

## Genesis 32-37

We learned in our last lesson that Jacob had a very large family that included 12 sons and one daughter. After 20 years in Haran, Jacob decided to go home to his family in Canaan. He was sorry for how he had tricked Esau, his brother, and his old father, Isaac. He wanted to make things right. Would Esau forgive him? We learn from the Bible that Esau came to meet Jacob and his family and welcomed them home. Yes, Esau forgave his brother.

Jacob had a favorite son named Joseph. Joseph had 10 older brothers – Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, and Zebulun. He had one younger brother, Benjamin. Joseph and Benjamin were Rachel's children, and Jacob loved them best.

One day Jacob gave Joseph a beautiful coat of many colors. It was very expensive, and the other brothers became very jealous because they did not get lovely coats from their father. The older brothers became very angry with Joseph and they hated him. To make matters worse, Joseph also had dreams that he shared with his family. In one dream, all the boys were binding sheaves of wheat in the field. Joseph's sheaf stood upright, but the other sheaves bowed down to Joseph's sheaf.

In another dream, the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed down to Joseph. The 11 stars represented the 11 brothers, and the sun and moon represented Joseph's parents. When Joseph told these dreams to his brothers, they became even angrier with him.

## Lesson #9 Joseph and His Brothers

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One day Jacob asked Joseph to go check on his brothers who were keeping sheep in Shechem. The brothers had moved on to Dothan, and Joseph found them there. The brothers had seen Joseph coming from a far off and said, “Here comes that dreamer. Let’s kill him.”

Rueben, the oldest, convinced the others not to kill him. Instead, they put him in a deep pit with no water. They took Joseph’s beautiful coat from him and threw him down in the well.

Although Rueben had planned to sneak Joseph out later, he had to go out and watch the sheep. The other brothers sat down to eat. As they ate, a company of Ishmaelites came along. They were going to Egypt to sell their spices and perfumes. The brothers decided to sell Joseph to these people for 20 pieces of silver. Poor Joseph was sold as a slave to strangers when he was only 17 years old.

Joseph was sold as a slave when he got to Egypt. He became a trusted part of Potipher’s household. Joseph always had faith that God would take care of him in all situations. We should learn from Joseph’s life that God will take care of us when we obey Him.

**Fill in the blanks**

**(Choose answers from the bottom of the page.)**

1. Jacob had \_\_\_\_\_ sons.
2. Jacob had \_\_\_\_\_ daughter.
3. Jacob's favorite son was \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Jacob gave Joseph a lovely \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Joseph had a lot of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. He dreamed about the \_\_\_\_\_, moon, and stars.
7. His brothers got \_\_\_\_\_ at Joseph.
8. They put him in a \_\_\_\_\_.
9. They sold him for \_\_\_\_\_ pieces of silver.
10. Joseph Still trusted \_\_\_\_\_.

Coat      pit      12      1

Joseph      God      dreams

20      mad      sun