

## Lying Down and Getting Up!!!

July 16/18, 2010

*(Read the following story from Genesis 37:12-36. Stop as indicated to let your child(ren) participate and respond. Show them where this story is found in your Bible.*

### Joseph's Brothers Sell Him into Slavery

**"Joseph! Joseph! Come here! I need you to go and check on your brothers!"**

Jacob was calling to his son Joseph. Jacob needed Joseph to go and check on the older brothers who had taken the sheep out to find grass to eat at a field near Shechem.

**Jacob said to his favorite son Joseph, "Go and see if your brothers are okay and then come back to tell me how they are doing."**

Joseph was an obedient son. He did what his father told him. Joseph understood that God wants us to **do what is right. Joseph said to his father, "Very well," and he left to find his brothers.** *(Discuss with your child how important it is to obey our parents because it is what God wants. It is the right thing to do!)*

Before Joseph got to his brothers, they saw him coming. Joseph was wearing the beautiful coat that their father had given to him. Remember, their father had given a beautiful coat only to Joseph and that made the brothers feel very, very jealous. *(Discuss with your child what jealousy means - to want what someone else has.)* So while the brothers watched Joseph walking closer and closer, the brothers talked **together and they came up with a terrible plan. They said, "Let's throw Joseph into one of these wells around here!"** *(A well is a big hole in the ground where people could get water to drink for themselves and for their animals.)*

**And that is exactly what they did. The jealous brothers took Joseph's beautiful coat that their father had given him and they threw Joseph into an empty well that had no water in it. Then all the brothers sat down by the well to eat. While they were eating, the brothers saw a big caravan (like a parade!) of people coming with lots of camels who were carrying loads of spices to Egypt.**

**One of the brothers said, "Hey, let's sell Joseph to those people in the caravan." All the brothers thought that was a good idea so they pulled Joseph out of the empty well and sold him for 20 shekels of silver. The caravan took Joseph to Egypt. Egypt was far away from Joseph's home town.**

**Joseph's brothers made some really, really bad choices. They did not understand or care that God wants us to do what is right. Now Joseph is on the way to Egypt. What will happen to Joseph there? You will find out next week.**

**These commandments that I give to you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.**

— Deuteronomy 6:6-8

1. Who went to check on his brothers?
2. How did the brothers feel about Joseph?
3. What did they first do to Joseph?
4. Where did the caravan take Joseph?
5. Who wants us to do what is right?

ANSWERS:  
(1) Joseph (2) Jealous (3) Threw him in a well  
(4) Egypt (5) God

## At Home And On The Road

*At a meal or in the car, discuss the following with your child.*

How sad it was that Joseph's brothers would do such a bad thing to Joseph, just because they were jealous of him. They thought their dad loved Joseph more. They chose to do very bad things because of their jealousy. It was *not* the right thing to do!

Discussion: Discuss with your child how important it is to always do the right thing. Tell your child that God is pleased when we do the **right thing, and very sad when we don't**. Talk about different times when you had choices to make and decided to make the choice that would make God happy. Discuss with your child how that made *you* feel!

Read 1 Corinthians 8:1 to your child and show them where it is found in the Bible.

*Knowledge puffs up but love builds up*

Recite the verse using the following motions:  
**"Knowledge (point to head) puffs up (puff out cheeks) but Love (cross arms across chest) builds up" (raise hands over head).**

## Hands and Forehead

*Enjoy the following scripture verse with your child.*

## Doorframes And Gates

*Enjoy this project that reinforces the lesson to your child.*

(Have fun with this project that reinforces the lesson to your child.)

**Joseph's Coat.** Use colored sheets of paper to resemble the different colors in Joseph's coat and assign a different point value to each sheet. Spread them out on the floor, using tape to secure them. Using a rolled up sock, take turns tossing the sock onto the sheets of paper. If the sock lands on one of the sheets, ask that person a question relating to the story. See how many points each person scores - the highest score wins!