

Joseph's Brothers Get Jealous

Bible Connection Leader: *Jacob had 12 sons. The second to youngest was named Joseph. Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. He did special things for Joseph that he didn't do for the other brothers. In fact, Jacob once gave Joseph a very special gift: a colorful robe. Place the robe around the child playing Joseph. How do you think Joseph felt knowing he was his father's favorite son? (prideful, special) How do you think the brothers felt knowing Joseph was the favorite? (jealous, angry) How do you think the brothers treated Joseph? What sort of things might they have said or done to him? Guide the clubbers to realize the brothers felt jealous.*

Bible Connection Leader: *One day Joseph told his brothers a dream he had.*

Joseph: *I had such a strange dream last night! I dreamed that we were tying bunches of grain together out in the field. My bunch stood up tall and then each of your bunches gathered around mine and bowed down to mine!*

Bible Connection Leader: *Tell me with thumbs up or down how Joseph's brothers felt about him now. What words would describe how they might have felt? (jealous, angry, bitter, frustrated, hatred) What words would you use to describe Joseph? (prideful, arrogant, boastful, cocky) Then Joseph told his brothers about another dream.*

Joseph: *I had another dream! I dreamed the sun, moon and 11 stars were bowing down to me!*

Bible Connection Leader: *Tell me with thumbs up or down how his brothers felt now?*

Simeon: *Do you think you will rule over us someday? Do you think you're better than us?*

Bible Connection Leader: *A while later, Jacob, the father, asked Joseph to travel and check on his brothers who were about 60 miles away with sheep in the pasture. When his brothers saw Joseph coming in the distance, they made a plan to kill him. But the older brother, Reuben, didn't want to harm Joseph, so he made a suggestion.*

Reuben: *Let's not kill him. Instead, let's throw him in this deep, empty well.*

Bible Connection Leader: *You see, Reuben planned to secretly go back later and rescue Joseph. So, when Joseph arrived, his brothers tore off his colorful robe and threw him in the empty well. A little later while they were eating lunch, the brothers saw a group of traders headed to Egypt. Another brother, Judah, had a different idea.*

Judah: *How about we sell Joseph to this group of traders? Then we won't have to kill him, plus we'll get money and we won't ever see him again!*

Bible Connection Leader: *So, Joseph's brothers sold him to the traders and were given 20 pieces of silver, which is about \$200 today. Then they took Joseph's colorful robe and smeared it with goat's blood. Jacob, their father, saw the robe covered in blood and assumed that Joseph had been killed. The brothers lied to hide what they had done. Jacob cried for a long time and could not be comforted by anyone.*