

JOSEPH HELPS PHARAOH

Genesis 41:14-57

Genesis 41

¹⁴So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.

¹⁵Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.”

¹⁶“I cannot do it,” Joseph replied to Pharaoh, “but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires.”

¹⁷Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “In my dream I was standing on the bank of the Nile, ¹⁸when out of the river there came up seven cows, fat and sleek, and they grazed among the reeds. ¹⁹After them, seven other cows came up—scrawny and very ugly and lean. I had never seen such ugly cows in all the land of Egypt. ²⁰The lean, ugly cows ate up the seven fat cows that came up first. ²¹But even after they ate them, no one could tell that they had done so; they looked just as ugly as before. Then I woke up.

²²“In my dreams I also saw seven heads of grain, full and good, growing on a single stalk. ²³After them, seven other heads sprouted—withered and thin and scorched by the east wind. ²⁴The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven good heads. I told this to the magicians, but none could explain it to me.”

²⁵Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “The dreams of Pharaoh are one and the same. God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁶The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads of grain are seven years; it is one and the same dream. ²⁷The seven lean, ugly cows that came up afterward are seven years, and so are the seven worthless heads of grain scorched by the east wind: They are seven years of famine.

²⁸“It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁹Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt, ³⁰but seven years of famine will follow them. Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land. ³¹The abundance in the land will not be remembered, because the famine that follows it will be so severe. ³²The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon.

³³“And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt. ³⁴Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. ³⁵They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food. ³⁶This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine.”

³⁷The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials.

³⁸So Pharaoh asked them, “Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?”

³⁹Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.”

⁴¹So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.” ⁴²Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph’s finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. ⁴³He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and men shouted before him, “Make way!” Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.

⁴⁴Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt.” ⁴⁵Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, to be his wife. And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt.

⁴⁶Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt. ⁴⁷During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully. ⁴⁸Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it. ⁴⁹Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

⁵⁰Before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On. ⁵¹Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh and said, “It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father’s household.” ⁵²The second son he named Ephraim and said, “It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering.”

⁵³The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, ⁵⁴and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food. ⁵⁵When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph and do what he tells you.”

⁵⁶When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. ⁵⁷And all the countries came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the world.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did Joseph do to help Pharaoh?
5		2.) What does the word "famine" mean?
5		3.) How long did Egypt have plenty of food? How long was the famine?
5		4.) Why do you think Pharaoh chose Joseph to be in charge of Egypt?

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>"And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Philippians 4:19</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE __/__/__

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CRAFT/ACTIVITY: EGYPTIAN STORY PYRAMIDS

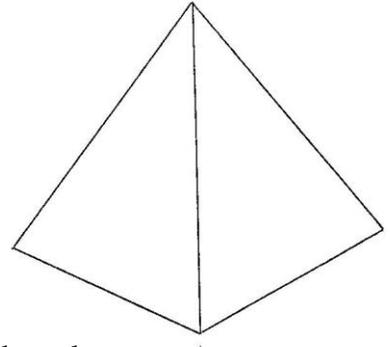
Students will make Egyptian story pyramids to remind them of key points from the story.

MATERIALS

1. White 67 lb. Cardstock
2. Egyptian story pyramid pattern
3. Scissors
4. Colored pencils
5. Glue or tape

DIRECTIONS

1. Copy an Egyptian story pyramid pattern onto 67 lb. cardstock for each student.
2. Have students illustrate the four (4) sentences on the pyramid using colored pencils.
3. Students will then cut out the pyramid on the solid black lines and fold on the dotted lines.
4. Help students glue or tape the two tabs to assemble the pyramid.



FOR DISCUSSION

Before students illustrate the four (4) sentences, review sentences with them and discuss possible illustrations for each. Remind students how God used Joseph to meet the needs of the people near and far during the seven years of famine. As our memory verse tells us, God will meet all of our needs in Christ Jesus. Allow students a few minutes to share how God meets their own needs today.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE: Approximately 20 minutes

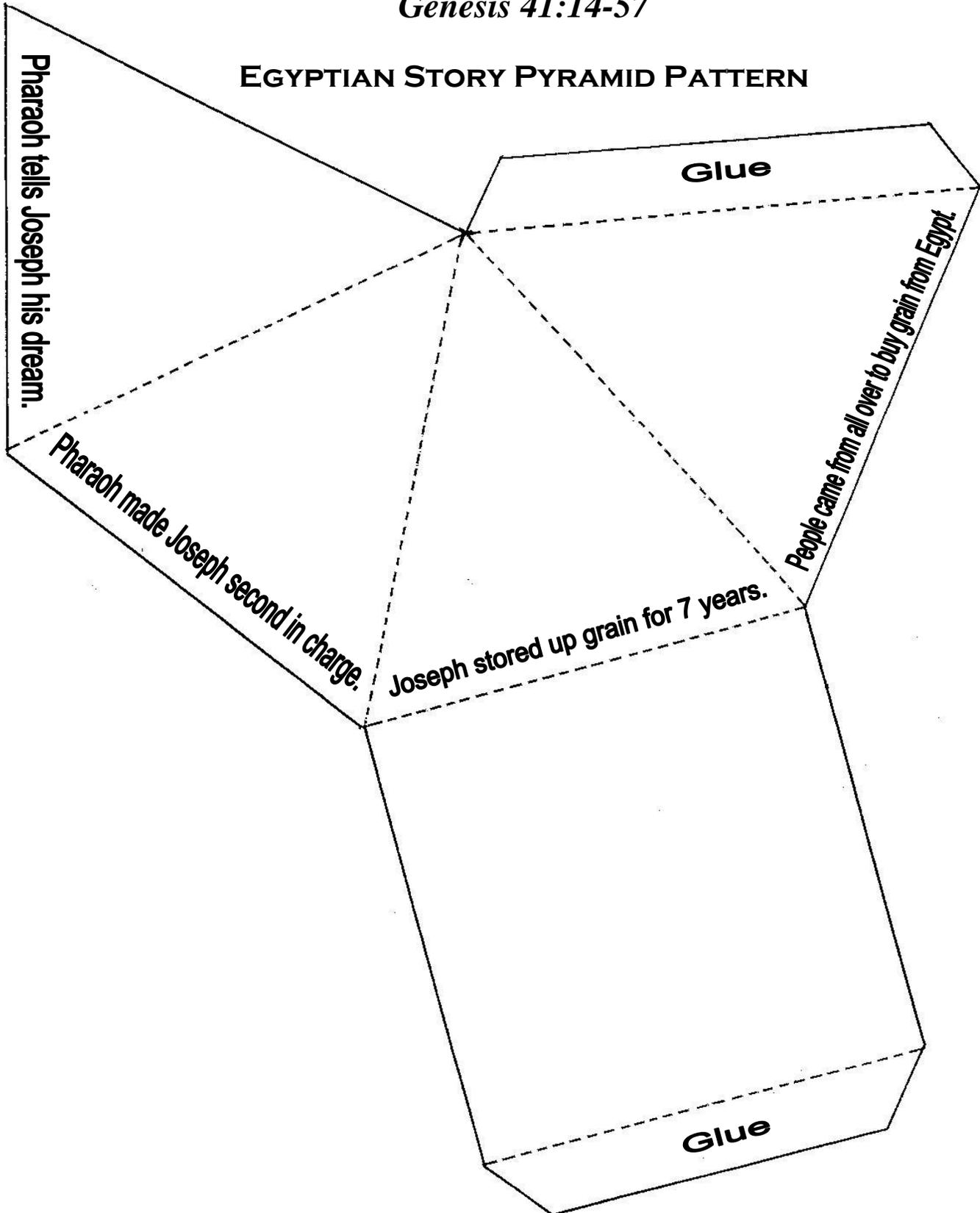
MEMORY VERSE

“And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

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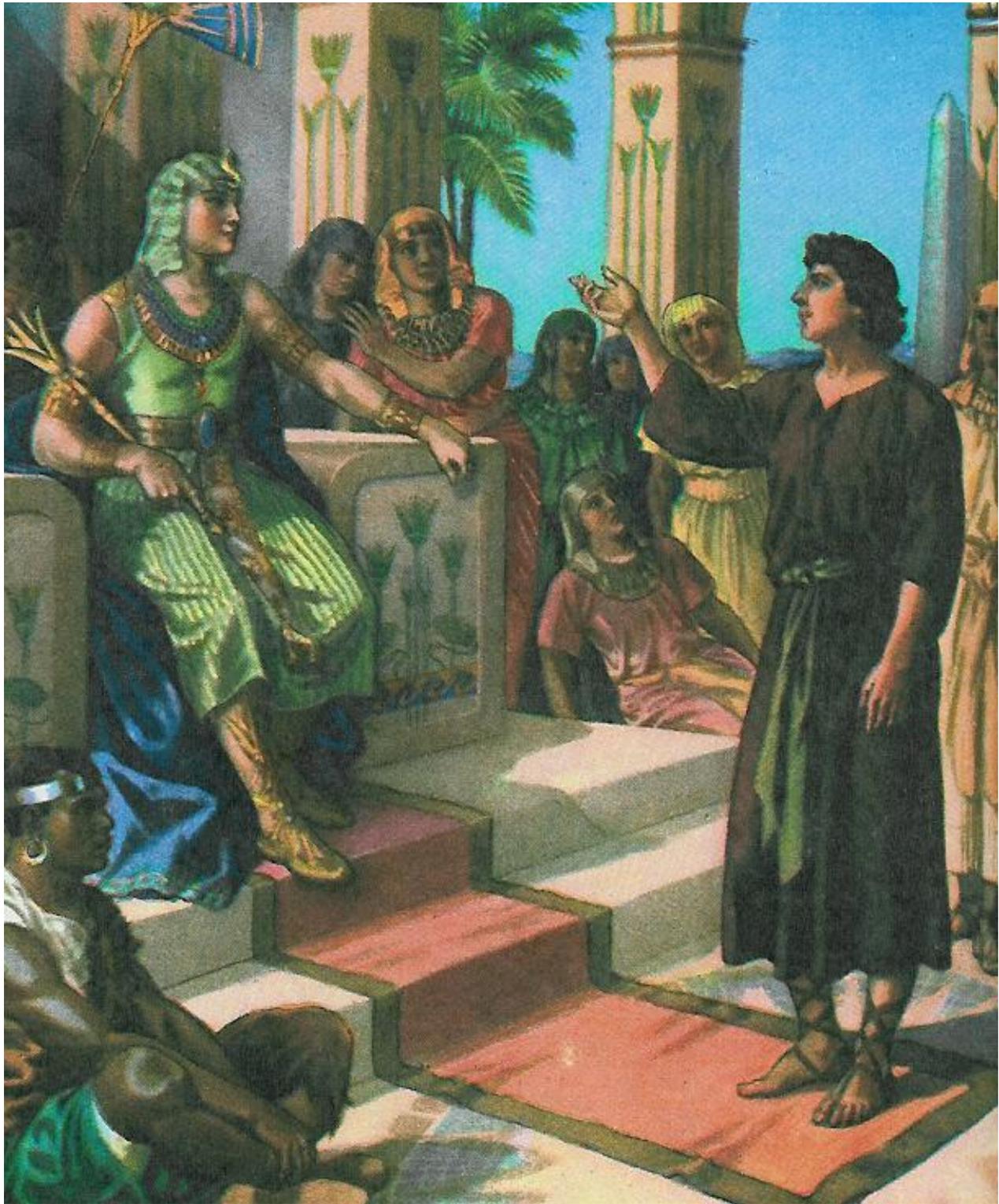
Genesis 41:14-57

EGYPTIAN STORY PYRAMID PATTERN



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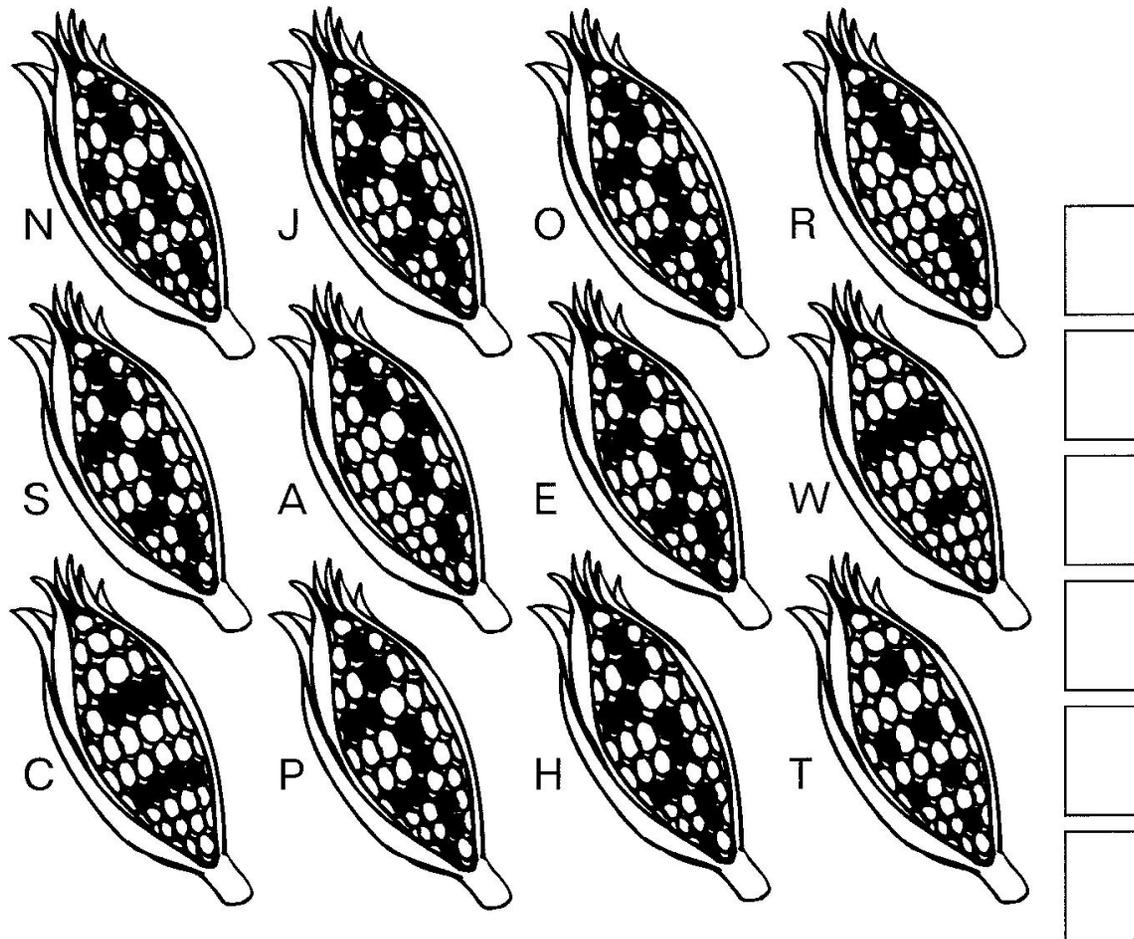


Joseph was put second in charge in Egypt

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One of Jacob's sons knew that the king of Egypt needed to save food from seven years of good farming so that there would be food to eat during the seven bad years to come. To find the son's name, circle the six ears of corn that are exactly alike. Copy the letters below them into the spaces. Be careful! Some of the ears of corn look the same, but are not **exactly** alike.

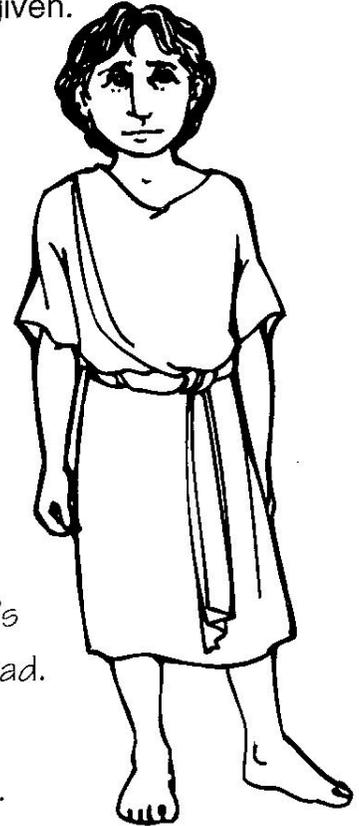


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Joseph was faithful to God all his life. Sometimes his life was up (very good), and sometimes it was down (very bad). Print the missing vowels (a, e, i, o, u) in the words beginning with "p" in the sentences. The meaning for each word is given.

1. Joseph was his father's p__t (favorite).
2. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him, and they put him in a p__t (hole in the ground).
3. Some traders came along and p__rch__s__d (bought) Joseph. They sold him to a rich man in faraway Egypt.
4. Joseph pr__sp__r__d (did well) at the rich man's house. Soon he was in charge of it.
5. The rich man's wife lied about Joseph, and the rich man had Joseph put in pr__s__n (jail).
6. After a long time, Joseph came to the p__l__c__ (king's house) and told Pharaoh the meaning of a dream Pharaoh had.
7. Joseph gave Pharaoh wise advice, and Pharaoh made him a p__w__rf__l (mighty) ruler over Egypt, next to Pharaoh.



Draw lines across from 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14. Write the "p" words from above on the lines you draw. Then draw lines down from 2-3, 4-5, 7-6, 8-9, 11-10, 13-12.

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1

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12

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10

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14

Will you try to be faithful to God all your life, too?

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON GENESIS 41:14-57

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Pharaoh, king of Egypt, heard that Joseph could interpret dreams. Pharaoh asked Joseph to interpret one of his dreams. Pharaoh's dream had seven fat cows and seven skinny cows in it.

Pharaoh also said he dreamed about seven good heads of grain and seven ugly heads of grain.

Joseph explained to Pharaoh that God was trying to tell him something. The seven fat cows and the seven good heads of grain meant seven good years. For seven years there would be plenty of food in Egypt.

The seven skinny cows and seven ugly heads of grain meant there would be seven years of famine. A famine is when there is little or no food in the land.

Joseph told Pharaoh that he should choose a wise man to be in charge of Egypt. This man would set aside food during the seven good years and save it for the time of famine.

Pharaoh listened to Joseph. Joseph was chosen to be in charge of Egypt!

To find out more, read Genesis 41:14-57 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. Why did Pharaoh tell Joseph what he had dreamed about?
2. What was God trying to tell Pharaoh?
3. What is a famine?
4. Why do you think Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of Egypt?

MEMORY VERSE

“And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19

BREAK THE CODE

6 4 8 2 5 3

9 1 8

5 3 1 7 1 4 3 8

3 2 10 5 2 7

1=A 2=E 3=H 4=O
5=P 6=J 7=R 8=S
9=W 10=L