

JOSEPH AND POTIPHAR'S WIFE

Genesis 39:1–20



Contents

Message	We should be steadfast and firm in doing what is right in God's eyes.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Joseph stood up for what he knew was right.■ We should stand up for what we believe is right.
Bible Text	Genesis 39:1-20

Joseph and Potiphar's Wife



The travellers who bought Joseph from his brothers arrived in Egypt. They sold Joseph to Potiphar, a captain of the royal guard.

Although Joseph was a slave, the Lord was with him and he became very successful.

Potiphar recognised that God was with Joseph. He put Joseph in charge of his household so that he too would be blessed. God blessed Potiphar because of Joseph.

Potiphar's wife liked Joseph very much. She wanted Joseph for herself, although she was married to Potiphar.

Joseph told the woman that he could not be with her because that would not please God. She tried repeatedly to persuade him to love her, hoping that Joseph would change his mind. However, he did not.

One day Joseph and the woman were alone. Once more, she told Joseph that she loved him. Joseph answered her again that he could not love her because she was married. She became angry and grasped Joseph, as he ran away.

She held Joseph's clothing in her hands and shouted, "Help, help!" When the servants came running she said, "Joseph tried to embrace me. When I called out for help, he ran out. Look here! I still have his clothes as proof of what I say."

When Potiphar returned home, his wife told him what had happened with Joseph.

Potiphar became very angry.

He did not notice that his wife was telling a lie.

Potiphar put Joseph into prison.

Joseph and Potiphar's Wife

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise / fancy dress and a bench as the bed, a piece of cloth.

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- What does Joseph experience since he was sold? (In Egypt, he is a slave).
- What is his duty there? (He serves in the house of Potiphar.)
- Is he only a normal slave? (He becomes overseer over all of Potiphar's servants.)
- What does he do when Potiphar's wife falls in love with him? (Joseph does not fall into sin.)
- What does Potiphar do with him? (He throws him into prison although he wasn't guilty.)
- How does God help him? (With God's help, he interprets the dreams of other prisoners.)

Have the children repeat...

- Joseph stood up for what he knew was right.
- We should stand up for what we believe is right.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Have you ever been asked to do something you should not do? How did you react?
- God was with Joseph in good and in bad days.
- We also experience good and bad days.
- What do we need to do? (God will be with us, too, if we trust in Him.)

Repeat the Message

We should be steadfast and firm in doing what is right in
God's eyes.