



Favorites' Clothes



Connect

Today, we will find out how much we know about our family members. Partner up by two. If someone does not have a partner, you can have a group of three.

The goal is to get as many correct answers about your partner's favorites. The game master will shout out one category at a time (example: favorite color, favorite food, favorite place to go, etc) and you have to guess what items are your partner's favorites. (to make the game more exciting, you can do a 10-second time limit.) The team with the most correct answers wins the game!

(For a team with three players, Player 1 can guess for player 2, player 2 can guess for Player 3 and Player 3 can guess for Player 1).

That was fun, wasn't it? You find out more things about one another!

This month, we will read about Joseph who came from a big family. His father, Jacob (also named Israel) had 12 sons. Let's read about them.



Read the Word

Read Genesis 37

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.

5 Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. 6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: 7 We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."

8 His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

19 "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other. 20 "Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams."

26 Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? 27 Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.

28 So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

It must have been like a roller coaster ride for Joseph. One minute, he was the favorite son and everything about life was good and the next minute, he was on his way to Egypt as a slave. All in a single day! So, Joseph might have been thinking, "How could this be happening to me? Why are my brothers doing this? Is God allowing this? God, help me! Where are you?"

God was always present in Joseph's life. We will find this out this entire month as we learn more about Joseph's life. But even when he was still very young, God was already present in his life. God gave him dreams so Joseph could see God's plan for him. When things turned for the worse when his brothers wanted to kill him, God protected him when his brothers changed their minds and sold him instead of killing him. And even in Egypt, we will see next week that God was still with him.



Huddle

Parent to Kid/s:

4-6 years old

- Do you think it was a bad thing that happened to Joseph when his brothers sold him to become a slave? Why?

7-12 years old

- Would you want to be in Joseph's shoes? Why?

Kid/s to Parent:

- How do you know God is with you?

- Is God good all the time? Why do bad things happen?

Have you ever been in a situation so bad that you felt God may have already abandoned you, that you cannot trust Him? It looks that way for Joseph. But you know, all we see are the things happening to us. We sometimes fail to see the big picture that God is working on. We are just part of that picture.

God is always good! That is His nature, that is who He is. When bad things seem to happen, we can and we must continue to trust Him because He has a plan and a purpose for our lives. We may not see it yet but as we continue to trust Him, just as Joseph did, we will eventually see that He is good!



Pray

Dear God, we praise You because You are God! You are in control of everything and You have good plans for us. Please help us to trust You even in the seemingly bad situations we go through. Thank You because You are always good! In Jesus' name, Amen!



Discover

What is the importance of the "coat of many colors"?

Aside from showing that Joseph was his favorite son, the coat had an even more important implication. Some historians say that by giving Joseph the coat, his father Jacob was telling his family that Joseph was his chosen heir. Even though Joseph was not the eldest among his siblings, Joseph was the first born of the woman his father truly loved and therefore, in Jacob's eyes, he may have considered Joseph his true firstborn and his heir. This is important in the ancient Jewish culture because the firstborn is allocated a double portion of the inheritance.

No wonder there is much hatred from Joseph's brothers. But God is present and there will be redemption in this story, as we will find out in the succeeding lessons.