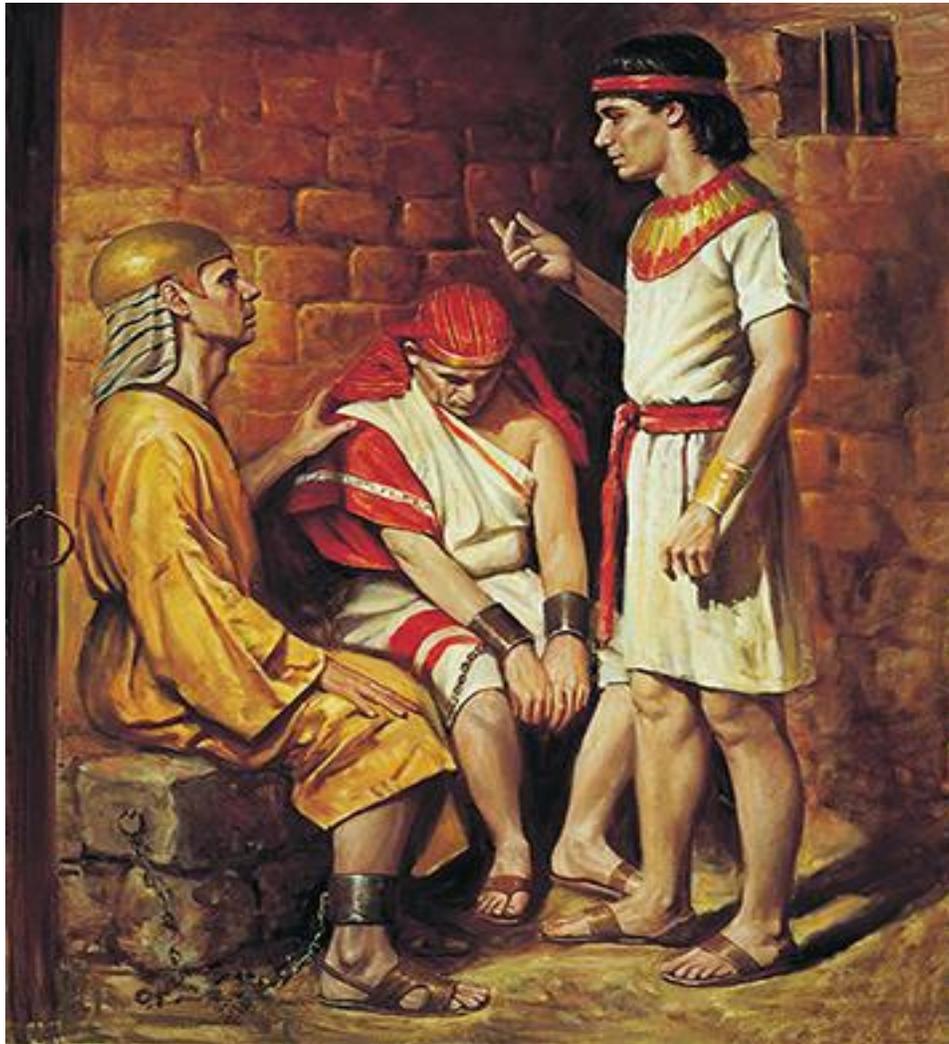


Joseph

“I seek my brethren”



Manitoulin Youth Camp 2014

Teen Workbook

Dear Teen Camper!

I am so glad that you are interested in coming to the Manitoulin Youth Camp this summer, God willing. We are very pleased to have Uncle **Dan Styles** from Ann Arbor Michigan as our main Teen teacher. Uncle Dan's subject this year is the wonderful story of "**Joseph**".

There will be 3 classes each morning:

"Joseph – I seek my brethren" – Uncle Dan Styles

"First Principles" – Uncle Peter Robinson and Uncle Mark Carr

"Projects and Special Studies" – Uncle Dan Robinson

This workbook is part of your pre-camp assignment.

You also find a new section located here as well – We have included a listing of the readings and memory verses we will be using this year. *(Suggestion - ask you parents maybe to substitute one of you readings at home with some of the chapters we will be studying at camp!)*

There are two components to the workbook:

The first is a special project which you can work on individually or in pairs. This is work which you can hopefully share with the other class members during the camp week. The last few years the teens have done incredible work – art, videos, plays, building structures to represent items in the story, songs, poems...and yes, even word searches...

The second part is a series of questions based on the life and times of Joseph. By completing the questions ahead of time you will have a good background for our studies during the week. I would make the following suggestions to help you prepare for our week of studies around our theme "Joseph":

- 1) *Plan to READ the appropriate chapters and verses regularly to get familiar with them.*
- 2) *Work through the question section of the workbook, setting goals to finish on time. For example, 3-4 pages per week. (Don't get frustrated; just give it your best shot. Some of these are 'thinking' questions so don't be afraid to ask someone else for help!)*
- 3) *Work on your special project, again setting goals to ensure it is completed before camp starts.*

Remember, the more you personally put into this study, the more you will get out of it! May God bless you as you labour in His Word, that together at Youth Camp we might all be able to share what we have learned and be prepared for the return of Christ. If you have any questions about the study, or want to run ideas past me – email or call me any time

See you in July, God Willing,

Uncle Mark
Markliz.carr@sympatico.ca
905 565-9972

Preparation for Morning Quizzes and Memory Verses

There will be Bible readings and a memory verse from the life of Joseph each day at camp. You will do these readings with your camp group and practice the memory verses. You will be quizzed on the verse and the readings the next morning. Below is the list of readings and verses for the quizzes each day. We suggest that you memorize these verses and read over these readings before camp to help you in your preparation for the week. Because there are so many chapters from the life of Joseph, some of the passages will be what we call 'read only' sections. This means that we will read these verses at camp to keep the flow of the story but you will not be quizzed on them in the morning quizzes. These sections are marked below.

i) Monday

Memory Verse: Genesis 37:16 *And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.*

Readings: Gen. 37:1-36; Gen. 39:1-23

ii) Tuesday

Memory Verse: Genesis 41:38 *And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?*

Readings: Gen. 40:1-23; Gen. 41:1-8 (read only); Gen. 41:9-45

iii) Wednesday

Memory Verse: Genesis 42:9 *And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.*

Reading: Gen. 41:46-57; Gen. 42:1-38; Gen. 43:1-14 (read only)

iv) Thursday

Memory Verse: Genesis 43:23 *And he said, Peace be to you, fear not: your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks: I had your money.*

Readings: Gen. 43:15-34; Gen. 44:1-17; Gen. 44:18-34 (read only)

v) Friday

Memory Verse: Genesis 45:8 *So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.*

Readings: Gen. 45:1-28; Gen. 46:26-34; Gen. 47:1-26

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Part #1

Type 1: Oral Presentation, Essay or Seminar

The following suggested topics would be suitable for a 5 to 10 minute presentation or seminar to the rest of the class, or an essay of about 3 typed pages. If you choose a presentation please try to make use of maps and diagrams to enhance it. You can also make use of a computer and LCD projector if you like!

Completing the workbook has given you a lot of background information on Joseph, as well as highlighting many practical lessons. In this project section there is an opportunity to study a small area related to Joseph's life in greater detail! We have given you a couple of topic in detail to see what incredible things you might wish to study. Below these 3 examples you will find additional topic as suggestions you might wish to choose from. Follow the theme throughout scripture, use Bible dictionaries and concordances or Christadelphian books to develop the theme.

a) Study of the Firstborn

Despite the fact that Joseph was not the firstborn son of his father, he was given that role by Jacob as evidenced by the coat "of many colors". Research the role of the firstborn in the scripture. (Use a concordance, a Bible Dictionary, your parents or Sunday school teacher.)

- *What were the responsibilities of the firstborn?*
- *What were the blessings that came with being the firstborn?*
- *How could this honor be lost and given to another son?*
- *How many examples can you find where the younger is given the responsibility?*
- *In what ways was Jesus Christ the firstborn?*
- *How was Jesus Christ the younger son of God?*
- *What principle is God teaching us by repeatedly choosing the younger son to fulfill this important role?*
- *(you may want to read a section in The Story of the Bible, Vol. 1 by H.P. Mansfield entitled "The Mystery of the Firstborn", Pages 215-222)*

b) The Nazarite Vow

Joseph was the first Nazarite as evidenced by the reference in Genesis 49:26. The Nazarite vow gave the common Israelite the opportunity to be like the High Priest of Israel and have a special position with Yahweh (much like the commitment we make today in Baptism!) Study the details of the Nazarite vow in Numbers chapter 6 taking special note of the rules for the Nazarite.

- *How does Genesis 49:26 show the Joseph was "Nazarite"? (Hint look up the word "separate" in that verse in a concordance)*
- *What was a Nazarite to avoid eating and drinking?*
- *What other rules were there for a Nazarite?*

- *How did these same rules relate to priests? (Provide references and make a chart)*
- *Who in Scripture, other than Joseph, were Nazarites?*
- *Assuming that Baptism is like the commitment to be a Nazarite, what is the spiritual lesson of each rule for us?*

c) Study of Servants

In Genesis 39 Joseph is shown to be a faithful servant – both in the house of Potiphar and in the prison house. As a result of his faithfulness, he is eventually elevated to be a ruler in the land! Brothers and Sisters of the ecclesia are described as the servants of God. Study the theme of Servants in the New Testament, by looking up the word “servant” in a Concordance or Bible Application and reading the references or use a Bible Dictionary or Topical Bible.

- *What are two Greek words that are translated servant and what do they mean? (Hint – look up the words for servant in Acts 16:17 and Matthew 23:11.*
- *Note that the Greek word in Matthew 23:11. What are the required characteristics of someone in the ecclesia who is willing to be a deacon (servant)? (Hint – find a passage in 1 Timothy that refers to Deacons)*
- *What do we call deacons in the ecclesia today?*
- *Find at least two parables that speak of servants? What lessons do these parables teach? Where are we told that Jesus “took upon him the form of a servant”? How did he do this?*
- *In light of these New Testament verses, how was Joseph a good example of a servant of the ecclesia?*

Some suggested additional topics (in no particular order):

1. A character study of one of the characters from the life of Joseph (e.g. Joseph, Judah, Jacob, Pharaoh, Levi and Simeon)
2. Draw Jacob's “Family Tree” – don't just stop at the sons and daughters of Jacob...go as far as you can.
3. Draw a map of the geography showing where key events occurred for this time period took place. (Dothan, Shechem, Hebron, Ebal and Gerizim the two mountains on either side of Shechem)
4. The Egyptians: Find out what Egypt would have been like during the time that Joseph would have been second in command (start by estimating what years (BC) Joseph would have been in Egypt)
5. Joseph as a type of Christ – find as many as you can identify – perhaps expand on one or two of the ones you found interesting
6. Trust – Joseph had to trust in God to look after him – do a study of “trust” in the bible (hint - remember to look at Hezekiah as an example!)
7. “I seek my brethren” – expand on how Joseph sought his brethren? Remember the parable of the Good Samaritan? (Who is my neighbor? (brother?))

8. Look into the dreams of the butler and the baker. They are wonderful types of the bread and the wine and what each of those represent. Do a mini study on why the dream of the butler is like the wine in the last supper, and why the dream of the baker was like the bread at the last supper with Jesus. Do we learn anything from this type that helps us understand what Jesus meant when he put these symbols in place?

9. **Your choice.** Contact me if you have another idea you would like to present if you need help!

Type 2: Creative Projects

Some of you may not want to do a talk or an essay and would rather let your creative energy be channeled in another direction. There are many very dramatic scenes in this story. Be sure you know the Biblical account very well and bring out the details and lessons. You will need to do just as much research and study for a creative project as for a talk or an essay.

Here are some ideas:

1. Dramatization. Write a short skit or play based on one section or event from the life of Joseph. The skit may be historical or a modern-day setting based on the principles from these chapters. If possible, find a couple of friends to help you enact your play for all of us to enjoy.
2. Draw a picture or make a model from one of the incidents in Joseph's life.
3. Write a short story in a modern setting based on the events in the life of Joseph (Topics like caring for others in the ecclesia, teaching others, enduring difficult circumstances, faith and trust in God.)
4. Write a song or poem about an incident in the life of Joseph.
5. Your idea. Feel free to contact me if you have a project in mind and we will discuss its suitability.

See you in July, God willing!

Uncle Dan
dnarobinson@hotmail.com
519 442-6959

Part #2

37:1-4 – Joseph – loved of his father, hated by his brethren

1. In order to better understand the story of Joseph, we have to look at some background details of **Jacob and his family**.

a) Jacob was a man of ups and downs, spiritual highs and lows. He often relied on his own power to accomplish things, so he struggled throughout his life to trust in God's care and guidance.

Fill in this little biography about Jacob to refresh your memory about him, and the people and events in his life:

- **Name:** Jacob "supplanter, heel catcher" (Gen 25:26)
- **Name changed to:** _____ " _____ " (Gen 32:28)
- **Parents:** _____ (Gen 25:28)
- **Brother:** _____ (Gen 25:28)
- **Father-in-law:** _____ (Gen 28:2)
- **Wives:** _____ (Gen 29:21-24, 28-29)
- **Number of years he served for his wives:** _____ (Gen 29:20, 27)
- **Concubines:** _____ (Gen 29: 24, 29)

b) Complete the following chart about Jacob's family: See Gen 35:21-26

Wife Name	Son's name
Leah	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
Bonus* daughter	1.
Rachel	1.
	2.
Bilhah	1.
	2.
Zilpah	1.
	2.

c) Do you think the sons of the wives and the bondwomen (handmaids) were born of love or envy? Given the **atmosphere** they were born into, what do you think their characters were like?

d) Where were Jacob and his family living at this time? (v. 1)

e) What was the spiritual state of the family at this time? (31:19, 34-35; 34:1, 25; 35:2, 4)

2. What does **Joseph** mean?

3. How old is Joseph at this time? _____

4. Find at least 3 examples of people who were about Joseph's age, serving God in their youth:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

5. What was the reason Israel (Jacob) **loved** Joseph more than the other brothers?

6. Jacob made Joseph a "coat of many colours." (v. 3) There are a few different ideas as to what this phrase actually means. Here are some of the suggestions put forward:

- "**coat of many colours or pieces**" – made up of different lengths of material that contained the colours of the rainbow, a remainder of the covenant God made with Noah; very suitable for Joseph, a very "colourful" character
- "**coat of many hands**" (literal translation) – covered to the hands and feet, a garment worn by a priest
- "**coat of many hands**" – a coat that has been "handed down" from generation to generation, consistent with the idea of a priestly garment.

a) What do **you** think the reason was that Jacob gave Joseph this coat after reading these suggestions?

7. The bible contains many "types" or "foreshadowings" of the Lord Jesus Christ. Some examples include Moses (1 Cor. 10:2), Solomon (Matt. 12:42) and Jonah (Matt. 12:40-41). Joseph is considered one of the greatest "types" of Christ in the whole Bible. What comparison does Stephen use in the N.T. to show Joseph is a type of Christ (Acts 7:9, 11-14, 52?)

37:5-11 – Joseph's dreams

9. a) **Dreams** have a lot to do with Joseph's life. There were 3 sets of dreams in the story of Joseph – fill in the chart

Dream	Bible Reference	Description of what the dream was
1a	Genesis 37:5-8	
1b	Genesis 37:9-11	
2a	Genesis 40:9-11	
2b	Genesis 40:16-17	
3a	Genesis 41:1-4	
3b	Genesis 41:5-7	

b) What do these dreams of Joseph in Genesis 37:5-11 predict would happen? What are the similarities and differences between these dreams?

10. a) There were two different reactions by Joseph's brothers to each of his dreams (v. 8, 11)

I. Dream 1 reaction –

II. Dream 2 reaction -

b) Although Joseph's brothers showed they didn't like what he said and wouldn't listen, Joseph still preached to them. What lesson can we learn about this situation in our own lives as we preach the gospel to our friends?

11. When Joseph told his father his dreams, Jacob also had 2 different reactions.

a) What was Jacob's initial reaction (v. 10)?

b) After thinking about it a little longer, what was Jacob's SECOND reaction to Joseph's dreams (v. 11)?

37:12-17 – Joseph seeks his brethren at Shechem, but finds them at Dothan

12. Joseph's brothers were supposed to be feeding their flocks at Shechem.

a) Where was Shechem located? *(Use a Bible dictionary for the next few questions)*

b) There were 2 well-known mountains, one on either side of Shechem. What were the names of these mountains?

c) Did Jacob have reason to worry that his sons were in Shechem? What happened recently in Shechem? (Gen 34:1-5, 25-31)

13. Joseph was found **wandering** (v. 15) Strong's Number: #8582 Meaning: to wander or stagger about – like a drunken man. Using this definition, describe the state of mind Joseph was in when he couldn't find his brethren?

14. The theme of Joseph **"I seek my brethren"** is in v. 16.

a) When it states that he sought his brethren, in what **way** did he seek them?

b) Based on what you know about the story of Joseph, find as many examples as you can in the life of Joseph where he sought the welfare of his "brethren" or those around

him (you may want to leave this question and come back to it later after you have finished your study).

15. Upon the advice of the "certain man" Joseph goes to Dothan to look for his brothers.

- a) Look up the meaning of **Dothan** (v. 17) Strong's Number: #1886
Meaning:
- b) With this meaning in mind, what is interesting about where they were located now and the conditions that existed in that place? (Remember – where did the brothers put Joseph?)

37:18-24 – Joseph cast into the pit

16. "When they saw him afar off...they conspired against him to **slay him**" (v. 18)

- a) Why do you think the brothers hated him so much?

- b) What would it have been like in the pit for Joseph? How did Joseph feel while in it? (See Genesis 42:21)

- c) What did the brothers do right after they threw Joseph into the pit? (before they sold him) What does this tell us about their conscience about what they had done?

17. We learn a lot about **Reuben's** character in this chapter.

- a) In v. 21-22, what had Reuben tried to do?

b) As we saw earlier, Reuben was the oldest of the brothers. Did he have the status and privileges that went along with this? What had he done to impact his standing with his father? (35:22)

c) From the events of this chapter, does it seem that Reuben is the leader of the brothers? Do they respect him as the eldest?

d) If Reuben isn't the leader of the brothers, **who is** at this time?

37:25-30 – Sold to the Ishmaelite

18. The brothers sell Joseph for 20 pieces of silver to a caravan of merchantmen called both "Ishmaelite" and "Midianites". It is likely that these men were:

Ishmaelite by descent, **Midianites** by country, **Merchants** by profession.

a) Who were the **Ishmaelites**? (Gen 16:15)

b) Were they allies or enemies of Israel? (Gen 21:9-11)

c) Who else do we know went down to Egypt? Give one Old Testament and one New Testament example.

37:31-35 – Jacob's grief

19. Joseph's brethren try to cover up what they had done to Joseph and make it look like it wasn't their fault at all.

a) Why is it significant that they killed a **kid of the goats** for blood to stain Joseph's coat? What was a kid of the goats sacrifice used for under the Law of Moses? (See Lev4:22-23)

b) Joseph's brothers tried to comfort their father in his time of sorrow. What does this tell us about their characters and consciences given what they knew they had done to Joseph?

c) There are many incidents in this chapter where Joseph "foreshadows" the Lord Jesus Christ, let's find a few:

Joseph	Jesus
v.3 -	Matt. 3:17 -
vv.4-5 -	John 15:25 -
v.13 -	Luke 20:13 -
vv.18-20 -	Matt. 27:1 -
v. 28 -	Matt. 26:15 -

39:1-6 – Joseph elevated in Potiphar's house

1. "Joseph was brought down to Egypt." **Egypt** in the Bible is a symbol of great note.

a) What is it a symbol of? (hint Deut 5:6; Rev 11:8)

b) God warned Israel never to go back down to Egypt. Why does God view "going down to **Egypt** as a bad thing"?

2. **Potiphar** name means "belonging to the sun" (v. 1)

a) Who or what do you think Potiphar was named after?

b) What does the word "captain of the guard" signify? (try your marginal reference if you have one, or look up Strongs # **2876** if you don't have a marginal reference)

c) What does this tell us about his occupation? Was he simply a jailor?

3. "The Lord was with Joseph" while he was in Potiphar's house (v. 2)

a) What does this say about how our Heavenly Father felt about Joseph?

b) Joseph had to maintain a spiritual, positive attitude despite the terrible conditions that he was placed in. How can we also like Joseph maintain this same **attitude** in difficult circumstances we find ourselves in?

4. Potiphar trusted **everything** he owned into the hand of Joseph, because Potiphar could see that God was with Joseph.

a) In what way can we relate this to our work or school environment?

b) God blessed the house of Potiphar because Joseph was there. Do you think those people around us at school or work are blessed by being around us? How might they be blessed?

5. What do you think the phrase "found grace in his sight" means? (v. 4)

a) There are other people in the bible who found "grace in the sight" of someone

Look at these passages and tell us who found grace?

Gen 6:8 "In the eyes of the Lord" - _____

Gen 33:10 "in the eyes of..Esau" - _____

Jud 6:7 - "in the eyes of the Angel" _____

1 Sam 20:3 "in the eyes of Jonathon" _____

39:7-12 – Joseph resists Potiphar's wife

6. We see in v. 6 that Joseph was a "goodly and well favoured" (KJV) young man.

a) What does each of these words mean? (Try other versions, like the NIV and NKJV)

- "goodly" –
- "well favoured" –

b) The bible describes others like this in similar ways. Look up these verses and tell us who is spoken about in this way?

- Man (1 Sam 16:12) –
- Woman (Gen 29:17) –

c) For the examples you found, were good looks a positive or negative thing in their life? What lesson does this teach us?

7. Take a moment to consider the situation that v. 7 suggests.

a) How old would Joseph be here? _____ (approximately)

b) Do you think he'd ever faced a situation like this, or seen anything like this before?

c) List off the possible ways Joseph could have dealt with this situation, and the pros and cons for each situation. How would **you** have dealt with the situation?

d) What is the best way for us to deal with sin and temptation using Joseph's example?

8. Joseph produced 3 reasons why he could not lie with Potiphar's wife.

a) What were these reasons?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

b) Ultimately, whom did Joseph say he would be sinning against? _____

c) Go to Psalm 51

- i. Who is this Psalm written by and what sin had the writer done?

ii. Who does the writer believe that he has sinned against? (vs4)

9. Joseph's reaction to the last temptation was to run for his life! What lesson we take from how Joseph reacted to this situation?

39:13-23 – Joseph falsely accused and cast into the king's prison

10. There are at least 2 other women that come to mind that were just as evil as Potiphar's wife in the bible and seduced their husbands or male counterparts. What two women come to mind and who did they lead astray? (Think Judges and 1st Kings)

The evil woman	The man she controlled or tempted
1.	1.
2.	2.

11. Given what we know of Potiphar's occupation, the evidence in the hands of Potiphar's wife, and the status of Joseph as a slave, what do you think Joseph feared would happen to him?

12. There are several things we can take from Potiphar's reaction to the situation (v. 19-20).

a) Why do you think Joseph wasn't killed by Potiphar for his "indiscretion"?

b) Do you think Potiphar knew who the real guilty party was?

c) Why did Potiphar still punish Joseph?

13. a) What do you imagine the conditions of the prison would have been like? Are they like our prisons today?

b) How would Joseph be feeling at this time, after (once again) his **following God's commandments** got him thrown into a prison?

14. In v. 21, we have described two words to describe how God took care of Joseph: **mercy** and **favour**. Look up these words in Strongs

Mercy St: 2617 _____

Favour St: 2580 _____

a) God showed kindness to Joseph in tough times, and gave him "favour" in the eyes of those in the world because he tried to obey His commandments in tough times. Can you think of how God might do that for US today? How does God show us "favour" in the eyes of the world today sometimes?

15. Every time Joseph seemed to touch something, it prospered.

a) Why do you think it prospered or did well?

b) In each bad circumstance, how do you imagine Joseph acted? Do you think he acted depressed or down when he was in these circumstances?

16. Joseph, although bound, showed remarkable resilience while in prison. His attitude (as seen in the chapter before) allowed all those around him to admire his courage and faith, although they themselves were unbelieving.

a) In the book of the Acts, there is a very similar event, where two apostles' **attitude** in prison invoked a very strong reaction. What was the situation and describe what happened?

b) In what way does this teach us about how we should endure trials?

c) Let's find a few examples in this chapter which typify the work of the Lord Jesus Christ:

Joseph	Jesus
v.18-19 –	Matt. 26:59-60 -
v.20 –	Matt. 27:59-60 -

40:1-4 – Pharaoh's Butler and Baker cast into prison

1. We're told in v. 1 that the butler and baker are put in prison because they "offended their lord." What do you think they had done to offend Pharaoh? (Interesting it doesn't tell us!)

2. What is the location of the prison Joseph is in? (Look closely at v. 3)

3. Joseph is assigned to look after the chief butler and baker (v. 4)

a) Who actually assigned Joseph to look after these two men?

b) What does this tell us about this jailor that we didn't know before, about how he viewed Joseph?

40:5-19 – Joseph interprets the Butler's and Baker's dreams

4. In v. 5, it is stated, "they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream in one night" and in v. 8, "We have dreamed a dream". Dreams in the life of Joseph always come in two's! Why do you think that is the case? (See Gen 41:25 for a hint)

5. The men appeared **sad** in v. 6. Strong's Number: 569 Meaning: out of humour, angry, troubled, very upset

The Butler and Baker had seen images of their work in a dream, why do you think they were so sad about it?

6. Our theme "**I seek my brethren**" comes up again.

a) What do v. 6-7 tell us about Joseph's character?

b) How does Joseph's concern for these men relate to the theme "I seek my brethren"?

c) Were these men Joseph's "brethren" – Yes or no? Explain a bit why you answered the way you did.

7. **The chief butler's dream** (v. 9-13)

a) Fill in the chart to describe the a comparison of the butlers dream and an incident in the wilderness wanderings many hundreds of years later

Stages of the vine growth	Compare against Aarons....
Genesis 40:10	Numbers 17:8
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

- b) In Numbers 17 – eventually that item was kept somewhere special – where was it kept?
- c) In Numbers 17 the item was a dead piece of wood. What happened to that dead piece of wood?
- d) How does that that dead piece of wood link with the butler's dream?
- e) Can you think of another time in bible history when grapes represented something important? What did it represent at that time?
- f) What does producing fruit represent in the bible (Matt. 13:8, 23)?

8. Joseph chose to use this opportunity to ask that his life be spared from the prison (v. 14)

- a) Why, if he trusted in God, would he ask such a favour?
- b) How did Joseph describe being brought to Egypt? (v. 15)
- c) It is not very often that the word “Hebrew” is used. What does “Hebrew” mean? (look it up in a concordance)

9. **The chief baker’s dream** (v. 16-19)

- a) “When he (the baker) saw that the interpretation was good...” What was going through the baker’s mind here?
- b) Fill in the chart to describe the details of the Baker’s dream and the interpretation.

Bakers dream	Interpretation
--------------	----------------

Genesis 40:16-19	

- c) The literal Hebrew for **baskets** is “three wicker baskets” or “three baskets full of holes” – how does this relate to what the 3 baskets signified?

- d) The word Bakemeats means “labour or work” The bakemeats were eaten completely up by the birds. What do you think this symbolizes?

- e) Where else in the bible does the number 3 come up in relation to a death?

- f) What can the birds in this dream symbolize (Matt. 13:4)?

40:20-23 – Interpretations are vindicated

10. Verse 20 states that on Pharaoh's birthday (Hebrew means “a set day”) he made a feast unto all his servants. If the interpretations of the dreams come to pass on Pharaoh's birthday, what could this in type signify? (Relate it to Christ) What event will take place on this significant day?

11. Joseph asked the chief butler to remember him. What in actual fact happened? Relating this to Christ and ourselves, in what way can we be similar to the Butler?

12. Let's find a few examples in this chapter which typify the work of the Lord Jesus Christ:

Joseph	Jesus
vv.9-11 –	Matt. 26:27-28 -
vv.16-17 –	Matt. 26:26 -
v.14 –	1 Cor. 11:24 -
v.15 –	Luke 23:34 -

41:1-13 – Pharaoh’s two dreams

1. Joseph is described as a “young man” in this chapter (v. 12)

- a) What is his age? _____ (v. 46)
- b) How long approximately then had Joseph been in captivity up to this point?

2. Joseph was in prison **another** 2 years after he interpreted the dreams of the butler and baker (v. 1)

- a) Why do you think God allowed Joseph to stay in prison another 2 years?
- b) The butler remembered his faults (v. 9) What were his “faults”?
- c) Thinking question: Remember that the dreams in Chapter 40 shadowed the bread and the wine. The butler “remembered his faults”. How does this relate to what the bread and the wine are supposed to help baptised believers do? (hint 1 Corinthians 11:28)

3. Pharaoh's dreams are a background for Joseph's release from prison. His dreams are the third and final set of dreams in Joseph's life.

- a) What does Job 33:15-17 tell us about what dreams like this are for? How do these verses apply to Pharaoh?

- b) Of What verse does v. 25 and 28 remind you? What does this tell us about how God used Pharaoh?

41:14-36 – Joseph before Pharaoh

4. Joseph is brought before Pharaoh to interpret his dreams (v. 15)

- a) In v. 16, Joseph made it clear to Pharaoh it was God, not himself, that knew the interpretation of the dreams. What lesson can we take from this?

b) Fill in the details of Pharaoh's 2 dreams (v. 17-21, 22-24)

Details of the First Dream	Details of the Second Dream

- c) If you're using the KJV, what are "kine"?

5. Joseph not only gives the interpretation – he has a **plan** (v. 33-36) What was the plan he suggested to Pharaoh?

41:37-52 – Joseph's high authority and family, the seven years of plenty

6. In v. 37 –52, we see Joseph elevated to **governor** over Egypt.

- a) Can you pick out any similarities to Jesus when he is elevated to the throne at his return and how Joseph was elevated? Give as many as you can find here.

- b) In v.39 Pharaoh called Joseph "discreet and wise"?

Discreet is from Heb. 'biyn' and means _____
Wise is from Heb. 'chakam' and means _____

How can we exhibit these two qualities in our lives?

7. **Contrast** what Joseph's brothers did to him to what Pharaoh does to him:
- Stripped of his coat by brothers – _____ (v. 42)
 - Put in pit by brothers – _____ (v. 14)
 - Sold into slavery by brothers – _____ (v. 40, 43)
8. The word **ruled** (v.40) is interesting. It means "to put or press together, like to give a kiss" With this definition in mind, what did Pharaoh expect Joseph to do for his people?
9. Joseph was given Pharaoh's ring, vestures of fine linen and a gold chain (v. 42). Can you think of a parable of Jesus where someone was given similar things?
10. What was Joseph's name changed to? (v. 45)
11. Pharaoh gives Joseph a wife, what was her name? (v. 45)
12. Who else in the bible do we know married a wife from Egypt? (think Kings)
13. We understandably are concerned that Joseph married a woman of the world. However remember that God was in control of this event, not Joseph, so God would have made sure she was a good match for him. If Egypt symbolized "the flesh or the world", can you think of another great man who took a "bride" from the world as a wife?
14. What lesson can we learn from gathering grain in the good times and storing it up (vv.47-49)?

15. Names in the Bible always have meaning and significance – how is this true for Joseph's 2 sons?

a) What does **Manasseh's name mean?** (v. 51)

b) What does **Ephraim's name mean** (v. 52)

16. Joseph gathered corn "as the sand of the sea" (v. 49) can you think of another time in the bible when this phrase is used? About whom?

41:53-57 – The seven years of famine

17. The seven years of plenty are finished and the seven years of famine have begun (v. 54)

a) Can you think of other occurrences of the number seven in the bible?

b) Why practically do you think God made the famine "throughout the whole earth", why not just in Egypt or in its immediate area?

c) Why does God send famines or natural disasters like this? Find other at least 2 places where famines occur in the bible.

d) Let's find some more parallels between Joseph and Jesus in addition to the one's you answered above:

Joseph	Jesus
v.40 –	John 14:28 -
v.43 –	Psa. 99:1 -
v.43 –	Phil. 2:10 -
v.46 –	Luke 3:23

--	--

42:1-5 – The sons of Israel come to buy corn

1. We're taken back to Jacob and his family in the land of Canaan.

- a) The brothers "look one upon another". What does this phrase mean? (try other translations)

- b) What does it imply they were thinking and doing? Were they men of action or not at this time?

2. Upon Jacob's instruction, Joseph's brothers go to buy corn in Egypt (v. 2-3)

- a) Why do you think **all 10 brothers** go down to Egypt to buy corn? Why not just send a few brothers to get food for all of their families?

- b) Jacob would not let Benjamin go down with his brothers (v. 4). How old (approximately) was Benjamin at this time?

42:6-17 – Joseph imprisons them

3. Joseph is governor over Egypt and selling food to all the people (v. 6)

- a) Why do you think Joseph is selling the food himself? (Can't somebody else do this??)

- b) Joseph was the **Governor** (v. 6) Heb domineering, having mastery, mighty master – how does this definition help give a picture of the kind of man the brethren met? What do you imagine Joseph to be like when they met him?

4. When Joseph's brothers come to buy food, he recognizes them, but they don't recognize him (v. 7, 8).

- a) Why doesn't Joseph **reveal** himself immediately to his brothers?

- b) vs 6 "they bow with their faces to the earth" Think back to early in the life of Joseph. What does this **fulfill**?

- c) How would Joseph have felt when this happened?

5. The brothers are shocked when Joseph accuses them of being spies!

- a) How do you think Joseph felt when the brothers mentioned Benjamin? (v. 13)

- b) How do you think Joseph felt when they mentioned HIM (Joseph)? ("One is not")

- c) Why would they mention Joseph and Benjamin at all? What might this tell us about their spiritual growth up to this point?

42:18-28 – They are released on the condition of Benjamin's return

6. Joseph is testing and trying his brothers to see how much they have grown spiritually (v. 15-20)

- a) How many did he say he would send back **originally** to fetch Benjamin? Joseph gave his brothers 3 days to decide which one would go back. Who did they decide would go back?

- b) Joseph decides to only keep one. **Who** did he choose to keep and **why**? (we cannot be certain why Joseph kept this brother, but use your best guess)

- c) Joseph said that when they brought Benjamin, their "words (would) be verified." (v. 20). How does this principle apply to us? (hint 1 Cor 3:13)

7. We see in v. 21 how alive the brothers' consciences are!

a) How long had it been since they sold Joseph into Egypt? _____

b) What insight does this give us into the condition of the **pit** they threw Joseph into?

c) What does this tell us about how Joseph felt in the pit?

8. This is the first of 7 times that Joseph **cries** (weeps) in the story.

a) Try and find all 7 times and the reason why he cries each time. (If you can't find them all, just do your best and come back to it later)

Reference Reason why Joseph cried...

1 42:24

2

3

4

5

6

7

b) What does this tell us about how hard this was for him to do to his brethren?

9. When one of the brothers discovers his money in his sack, what is their response? (v. 28)

42:29-38 – Jacob's dilemma and concern for Benjamin

10. When the brothers returned to Jacob, they give their father a report of what happened in Egypt.

a) What is different about their report here to the report they gave to their father about Joseph over 20 years earlier (37:32).

b) How has their **attitude** to their father changed?

11. When they discover all the brothers have their money in their sacks, again it says, "they are afraid" (v.28, 35).

a) In what way was Joseph testing them by giving them their money back?

12. Jacob says, "All these things are against me" (v.36)

a) Was there a reason for all these hard things were happening to Jacob?

b) Why does God give us trials in our lives?

13. **Reuben** offers his 2 sons to his father if he doesn't bring Benjamin back safe (v. 37)

a) Did Jacob have any reason to trust Reuben?

b) How many sons did Reuben have? (49:6)

c) Was it a good or bad idea for Reuben to offer the lives of his 2 sons in exchange for Benjamin?

14. In v. 38, Jacob makes the comment about Benjamin that "he is left alone."

a) Does this show Jacob's favouritism for Benjamin? Or do you think is it something else?

b) Do **all** the other brothers not matter? How would **you** feel if you were one of the brothers?

c) Once again, let's find some parallels between Joseph and Jesus in this chapter:

Joseph	Jesus
---------------	--------------

v.6 –	John 6:35 -
v.6 -	Rom. 14:11; Matt. 23:39 -
v.8 –	John 1:10; 7:27 -

43:1-14 – Jacob gives in under Judah’s promise

1. **Judah** pledges his own life to spare Benjamin's (v. 8-10)

a) Why did Jacob trust Judah? Did he have any reason to? (Look at Gen 38:7, 10 – what had happened to Judah that had not happened to the other brothers?)

b) How does this incident show that Judah has grown up and is more responsible?

2. In v. 10, we get an idea of how long they waited to return to Egypt.

a) How long do you think they waited? How badly did they need food?

b) What 6 gifts did they take with them?

-
-
-
-
-
-

3. On top of gifts, Jacob tells them to take extra money.

a) How much money did Jacob tell them to take with them? (v. 12, 15)

4. Jacob says farewell to his sons, including Benjamin, with the words: “God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother, and Benjamin. If I am

bereaved of my children, I am bereaved" (v. 14)

- a) Was this a big step for Jacob? Why?

- b) **God Almighty**? (v. 14) Meaning: El (God) Shaddai (Almighty), mighty, all powerful God. This name of God was first used in Gen 17:1 – to whom?

- c) God reveals this name to Jacob in Gen 35:11 when God promised him what?

43:15-25 – The brethren return to Egypt

5. Joseph's brothers go to Egypt with the present and the money their father instructed them to take. They present themselves before Joseph, and after about 22 years, Joseph finally sees Benjamin again.

- a) Do you think Joseph really expected to see Benjamin with his brothers? (v. 16)

- b) Why did Joseph bring them into his house do you think?

6. The brothers are **afraid** again (as we saw in 42:28, 35).

- a) Why did they think they were taken into Joseph's house?

- b) How afraid do you think they are?

- c) Why do they try to explain their situation to the steward?

7. The steward makes a **remarkable** statement in v. 23.

- a) How did the steward know about the "God of their father"?

b) Name another person in the OT who had a Gentile steward that was familiar with the God of Israel. Who was the steward? (Think Genesis)

43:26-34 – Joseph entertains his brethren

8. In v. 26 and 28, we see Joseph's brothers bowing down to him again.

a) What do you think was going through **Joseph's** head at this time?

b) How would **you** have felt if you were in Joseph's position?

9. When the brothers sat down in Joseph's house for a meal, they were seated apart from the Egyptians and in order of age from oldest to youngest (v. 32-33) Why were they not seated with the Egyptians?

10. Benjamin's "mess" or portion was 5 times as much as the other brothers (v. 34) What does the number 5 represent often in the bible?

44:1-13 – Joseph again deceives his brethren

1. In these verses, Joseph gives specific commands to his steward regarding his **silver cup** (v. 1-2)

a) Whose sack was the steward to place the silver cup in? _____

b) Why this brother's sack? What was Joseph's purpose in doing this?

2. "Wherefore have ye rewarded evil for good?" (v. 4, 6) Joseph is trying to test and prove his brothers – to see how much they have grown spiritually. It may seem like Joseph is acting revengefully and hatefully, but really this is not the case. Comment on how you think this final test of his brothers relates to the theme "**I seek my brethren.**" What feelings is Joseph experiencing?

3. The steward says Joseph uses the cup for "drinking" and for "divining". What do you think it means by "divining"? (Try your margin)

4. When the steward accuses the brothers of stealing the silver cup, they are shocked (v. 7-8)

a) What do they offer as a logical reason why they couldn't have done this?

b) What order does the servant search the bags in? When did that order come up before in the story?

5. Take note of the brothers' **reaction** when the cup was discovered in Benjamin's sack (v. 13)

a) What was their reaction?

b) Did they blame Benjamin? Did they abandon him?

44:14-34 – Judah's confession and plea for Benjamin

6. Why did **Judah** become the spokesman on behalf of the brothers? (v. 16)

7. In v. 16, the brothers recognize what the cause of all this trouble is.

a) What did they recognize was the cause?

b) Why did Judah admit guilt and iniquity when he was sure that none of his brothers were guilty of stealing the cup?

8. Consider Judah's speech in v. 18-34:

a) How does Judah acknowledge Joseph's power?

b) Judah offers his life for Benjamin's. This is a **changed** Judah - what has caused the change?

Judah then... Judah now...

c) In v.28, Joseph finds out for the **first** time what his brothers told Jacob after they had sold him into Egypt. How would Joseph feel right now?

d) Benjamin is described as a "little one" in v. 20. Why? (Remember we already saw that he is about 30!)

e) In v.33, Judah requests that he be made a "bondman" or hired servant to Joseph. What story in the NT does this make you think of? Are there any more parallels to this story in the life of Joseph?

45:1-15 – Joseph reveals himself to his brethren

1. When Joseph revealed himself, his brothers were obviously shocked.

a) How do you think **you** would have felt if you were one of Joseph's brothers when he revealed himself? Would you have felt the same way his brothers did?

b) Take a look at Zechariah 12:9-11. This is a prophecy of the future return of Jesus. Who are coming to Jesus at this time and why are they sorry?

2. In v.5-8, Joseph's makes an amazing declaration of his understanding of **how God provided for their safety**

a) Did these brethren deserve God's care and providing?

b) Why do you think God made this effort to save these men when they had been so bad?

c) What lesson can we learn from Joseph's **forgiveness**?

45:16-24 – Pharaoh's invitation to dwell in Egypt

3. Pharaoh invited Joseph's family to come and dwell in the safety of Egypt for a time. List at least 2 other people who came to dwell in the safety of Egypt for a period of time?

4. When his brothers left to return to their homes to bring their families to Egypt, Joseph gave each of them changes of clothes. Benjamin, was given more – what was he given?

5. Joseph tells his brothers, "see that ye fall not out by the way" as they return to their father (v. 24).

a) What do you think Joseph meant by this – of what was he warning them?

b) What would have caused them to "fall out of the way"?

45:25-28 – Jacob receives the news and rejoices

6. What does it mean that Jacob's heart "fainted" and why?

7. Can you think of another person in the bible who was believed to be dead, but was found alive?

a) Who was that and who found him alive?

b) Let's find some more comparisons to the Lord Jesus Christ from this chapter:

Joseph	Jesus
vv.5-8	Acts 3:12-18 -

v.7 -	Rom. 11:26 -
vv.16-20 -	Eph. 2:4-8 -

46:26-34 – Jacob meets Joseph in Goshen

8. Enter into the feelings of both **Jacob** and **Joseph** as they meet.

a) What is Jacob feeling?

b) What is Joseph feeling?

9. Joseph weeps for a “good while” when he meets his father (v. 29). We already looked at the seven (recorded) times that Joseph weeps. In this instance, what does this reveal about Joseph?

10. Joseph made sure his brothers told Pharaoh right away that they were shepherds (v. 33-34).

a) Why did he do this do you think?

b) Joseph's brothers would be an abomination in **whose** eyes? Why would that be a good thing to be?

47:1-10 – Jacob presented to Pharaoh

1. Joseph chose to put his family in the **land of Goshen**. The Egyptian name for this place was Ramesses (v.11) Agriculturally, Goshen was one of the best pieces of land in Egypt. It was located in the extreme North East of Egypt, and surrounded by mountains, which kept it separate and isolated from the rest of Egypt.

a) Do you think this was a good place for Joseph to put his family? Why?

b) Why did Joseph not put them in one of the cities of Egypt?

2. When Jacob meets Pharaoh, he blesses him (v. 7, 10).

a) How does this, in a small way, fulfill God's promise to Abraham in Gen 12:3

3. When Pharaoh asks Jacob his age, Jacob says his days had been "few and evil" (v. 9)

a) How old is Jacob at this time? _____

b) Why does Jacob describe his life in this way?

47:11-26 – Israel possesses the best of the land

4. Joseph has given provision for all his families wants while in Egypt. We live in "Egypt" too as well today. How does this compare to what God has done for us?

5. With Josephs family now cared for, the nation's come to seek for food from Joseph.

a) Fill in this chart about the interaction with the nations

Nations come to Joseph	The people gave to Joseph in payment...
1st Time – vs 13-14	
2nd Time – vs 15-17	
3rd time – vs 18-25	

6. This series of events of the nation's coming to Joseph is similar to something that will happen at Jesus return? What type or shadow does this speak about in the future?

All Done!
Nice Job!