

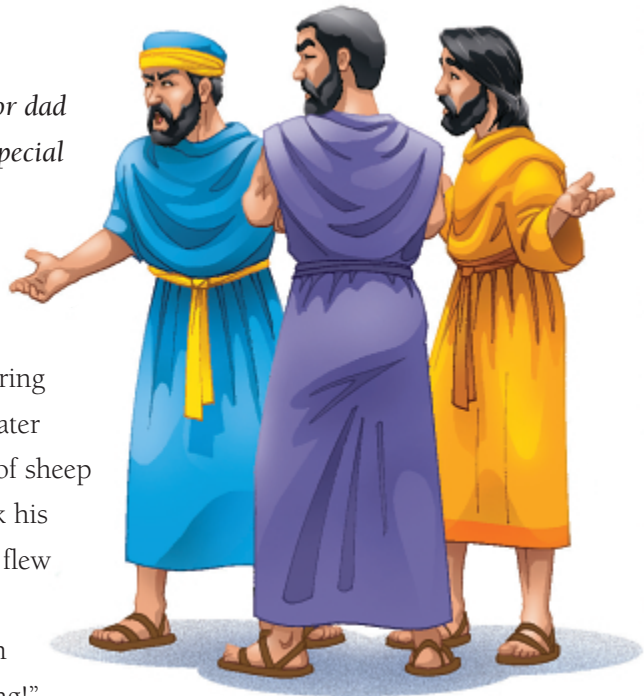


REFERENCES: GENESIS 37:1-11; PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, PP. 208-210.

A Special Coat

Think about a favorite gift your mom or dad has given you. Joseph's father gave him a special gift. And so did God.

Joseph stuck his whole head down into the water. He came up sputtering and laughing. The cool water felt so good! Taking care of sheep all day was a dusty business. Joseph shook his head back and forth. Little drops of water flew everywhere.



“Hey! Watch what you’re doing!” his brother Reuben yelled at him.

“Is that Joseph?” their father called. “Where is my son Joseph?”

Jacob had many sons, but he loved his son Joseph most. Father Jacob was old and his young son gave him a lot of happiness. Joseph wasn’t like his 10 older brothers. They quarreled, and sometimes caused their father problems. Joseph was gentle, and he always told the truth. He was full of joy, and he made his father smile.

Joseph hurried to see what his father wanted. Jacob had a

Memory Verse

“Your heavenly Father will give good things to those who ask him.”

MATTHEW 7:11, ICB.

The Message

God gives us good gifts because He loves us.

special gift for Joseph, a beautiful new coat. Made from many different colors, it was the kind a ruler or other special person would wear. Joseph slipped his arms into the coat. He ran his hand over the soft fabric. "Thank you, Father," he whispered. He especially liked the bright colors.

Joseph's big brothers may have frowned at him. Why was *he* so special? Why did *he* always get presents from their father? The jealous brothers grumbled among themselves.

One night Joseph had an unusual dream. The next day he told it to his brothers. "We were in the field tying bundles of wheat together. My bundle stood up, and your bundles of wheat bowed down to mine."

"Do you really think we would ever bow down to you?" the brothers scowled. Again they grumbled among themselves.

Later Joseph had another dream. He told his brothers and his father about this dream too. "I saw the sun, moon, and 11 stars bow down to me," he said.

Jacob gently scolded Joseph. "Do you really think that your mother and your brothers and I will bow down to you?" he asked. No one understood what Joseph's dreams meant. But Jacob did not forget. Years later he would remember and understand.

Joseph was blessed to receive many gifts from God. God blessed Joseph with the gift of dreams that he would one day understand.

God loves you and blesses you with many gifts too. He gives you good thoughts. He will always help you do the right things.



Do and Say

SABBATH

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

Your heavenly . . Point upward.

Father

will give good . . Hands together, palms up;
things . . . then move away from body.

to those who . . . Palms together as if praying.
ask

him. Point upward.

Matthew 7:11. . . Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Read Genesis 37:1-11 together. Ask: How old was Joseph? Practice counting to 17. How did Joseph's brothers feel about him? Why?

Have your child color a coloring book page but use only one color. Afterward, ask: How does your picture look? Aren't you glad God made different colors?

Take a walk outside and have your child point out colorful gifts from God in nature.

MONDAY

Name a color and have your child find three things of that color. Repeat several times, naming different colors.



TUESDAY

Sing thank-you songs and help your child name things for which they are thankful.

Let your child tell about a favorite gift God

has given him or her. Give your child a hug as you thank God for them.

WEDNESDAY

Draw Joseph's dreams: one sheaf of grain straight, 11 sheaves bowing to it; the sun, moon, and 11 stars bowing to Joseph.

At night, look at the moon and stars. Talk about how far away they are, how hot the sun is, and how the moon doesn't make its own light but gets light from the sun. Thank God for them.



THURSDAY

Encourage your child to share their "Fancy Coat" made in Sabbath School with someone as they tell them the lesson story. Their favorite gift from God is written on the back. Ask what it is.

Name and count some colors. What colors do you think were in Joseph's coat?

FRIDAY

Help your child act out the Bible story with your family for evening worship.

Sing songs of praise for God's gifts. Thank God for His love and the gifts He gives us. Have each family member name a specific gift.