



## Joseph Gives Grain to His Brothers

Genesis 42:3-28

***Does anyone remember who we've been learning about from the Bible? (Joseph) That's right! Lots of crazy things happened in Joseph's life. Last week, we left off after Joseph told Pharaoh what his dreams meant. Because Joseph explained the dreams, Pharaoh trusted him.***

***Pharaoh even made him second in command in Egypt. Now, God had warned them there would be seven years in the land with no food. So, to prepare for this, Joseph was storing up food so people wouldn't be hungry when there was nothing to eat.***

***Eventually, the seven years without food came, and people in nearby lands were hungry. They knew that Egypt had grain stored up, so they traveled to get grain for their families.***

***Rub your belly like you're really hungry so I know you're ready to find out what happened next. (Participate with kids)***



***Joseph was the governor of the land. One day, as Joseph was handing out grain, his brothers walked up to buy food.***

***Okay, let's call pause for a second. Everyone freeze in a crazy position so I know you're paused. (Freeze with kids and continue reading while they remain frozen) We need to rewind and talk about Joseph's family. A few years back, Joseph's brothers had been very jealous of him - so jealous that they threw him in a pit and sold him as a slave. And that's how he ended up far away in Egypt. Okay, unfreeze! Great job staying frozen!***

***After all these years, Joseph's family still lived in the land of Canaan. Canaan didn't have food either, so Jacob sent some of his sons to get grain in Egypt.***

***How do you think Joseph felt when his brothers walked up to get grain? (Allow responses) Those are some good guesses. Let's see what happened.***



***Joseph's brothers didn't recognize him at all, but Joseph knew who they were right away. His brothers bowed down to him, and Joseph pretended not to know them. He asked where they came from, and the brothers said, "We've come from the land of Canaan to buy food."***

***Freeze again! What do you think Joseph will do? Will he give them food, put them in prison, or tell them who he is? Let's see what Joseph does.***



***Unfreeze! Joseph decided to put his brothers before himself. Even though they had been mean to him, he decided to live humbly and do something kind for them.***

***He filled their bags with grain and returned all of the money they had paid for the food. He even put extra grain in their bags! Let's all pretend to have a big bag in the middle of our circle. We need to fill it with grain just like Joseph did for his brothers. (Have kids fill the imaginary bag with imaginary grain; saying things like, "It's so heavy" or "Good job team")***



***Even though Joseph was hurt by what his brothers did to him long ago, he decided to live humbly. He chose to think about his brothers before thinking about himself and his powerful position that he could have used to get them back.***

***So, did Joseph live humbly by giving his brothers grain OR by throwing grain at them? (Giving his brothers grain)***

***Right! Joseph chose to live humbly, even when it was hard to do. This is exactly what God wants for us, too.***

***So what does God want from us? To...(Live Humbly)***