In the Beginning...Jesus

Lesson 13
God Preserves Israel in the Land of Egypt

Themes:
- God changed Jacob's name to Israel.
- God gave Jacob 12 sons, who became God's chosen nation, Israel.
- God causes evil to serve His good purposes.
- God preserved His people in the land of Egypt.

Scripture:
Portions of Genesis 37-50

Memory Verse:
Isaiah 53:9 (and review verses 3-8)

Today's Clue:
ISRAEL—GOD'S CHOSEN NATION

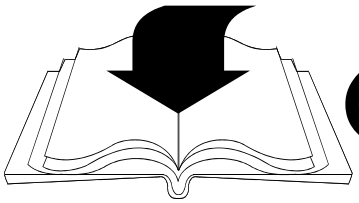
Home and Heart:
Recall a time when your child had a fight with his siblings (or friends). Were his feelings hurt? Did he feel wronged? How does he think Joseph felt when his brothers wanted to kill him and then, instead, sold him as a slave? Did God know what was happening? Did God act to stop it? Why not? Read and discuss Psalm 105:16-24. To begin with, did Joseph or his father and brothers understand this was God's plan for the nation of Israel? After it happened, what did Joseph understand? Read and discuss Genesis 50:19-20.

Has anything bad ever happened to you? What happened? At the time, did it seem anything good could come from this? Was it hard to trust God, believing He understood what you were going through and was (and still is) able to turn it to good? Use the notebook section on the back side of this page to write your answer. Read and talk about some of the following verses: Psalm 34:10; 84:11; Romans 8:32. Who do these verse pertain to? Use the same notebook section to write your answer.

Did Joseph *just happen* to end up in Egypt? Did he *just happen* to earn favor with the jailer? Did he *just happen* to be able to interpret Pharaoh's dreams? Did he *just happen* to earn the trust of Pharaoh? Did there *just happen* to be a famine in the land? Did he *just happen* to be the one from whom his brothers would need to buy grain? When you read a story like this from the Bible, Whose "fingerprints" should you be looking for? Read the following verses from the story: Genesis 39:2-3, 21, 23; 41:16, 25, 28. Is Joseph the hero or is God? How did Joseph point to God's greatness? Spend time in prayer, praising God for His greatness! He still is at work today, causing all of His good purposes to come about.



DISCOVER MORE



GENESIS

"READ ALL ABOUT IT! JACOB MEETS WITH PHARAOH." Yes, it's true. Jacob did meet face-to-face with Pharaoh. What did he say to Pharaoh? Was Pharaoh pleased with his visit? Find out by reading Genesis 47. What happens at the end of the chapter? Read chapter 48 to find out who Manasseh and Ephraim are. With your parents, read and discuss the second paragraph under the "Home and Heart" section on the other side of this page. Use the notebook below to write about (or draw) a situation in which you saw how God caused something meant for evil to be turned for your good.

