

**WWYG — Session 55**  
**JOSEPH & HIS BROTHERS**  
**Genesis 37-50**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guide \_\_\_\_\_

**“Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good.”** — Genesis 50:20

This is one of the longest connected stories in the Bible. It tells about a really dysfunctional family and shows how God continues to bless the world through them. Clearly, *God enables us to forgive those who harm us, and so turns evil into good.*

1. Let each member of your WWYG group read one or two of the following segments of the story in **Genesis 37-42**. After five minutes, be ready to tell what happened.

37:1-11 — 37:12-36 — 39:1-23 — 40:1-22 — 41:1-36 — 41:37-57 — 42:1-24

2. On the basis your summaries, number these events in the correct order:

\_\_\_\_\_ The brothers want to kill Joseph, but Reuben talks them into throwing him into a well.

\_\_\_\_\_ Potiphar throws Joseph into the king's prison.

\_\_\_\_\_ The steward tells the king about Joseph.

\_\_\_\_\_ Jacob gives Joseph a special fancy coat.

\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph marries Asenath, the daughter of an Egyptian priest, and they have two sons, Manasseh and Epharaim.

\_\_\_\_\_ The king's cook dreams that birds eat bread from a basket on his head.

\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph dreams that his brothers sheaves, and the sun, moon and stars bow to him.

\_\_\_\_\_ The king dreams that seven skinny cows eat seven fat cows, and that seven thin heads of grain swallow seven full heads of grain.

\_\_\_\_\_ The king's steward dreams he gives a cup of wine to the king.

\_\_\_\_\_ The traders sell Joseph to Potiphar, an official of the king of Egypt.

\_\_\_\_\_ The king of Egypt makes Joseph governor over the land, and he stores up grain.

\_\_\_\_\_ Simeon remains in Egypt as a hostage.

\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph interprets the king's dream: seven years of famine will follow seven years of bumper crops.

\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph interprets the prisoners' dreams: the steward will be freed; the cook, hanged.

\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph bad mouths his brothers.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The brothers dip Joseph's coat in goat's blood and tell their father an animal killed him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Potiphar's wife tries to seduce Joseph, and then—when he refuses to have sex with her—accuses him of attempted rape.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph goes to Shechem and Dothan to find his brothers and their sheep.
- \_\_\_\_\_ During the seven years of famine Joseph sells grain to all the Egyptians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph accuses his brothers (who do not recognize him) of being spies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The brothers sell Joseph to a caravan of traders.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jacob sends ten of his sons to buy grain in Egypt.

3. Now let each person read and report on one or two of these segments in **Genesis 42-47**.

42:25-38 — 43:1-18 — 43:19-34 — 44:1-33 — 45:1-28 — 46:1-7, 28-33

4. Now number these events in the proper order:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph hides his silver cup in Benjamin's sack of grain.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reuben offers his own sons as hostages, if Jacob will let him take Benjamin to Egypt.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The king invites Joseph to bring his whole family to Egypt.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The brothers take twice the money to "Joseph" in Egypt to buy more grain.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The brothers report to their father Jacob, and all find their money in their sacks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The king lets Jacob's family settle in the land of Goshen.
- \_\_\_\_\_ "Joseph" invites his brothers to a banquet, but they think he wants to arrest them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Judah begs "Joseph" not to put Benjamin in prison.
- \_\_\_\_\_ On the way home, one brother finds his money in his sack of grain.
- \_\_\_\_\_ "Joseph" asks about his brother's father.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph sends his brothers home with food and wagons to bring their father Jacob back to Egypt.
- \_\_\_\_\_ At Beersheba, on the way to Egypt, God promises to bring Jacob's descendants back to the land of Canaan.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph sells grain to the Egyptians, and buys up all their land for the king.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A servant welcomes the brothers into Joseph's house.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph meets Jacob in Goshen, and asks him to live there.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Judah convinces Jacob to let them take Benjamin back to Egypt to buy grain.

