LESSON 9

THE KING'S DREAM



Aim: **To teach the children that only after Joseph had suffered and had learnt discipline in prison, he was ready for the task God had planned for him.**

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 41:1-49**

Memory Verse: **Genesis 41:38**
"Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

When we are children our parents sometimes ask us to do things we don't want to do, like working in the garden. But when we are grown up we are glad our parents taught us. This is called discipline.

Main Points of Today's Teaching

1. God disciplined Joseph. As a young man Joseph was not very likeable. He was proud. **Show picture 5.** His brothers punished him. **Show picture 6.** God allowed them to sell Joseph as a slave. But even when Joseph did right, he got into trouble. **Show picture 7.** He landed in prison. He began to help the other prisoners. Can you remember how he did it? **Show picture 8.** He asked Pharaoh's chief cupbearer to tell the king of Egypt how Joseph was imprisoned unjustly. But the servant forgot. After another two years, God knew Joseph was ready for the great task he had for him. Today's story is about how it all happened.
2. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had a dream. **Show picture 9. Tell the story of Genesis 41:1-4 in your own words.**
3. After this dream Pharaoh woke up. Then he fell asleep again and had another dream. **Recount the dream about the two different kinds of corn (41:5-7).**
4. No-one could tell Pharaoh what these dreams meant. Only then the chief cupbearer remembered Joseph (41:8-13).
5. Pharaoh sent for Joseph and asked him to explain the meaning of his dreams. Joseph was full of courage and told the powerful king, who did not know the one true God, that only God could give him an answer (41:14-16).
6. Pharaoh told Joseph the dreams. You do not need to retell them. Joseph told the king the meaning. There would be seven years of good harvests followed by seven years of bad harvests and starvation (41:25-32).
7. Joseph also told Pharaoh how to use this knowledge and prepare the country for the years of famine that would follow the years of abundance (41:33-36).
8. Pharaoh was so impressed with Joseph he made him governor, the most important person in Egypt after the king himself (41:37-46).

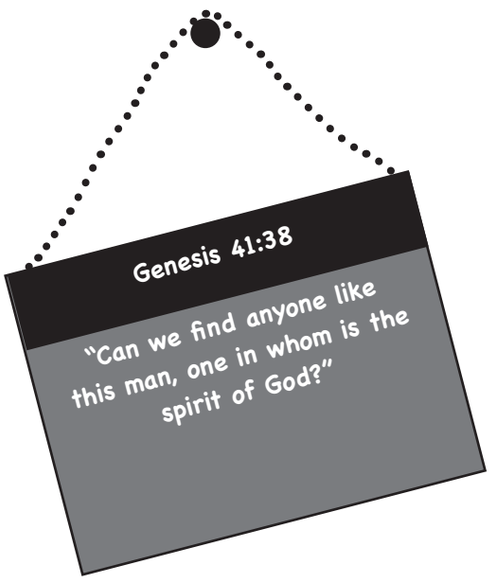
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Our Response to the Story

God disciplines us to form us. Our parents teach us to do things that are for our own good even though we may not like them at the time. **Refer to the introductory story.** God disciplined Joseph. God even allowed him to stay in prison even though he was innocent. He learnt to rely on God alone. God often uses difficult times to teach us to trust in him, not in our own strength or skills. If possible, give an example of this from your own life.

Instil the Memory Verse



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