

REFERENCES: GENESIS 39:1-6, 17-23; 40:1-23; PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, PP. 213-219.

# Joseph Goes to Jail

*Can you think of the best thing that's ever happened to you? What about the worst thing? Did you know God was with you both times, just as He was with Joseph?*

**J**

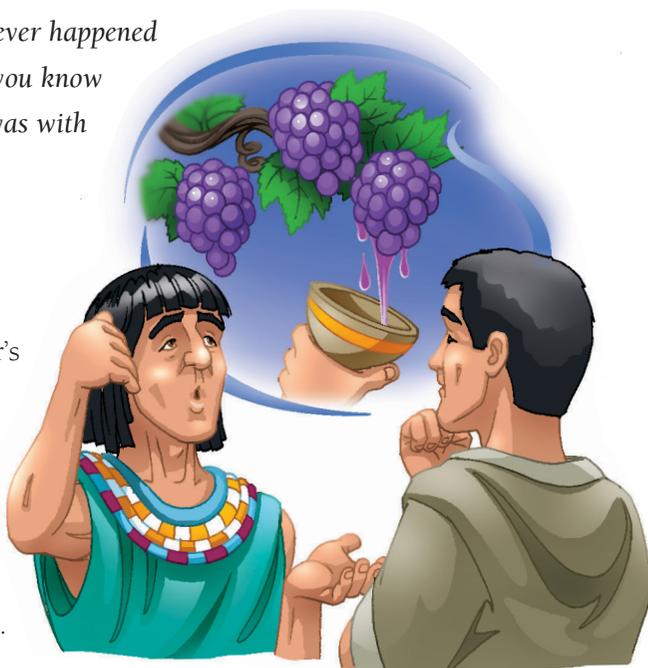
oseph couldn't believe it! Yesterday he had been in charge of all of his master's house. Today his master had thrown him in jail!

Joseph knew he hadn't done anything wrong. And he knew one

more very important thing. He knew that God was with him and would take care of him—no matter where he was.

The chief jailer gave Joseph work to do. Joseph worked without complaining. And every day the chief jailer saw that Joseph did things right. Before long, he put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners.

One morning Joseph noticed that two of the prisoners looked



## Memory Verse

“Nothing can separate us from the love God has for us.”

ROMANS 8:38, 39, ICB.

## The Message

God is with us  
in good times  
and in bad times.

worried. One had been the king's cupbearer. The other had been the king's baker. But the king had become angry and had them both put in prison.

"What's the matter?" Joseph asked.

"We had strange dreams last night," the cupbearer answered, scratching his head. "And we don't know what they mean."

"God is the only one who can explain dreams," Joseph said. "Tell me your dreams."

"I dreamed I saw a vine with three branches," the cupbearer replied. "There were grapes on the vines, and I squeezed the grape juice into the king's special cup and gave it to him."

Joseph said, "God will help me explain the dream to you. In three days the king will set you free, and you will go back to work in the palace. When you see the king, please tell him about me," Joseph begged. "I have done nothing wrong. I shouldn't be in this prison."

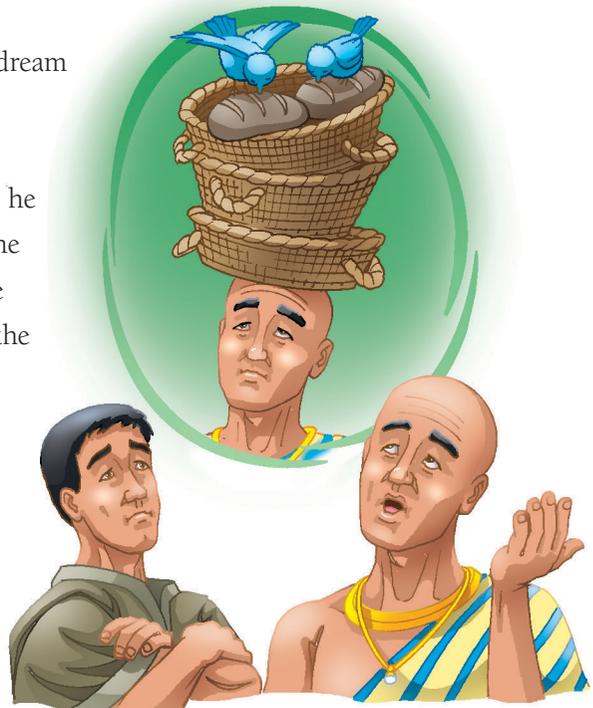
Then the baker said, "I dreamed there were three bread baskets on my head," he began. "There were fancy breads and cakes for the king in the top basket. But birds were eating the food."

Joseph prayed silently. "I will explain the dream to you," Joseph said quietly. "In three days the king will punish you, and you will die."

In three days the king had a birthday, and he gave a big party. During the party he sent to the jail for his cupbearer and baker. The king gave the cupbearer his old job back, but punished the baker, just as Joseph had said.

Joseph waited and waited to hear that the cupbearer had told the king about him. But the cupbearer forgot about Joseph.

Joseph was sorry that the cupbearer had forgotten him. But he knew that God loved him. Joseph trusted God to take care of him even in jail.



# Do and Say

## SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story together and review the memory verse.

**Nothing can** . . . . . Wave index finger back and forth to say no.

**separate** . . . . . Palms together, then pull them apart.

**us** . . . . . Point to self, then others.

**from the love** . . . . Cross arms over chest.

**God** . . . . . Point upward.

**has for us.** . . . . . Point to self, then others.

**Romans 8:38, 39** . Palms together, then open.

## SUNDAY

Make bread or cookies with your child. Talk about the need to trust people who make food or juice for others.

For the evening meal, have your child play the roles of cupbearer and baker and serve drink and bread.

## MONDAY

Encourage your child to share the “Happy/Sad Hearts Stick” made in Sabbath School with someone as they tell them about Joseph in jail.

Have your child try walking around the room with a book balanced on their head. How long before it falls off? Ask: Was it easy or hard? Remember that God is with you whether things are easy or hard.



## TUESDAY

Help your child decorate a paper or Styrofoam cup with uncooked noodles, yarn, rice, beans, glitter, etc. Your child can keep it as a reminder of the fancy cup that the cupbearer probably used. He or she may use it to store small items. They shouldn't drink from it.



## WEDNESDAY

Think of some things that your child doesn't enjoy but are important (shots, removing splinters, going to the dentist, etc.). Take turns in acting them out and letting each other guess. Thank God that He loves us in good times and in bad.

## THURSDAY

Together with your child, clap the following rhyme: *God loves me when I'm happy, He loves me when I'm sad. He loves me when all things are good, and also when they're bad.*

Sing “God Is So Good.”

Thank God for caring for you and your child and for being with you all the time.

## FRIDAY

Have your child act out the Bible story with your family. Ask: How do you know Joseph was a good person?

Talk about good times and bad times. Thank Jesus for being with you in both.