



Joseph Meets His Brothers

God can heal a broken family!

Story #11 | Ages 4-10 | Genesis 42-45

🌾 Empty Fields



The land of Canaan was **DRY**.
 The fields were cracked. The barns were empty.
 Stomachs growled. Wheels squeaked on empty carts.
 But Jacob heard a rumor: "Egypt has grain!"
 He gathered his sons — ten of them.
 "Go to Egypt. Buy food. Bring it back!"
 "What about me?" asked Benjamin, the youngest.
 Jacob held him tight. "**NO**. I can't lose another son!"
 So the ten brothers loaded their donkeys.
 They had no idea WHO was waiting for them.

"Thus the sons of Israel came to buy grain, for the famine was in the land of Canaan." — Genesis 42:5

🌾 Empty Bowl Reflection

Have you ever felt empty inside? Draw a bowl on paper. Write or draw things that help fill YOU up—family, prayer, food, love.

👑 Bowing to the Governor



The brothers arrived at the grand palace.
 A powerful **governor** sat on a throne.
 He wore fine Egyptian clothes.
 He had makeup on his eyes and a golden headdress.
 The ten brothers **BOWED** low to the ground!
 Just like Joseph's dream 20 years ago! 🌾➡️👑
 Joseph recognized them INSTANTLY.
 But THEY did not recognize HIM.

"Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, but he treated them like strangers." — Genesis 42:7

💡 Tiny Truth

Something you did long ago might come back to you. God gives us chances to face old mistakes—and make them **RIGHT**.

🎭 Guessing Game!

Put on a mask or silly hat. Can your family guess who you are?

Joseph's brothers didn't recognize him. Do we sometimes not recognize God at work?

The Test



Joseph pretended to be a stranger.

"Where do you come from?" he asked.

"From Canaan, to buy food," they said.

"You are **SPIES!**" Joseph shouted. "You came to see where our land is weak!"

"**NO!** We are twelve brothers. One is home with our father. One is... *gone*."

Joseph wanted to test them.

"Bring your youngest brother to PROVE you tell the truth!"

Then he put them all in prison for **three days**. 🕒

Joseph's heart was breaking... but his face stayed stern.

The Character Test

Joseph needed to know: **Had they changed?**

Write down one bad choice you made. Now write how you've changed since then!

The Weeping Governor



In prison, the brothers huddled close.

"This is happening because of **Joseph**," Reuben said.

"I told you not to hurt him!"

"We saw his fear. We didn't listen. We are **guilty**."

Joseph heard them from the next room.

He turned away so they couldn't see.

And he **WEPT** — big, quiet tears. 😭

They felt **sorry** for what they did.

Sorry hearts are the first step to **healed** hearts!

"They said to one another, 'In truth we are guilty concerning our brother.'" — Genesis 42:21

Tiny Truth

Saying "I'm sorry" doesn't fix everything, but it's the **key** that opens the door to healing!

Sorry Heart Craft

Cut a heart from paper. Tear or cut it into pieces.

Glue it back together. Write "I'm sorry" on a bandage and stick it on.

Broken things CAN be mended!

🏠 Jacob Finally Says Yes



The famine got WORSE.

The grain ran out.

Jacob held his youngest son tight. "They took Simeon. Now they want **you**?"

Judah stepped forward. "**I promise** with my life," he said.

"If I don't bring him back, you can blame me forever."

Jacob finally said a very hard word: "**Go**."

So Benjamin packed his bags.

Joseph's little brother was coming to Egypt!

"Take your brother also... arise, go again to the man." — Genesis 43:13

👉 A Promise is Powerful

Judah promised to protect Benjamin. Who do YOU promise to protect or help?

Write that person's name here: _____

🍷 The Silver Cup Test



When the brothers arrived with Benjamin, Joseph threw a huge **FEAST!** 🎉

But he had one more test.

He hid his special **silver cup** in Benjamin's grain sack!

Then sent guards: "STOP! One of you **STOLE** from the governor!"

The brothers were horrified. "We're innocent! Search our bags!"

The cup was found in... **Benjamin's sack!**

Judah fell to the ground and **BEGGED**:

♥ JUDAH OFFERS:

"Take **ME** instead! My father will die if Benjamin doesn't come home!"

Judah was willing to be a **SLAVE** for his brother.

Joseph saw they had truly **CHANGED**.

💡 Tiny Truth

Real love is willing to **give up** something precious for family. That's exactly what Jesus did for US!

📺 Sacrifice Saturday

Give up one thing you love today for someone else.
The TV remote? The last cookie? The best seat?
Love in action!

🎭 The Big Reveal



Joseph could not hide anymore.
 "EVERYONE **OUT!**" he shouted to his guards.
 The room went silent.
 Joseph pulled off his golden headdress.
 He **WEPT** so loudly all Egypt could hear!

🗣️ JOSEPH SAYS:

"I am **JOSEPH!** Is my father still alive?"

The brothers' mouths fell **OPEN**.
 They stood **TREMBLING**. Afraid.
 Had Joseph come to **PUNISH** them?
 But Joseph opened his arms wide.
 "Come **NEAR** to me!"

He was NOT angry. ❤️

🎭 The Big Reveal Game

Play charades! Act out a surprise party or a reunion.
 How does it feel to find someone you lost?

❤️ Forgiveness and a New Beginning



Joseph hugged **EVERY** brother.
 He **KISSED** them. He **WEPT** with **JOY!**
 "Don't be angry with yourselves," he said.

🗣️ JOSEPH SAYS:

"You meant evil against me, **BUT GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD...** to save many people!"

Joseph sent wagons loaded with gifts!
 Tell Father: **Joseph is ALIVE and ruler of Egypt!**
 Jacob could hardly believe it.
 But when he saw Joseph... he **FELL** into his arms.
 A broken family was **HEALED**.
 God turned tears into a **HAPPY ENDING!**

*"Joseph kissed all his brothers and wept upon them.
 After that his brothers talked with him." — Genesis
 45:15*

❤️ The Healing Secret

God is the Great Fixer. He can heal families, fix friendships,
 and turn what's broken into something **beautiful!**

😊 Family Hug Day

Give every person in your family a **BIG** hug and say "I love you!"
 If someone is far away, send them a hand-drawn heart. ❤️

Broken-Heart Mending Craft

1. Cut a big heart from construction paper.
2. Cut or tear it into 5-6 pieces.
3. On each piece, write something that breaks relationships: "lying," "jealousy," "hitting," etc.
4. Flip the pieces over. Write a fix on each one: "truth," "kind words," "hugs."
5. Glue the heart back together on a new sheet.
6. Draw a rainbow over the mended heart! God heals broken things!

Forgiveness Flower

1. Cut a flower shape: middle circle + 5-8 petals.
2. In the center write: "I FORGIVE YOU."
3. On each petal write someone to forgive: a sibling, a friend, yourself?
4. Color it bright and cheerful — forgiveness feels GOOD!
5. Give one petal (or the whole flower) to someone you need to make peace with.

Memory Verse Song (Tune: "Jesus Loves Me"):

*"You meant evil, God made good,
Just like Joseph's story would!
Brothers crying, Joseph cried,
Hugs and kisses, love won't hide!
God can heal a broken heart,
He gives families a brand new start!"*

Family Discussion Time

1. Why didn't Jacob want Benjamin to go to Egypt? Have you ever been scared to let someone you love do something?
2. Joseph pretended not to know his brothers. Why do you think he tested them first instead of revealing himself right away?
3. In prison, the brothers said, "We are guilty." Why is saying sorry so hard? What happens when we finally say it?
4. Judah offered to become a slave in place of Benjamin. What does that teach us about real love and sacrifice?
5. When Joseph said "I am Joseph!" the brothers were terrified. Have you ever been scared to face someone you hurt?
6. Joseph said, "God meant it for good." How can God turn something bad into something beautiful in YOUR life?

Story #11 of the Biblical Adventure Series. Faith-building visual storytelling for family discipleship.

Next Story Preview: Moses and the Princess — God saves little ones in secret places! (Exodus 2)

God Can Heal a Broken Family!

When brothers betray,
When trust is torn,
When old wounds ache
and hearts are worn...
God's love mends
what sin tore apart.
He heals the family.
He heals the heart. 🌟

 Next in this Series:

Moses and the Princess

God saves little ones in secret places!

Story #12 Coming Soon

Scripture quotations from the ESV® Bible.
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