



GULF SHORES
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Gulf Shores, AL

BIBLE CLASS STUDY GUIDE
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JOSEPH: FROM THE PIT TO THE PALACE

The Potential Dynasty

LESSON ONE OF FIVE (SERIES BY RAY REYNOLDS)

TEXT: **Genesis 35-36**

INTRODUCTION: The Joseph narrative is applicable in any age/time. Before we consider his life we need to consider his family. Did you know that there are 14 different Joseph's in the Bible? There are actually two Joseph's who spent time in Egypt after receiving a heavenly dream. The one we will consider today is found in the book of Genesis. Let's study

DISCUSSION:

I. The Thesis of Genesis

A. Genesis focuses on 7 saints.

(Adam, Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph).

B. Genesis reserves 25% of its space for Joseph (**Genesis 35-50**).

C. Genesis reveals the providence of God (**Genesis 12:2, 46:27, Exodus 1:7**).

D. Genesis restores the plan of God (**Genesis 3:15**).

II. The Genealogy of Joseph

A. The Legacy (**Genesis 12-34**)

B. The Conflicts (**Genesis 25, 27, 32**)

C. The Home (**Genesis 29:31, 35:23-26**)

D. The Cycle (**Genesis 37:1-3**)

III. The Story of Joseph

A. Back to Bethel (**Genesis 35:1-7**)

B. A New Name (**Genesis 35:9-15**)

C. Birth & Death (**Genesis 35:8, 16-29**)

D. Moral Decay (**Genesis 36:1-43**)

CONCLUSION: The story of Joseph will take him from the pit to the palace. Where are you in your spiritual journey? Are you trying to break the cycle? Let the Lord give you strength. Become an heir of the kingdom and find your potential.

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The Providential Dreams

LESSON TWO OF FIVE (SERIES BY RAY REYNOLDS)

TEXT: Genesis 37-38

INTRODUCTION: In our last lesson we noticed the potential dynasty Joseph already had with the nation of Israel. His family had a long line of famous people, though dysfunctional in nature. Today, we pick up in Joseph's story when he is a 17 year old boy. His whole family was guilty of being dishonest, adulterous, cheating, lying, having other gods, sexual abuse, incest, etc. The good news is that these men changed, but that's not seen for some time. In the meantime, God is working in Joseph's life. He has started giving him visions and dreams. Open your Bible and let's study together. . . .

DISCUSSION:

I. Joseph, the Favorite Son of Jacob

- A. His Father's History (**Genesis 37:1-2, II Corinthians 5:17**)
- B. His Father's House (**Genesis 37:2, Genesis 35:9-15, Philippians 4:13**)
- C. His Father's Honor (**Genesis 37:3-4, Ephesians 6:1-4**)

II. Joseph, the Favored Servant of God

- A. The First Dream (**Genesis 37:5-8, Genesis 35:11**)
- B. The Second Dream (**Genesis 37:9, Numbers 24:17**)
- C. Jacob's Declaration (**Genesis 37:10-11, Proverbs 14:12**)

III. Joseph, the Forgotten Slave of the Ishmaelites

- A. The Probe of Jacob (**Genesis 37:13-14, Genesis 13, Genesis 34-35**)
- B. The Plight of Joseph (**Genesis 37:15-18**)
- C. The Plan of the Brothers (**Genesis 37:19-32**)
- D. The Pain of Jacob (**Genesis 37:33-36**)
- E. The Plunge of Judah (**Genesis 38:1-30**)

CONCLUSION: The story of Joseph will take him from the pit to the palace. Where are you in your spiritual journey? Who are you trusting? Let the Lord give you guidance.

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The Profound Dilemma

LESSON THREE OF FIVE (SERIES BY RAY REYNOLDS)

TEXT: **Genesis 39-41**

INTRODUCTION: In our previous two lessons we noticed the potential dynasty Joseph already had with the nation of Israel and the providential dreams he was receiving from God. It seems that now he has been sold to the captain of the Egyptian guard, Potiphar. We could easily liken him to the head of the Secret Service for our president in the United States. The text clearly reveals that God was with Joseph the whole time. God still has a plan for him. He had to earn the respect of many people in our story, but his allegiance was always to the Lord. let's study together. . . .

DISCUSSION:

I. Joseph Earns Respect From The Captain of the Guard

- A. Joseph Is Sold (**Genesis 39:1**)
- B. Joseph Is Successful (**Genesis 39:2-5**)
- C. Joseph Is Stressed (**Genesis 39:6-10**)
- D. Joseph Is Shamed (**Genesis 39:11-20**)

II. Joseph Earns Respect From The Keeper of the Prison

- A. The Warden of the Prison (**Genesis 39:21-23**)
- B. The Cupbearer to the King (**Genesis 40:1-15**)
- C. The Baker to the King (**Genesis 40:1-8, 16-19**)
- D. The Dreams Come True (**Genesis 40:20-23**)

III. Joseph Earns Respect From The King of Egypt

- A. The Dreams of the Pharaoh (**Genesis 41:1-31**)
- B. The Plan of Joseph (**Genesis 41:32-36**)
- C. The Promotion of Joseph (**Genesis 41:37-52**)
- D. The Plague of Egypt (**Genesis 41:53-57**)

CONCLUSION: The story of Joseph has taken him from the pit to the palace. Where are you in your spiritual journey? Are you facing a dilemma? Let the Lord give you comfort.

JOSEPH: FROM THE PIT TO THE PALACE

The Peculiar Desperation

LESSON FOUR OF FIVE (SERIES BY RAY REYNOLDS)

TEXT: Genesis 42-45

INTRODUCTION: In our previous lessons we noticed the potential dynasty Joseph already had with the nation of Israel, the providential dreams he was experiencing, and the profound dilemma he experienced in Potiphar's house and as second in command in Egypt. Today, we are going to notice the peculiar desperation of Joseph's family and his struggling with forgiveness. How will Joseph react when his brothers come to him for help? Will he seek revenge? Let's study together. . . .

DISCUSSION:

I. The Terrible Famine

- A. Jacob's Family Is Starving (**Genesis 42:1-7**)
- B. Joseph's Position Is Significant (**Genesis 42:8-17**)
- C. The Brothers Are Sorrowful (**Genesis 42:18-22**)
- D. The Brothers Are Stressed (**Genesis 42:23-28**)
- E. Jacob Is Scared (**Genesis 42:29-38**)

II. The Traumatic Forecast

- A. The Family Is Out of Grain (**Genesis 43:1-2**)
- B. The Family Is Out of Options (**Genesis 43:3-14**)
- C. The Brothers Are Out of Hope (**Genesis 43:15-22**)
- D. The Brothers Are Out of Sync (**Genesis 43:23-34**)

III. The Troubling Feud

- A. The Sacks of Grain (**Genesis 44:1-2**)
- B. The Stolen Silver Cup (**Genesis 44:3-13**)
- C. The Steadfast Brothers (**Genesis 44:14-34**)

IV. The Tearful Family

- A. Joseph Reveals His Identity (**Genesis 45:1-3**)
- B. The Brothers Minds Are Incoherent (**Genesis 45:4-15**)
- C. Joseph's Forgiveness Is Incredible (**Genesis 45:16-24**)
- D. Jacob's Joy Is Influential (**Genesis 45:25-28**)

CONCLUSION: The story of Joseph has taken him from the pit to the palace. Where are you in your spiritual journey? Do you find yourself in desperation? Let the Lord hear your cries for help.

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The Priceless Devotion

LESSON FIVE OF FIVE (SERIES BY RAY REYNOLDS)

TEXT: Genesis 46-50

INTRODUCTION: In our previous lessons we noticed how God took Joseph from the pit to the palace. But the story is not over. God is still working in Jacob's life as well. He needs to convince Jacob that he and his family will be safe in Egypt. God had already taken Joseph from the pit to the palace. Would Jacob trust God enough in his old age? Would the brothers learn to get along? How will Joseph treat his brothers when his father dies? As we conclude our series, open your Bible and let's study together. . . .

DISCUSSION:

I. Jacob is Motivated to Move

- A. The vision of Jacob (**Genesis 46:1-4**)
- B. The venture toward Egypt (**Genesis 46:5-27**)
- C. The value of the Israelites (**Genesis 46:28-34**)

II. Joseph Has Learned How To Manage The Masses

- A. Joseph receives provisions from the king (**Genesis 47:1-12**)
- B. The Israelites find protection in Goshen (**Genesis 47:13-26**)
- C. Jacob finds peace in his old age (**Genesis 47:27-31**)

III. Jacob Decides to Magnify the Multitude

- A. Jacob tells Joseph about God's blessings (**Genesis 48:1-12**)
- B. Jacob blesses Ephraim (**Genesis 48:13-18**)
- C. Jacob blesses Manasseh (**Genesis 48:19-22**)
- D. Jacob blesses Reuben (**Genesis 49:1-4**)
- E. Jacob blesses Simeon and Levi (**Genesis 49:5-7**)
- F. Jacob blesses Judah (**Genesis 49:8-12**)
- G. Jacob blesses Zebulun (**Genesis 49:13**)
- H. Jacob blesses Issachar (**Genesis 49:14-15**)
- I. Jacob blesses Dan (**Genesis 49:16-19**)
- J. Jacob blesses Asher (**Genesis 49:20**)
- K. Jacob blesses Naphtali (**Genesis 49:21**)
- L. Jacob blesses Joseph (**Genesis 49:22-26**)
- M. Jacob blesses Benjamin (**Genesis 49:27**)
- N. Jacob blesses the family (**Genesis 49:28-33**)

IV. The Israelites Mourn & Meddle

- A. Joseph mourns his father (**Genesis 50:1-14**)
- B. The brothers meddle with Joseph (**Genesis 50:15-21**)
- C. Joseph mandates his burial arrangements (**Genesis 50:22-26**)

CONCLUSION: God took Joseph on an amazing journey. Where are you in your spiritual journey? Have you found your devotion to be in question? Let the Lord see your sacrifice. Surrender all.