




MAYFAIR KIDS

JESUS IS THE BETRAYED AND THE SAVIOR

“WHO IS JESUS?” FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - Week 7, September 29



JESUS IS THE BETRAYED AND THE SAVIOR

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

1 JOHN 4:14

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he last major story in the book of Genesis is the incredible true tale of Joseph the dreamer. Throughout the story, God weaves glimpses of Jesus and of his master plan of redemption.

Jacob had twelve sons, but Joseph was his favorite. Jacob gave Joseph a richly ornamented robe to show his love for him. This special treatment made his brothers so mad that they hated him. If that wasn't enough, Joseph had dreams that his brothers' sheaves of grain were bowing down to his sheaf of grain, and that the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing

down to him. His brothers were outraged. "Will we bow down to you? Surely not!"

They had to get rid of him. If they killed him, they would smother his dreams as well!

One day in a faraway field, Joseph's brothers attacked him and threw him in an empty cistern. A caravan came by, and Joseph's brother Judah came up with a plan. "What will we gain if we kill him? Let's sell him instead!" So they pulled Joseph out and sold him for twenty pieces of silver. The brothers killed a goat and dipped Joseph's fancy robe in it. They brought the robe to their father

and told him Joseph was killed by a wild animal.

God was with Joseph. He was sold to Potiphar, an Egyptian official. The Lord gave Joseph success in everything he did (Genesis 39:3) and he was very well respected. Things didn't go well forever, though. Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of doing something he didn't do, and Joseph landed in jail. Figuratively speaking, he was thrown into a pit all over again!

Was God still with Joseph? Absolutely yes. God made Joseph the dreamer into the dream interpreter, and he ended up interpreting a dream for Pharaoh, the Egyptian king! The dream revealed that there would be seven years of plenty in Egypt, and then seven years of famine. Joseph suggested that Pharaoh appoint someone to be in charge of saving food during the years of plenty so the nation would survive the years of famine. And who do you think Pharaoh appointed? Joseph, of course! The prison was no longer his home; he moved to the palace!

Pharaoh's dream came true; and after that, Joseph's dreams came true as well. You see, back home his family was starving from the famine. So Joseph's father, Jacob, sent his sons to buy grain in Egypt. When they arrived, they bowed down before their brother, begging for grain. It was just like his dream!

Joseph didn't reveal himself right away, but when he did, he showed complete forgiveness, weeping and

hugging them. He knew wholeheartedly that God had sent him to Egypt to save many lives, including the lives of his brothers, God's chosen people. He said, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good" (Genesis 50:20).

Joseph was his family's savior from a famine, but he points us to Jesus, the Savior from sin. Like Joseph, Jesus would have to leave his home and his father. His own brothers would think he was out of his mind, not believing his words. People would hate him so much that they would want him dead, and he would be betrayed and sold out for silver coins. He would be punished even though he was innocent. And as sad as all of that sounds, it would all be part of a master plan! God would use all of the terrible things that happened to his Son Jesus for good. For our good! For the saving of many lives (Genesis 50:20)!

You see, when God has a saving plan for his people, a pit and a prison aren't going to stop him—not even the pit of death itself. God will save his people and bring about good, because God is good!

Joseph was a temporary savior, but you can be sure that Jesus is our true Savior. The grain God's people received in this story gave them the bread their bellies grumbled for—the bread they needed to physically survive. But their hearts would still hunger for more, and Jesus would be the answer.



REFLECT

1. What are the similarities between Joseph's story and Jesus's story?
2. Can you give an example from your own life of something that started out as a bad situation but God used it for good?
3. Read Genesis 44:33, where Judah offers his life in place of Benjamin's. How might this section of the story point us to Jesus?

BIBLE REFERENCE GENESIS 37; 39-45

KEY VERSE 1 JOHN 4:14