



Grades 4–5 • Lesson 48

Joseph Forgives His Brothers

Genesis 46:3–4, 50:19–20

Name _____

Joseph didn't tell his brothers who he was right away. He tested them first to see if they'd changed. Unscramble the words then find them in the word search.

J P K L L M V Y C C Q Q U O D V X
Q Q Q B T P M M O P L T D Q M F V
G U Q I H E G W I L T X U L T I A
Y L I M A F A M I N E C X F F P Y
P D H X D P E F S C X T J A C O B
Z M F T U X U P H E B O W E D R B
N R K N J B K A I T I D Z X H B O
I L C D Q O N Z P F K P Z X H S O
M W F O R G I V E N Q E S J C W W
A R G M E A P X P O M E A L T X O
J V I D B Y W K J E B V F V B O Z
N A I T P Y G E L M Z Q N F G X L
E R L E N T L W T I Y A E R E V I
B Q U P K A X Z B S G N R N V P G
G N O S B H A O K U W T X Z B W P

1. A severe _____ caused a shortage of food in Egypt and Canaan.
EFMANI
2. _____ sent his sons to Egypt to buy grain.
OACJB
3. Joseph's brothers did not recognize him because he looked _____.
ETYNIAPG
4. Joseph's brothers _____ down to Joseph.
DWEBO
5. Joseph accused his brothers of being _____.
SEISP
6. Joseph put _____ in prison until the brothers returned with Benjamin.
NMOSEI
7. Jacob did not want _____ to go to Egypt.
BINMNJAE
8. Joseph released Simeon from prison and gave his brothers a _____.
AMLE
9. Joseph told his _____ to put a silver cup in Benjamin's sack.
DSEWATR
10. _____ offered to take Benjamin's place as a slave.
UDAJH
11. When Joseph saw that his brothers had _____, he told them who he was.
HGADCNE
12. Joseph was able to _____ his brothers because he knew God was in control.
FGORVIE
13. God used Joseph to save his entire _____ from the famine.
LFMAIY

ANSWERS: 1. FAMINE, 2. JACOB, 3. EGYPTIAN, 4. BOWED, 5. SPIES, 6. SIMEON, 7. BENJAMIN, 8. MEAL, 9. STEWARD, 10. JUDAH, 11. CHANGED, 12. FORGIVE, 13. FAMILY

Memory Verse

Use the picture code below to fill in the missing vowels in the verse.

a = e = i =
o = u =

And we kn__w th__t for th__s__ who l__v__ G__d all
th__ngs w__rk t__g__th__r for g__d. for th__s__ who are
c__ll__d __cc__rd__ng to his p__rp__s__ **Romans 8:28**

What You Heard *In the Word*

- Joseph tested his brothers to see if they were the same angry, jealous men who sold him into slavery. But they protected Benjamin when he was accused of stealing.
- Joseph forgave his brothers because he understood that God had a purpose for what they did to him. Joseph saved his family and many others from the famine.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose your friend says that she will never forgive another girl for saying mean things about her behind her back. **What could you say?**

That really hurts when people say unkind things behind your back. We are all sinners and do things we shouldn't. But you need to forgive her before the hurt you feel becomes anger or bitterness. It's hard to forgive others, but God has forgiven you and me for all kinds of sins. He will help you forgive this girl, too. When we forgive others, we are being like Jesus, and that pleases God.



HomeWord *For Parents*

The account of Joseph's reunion with his brothers is filled with emotion. God had removed Joseph from the prison at just the right time to interpret Pharaoh's dreams about the coming famine. Joseph was given an official position over Egypt when he was 30 years old, and he immediately began preparing for the famine (Genesis 41:46). He gathered grain during the seven good years and placed it in storage cities. Then when the famine began, Joseph sold grain to the people. What a shock it must have been when one day his 10 brothers appeared and bowed before him to buy grain! His dreams as a 17-year-old came to pass! Because his brothers didn't recognize him, Joseph tested them and imprisoned Simeon until they returned with Benjamin. When their grain from Joseph ran out, the brothers did return. Joseph continued to test his brothers by accusing Benjamin of stealing his silver cup.

When Judah begged to take Benjamin's punishment and remain as Joseph's servant, Joseph sent away all his servants and revealed himself to his brothers, weeping so loudly that even Pharaoh and his servants heard about it (Genesis 45:1-3). The brothers were terrified, but Joseph told them not to be grieved or angry with themselves for selling him because he knew that God had used him to prepare for the famine. Joseph's understanding of God's sovereignty enabled him to forgive his brothers, and Jacob brought the whole family down to Egypt where Joseph could take care of them for the remaining years of famine.