Joseph being sold to Potiphar and (2) Joseph in prison. Bubble clouds could be added above the butler and baker’s heads and students can draw the dream inside the bubble.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

* Review Sunday’s lesson. briefly (See [Review Questions](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/4-24-32RQ.pdf) for example questions.)

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

### Review Questions

### 1. How old was Joseph when he was sold into slavery?

### 17

### 2. Where did the Midianites take Joseph?

### To Egypt

### 3. To whom was Joseph sold?

### Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh’s bodyguard

### 4. What did Potiphar see in Joseph?

### That he was a special man and that everything he did turned out well

### 5. What position did Potiphar give to Joseph?

### He was placed over all of the other servants in Potiphar’s house.

### 6. What did Potiphar’s wife want Joseph to do?

### She wanted Joseph to spend time with her and treat her like he was her husband.

### 7. What did Joseph do?

### He refused, because he knew it would be a sin against God.

### 8. What did Potiphar’s wife do after Joseph refused her?

### She lied and said that Joseph had tried to hurt her.

### 9. What did Potiphar do with Joseph?

### He put him in a special prison for the king’s prisoners

### 10. God blessed Joseph in jail by giving him what job?

### He was put in charge of all the other prisoners.

### 11. Who else was in jail with Joseph?

### The baker and the butler/cup bearer

### 12. What was the butler’s dream?

### He saw a vine with three branches. As it was budding, its blossoms came out and the clusters produced ripe grapes. Pharaoh’s cup was in his hand, and the butler squeezed the grapes into his cup. Joseph told him that the three branches represented three days and he would have his old job back.

### 13. What was the baker’s dream?

### He had three baskets on his head. In the top basket, there were all sorts of baked food for Pharaoh. Birds came down and ate the food from the basket. Joseph told the baker that the three baskets were three days, and that in three days, Pharaoh would “lift up his head” or hang him.

### 14. To whom did Joseph give credit for interpreting the dreams?

### God

### 15. What did Joseph ask the butler to do?

### To remember him when he was released from prison

Additional Notes / Activities Performed & Curriculum Feed Back

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