

Chapter 3: Joseph, From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh

KNOW THE STORY ~ Monday

Before reading chapter 3 of *The Story*, answer the questions below to test your knowledge of this week's Scripture. Enter your answers in the column marked "1st Time."

Question	1 st Time	2 nd Time
1		
2		
3		
4		

1. Why did Joseph's brothers want to get rid of him?
 - a. Because he was always telling them what to do.
 - b. Because of his dreams.
 - c. Because Jacob loved him more than them.
 - d. Because he cheated them.
2. What position of authority was Joseph given by Potiphar?
 - a. Joseph was made a commander of the Egyptian army.
 - b. Joseph was in charge of the cleaning crew for Potiphar's house.
 - c. Joseph was chauffeur to Potiphar's wife.
 - d. Potiphar trusted Joseph with managing his household.
3. When his brothers came to Egypt, what was Joseph's accusation against them?
 - a. He accused them of being thieves.
 - b. He accused them of being traitors.
 - c. He accused them of being spies.
 - d. He accused them of being murderers.
4. What was God's promise to Jacob in sending him down to Egypt?
 - a. I will make you a great nation.
 - b. I will give you plenty of food to eat.
 - c. I will let you see your son before you die.
 - d. I will let you see your great grandchildren.

Now read Chapter 2 of *The Story*. After reading, revisit the questions to check your answers. Put your new answers in the column marked, "2nd Time."

Understand the Story ~ Tuesday

As you read Chapter 3 of *The Story* during the week, allow the story of Joseph to help you understand how God can work through difficult circumstances to bring about good.

1. What do you think was Joseph's mistake with his brothers? What advice would you have given Joseph about how to handle his coat of many colors and his special dreams?
2. Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph. Describe a time in your life you were falsely accused. What did you do? How did you handle it? If you could go back in time, what do you wish you could do differently?
3. What do we learn about God from the years of trials Joseph faced?
4. How did Joseph's understanding of what God was doing to save Israel in the Upper Story help him deal with what his brothers did in the Lower Story?
5. After reading chapter 3, what is one question you wish you could ask God about what you have read?

CONVERSATION ~ Wednesday

One day around a meal or your dinner table, have an intentional conversation about this week's topic. During the meal, read Genesis 50:20, "**You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.**" Use this question for discussion:

- What are examples of some of the good things God brings into our lives? How can things that first appear bad or negative turn out to be good or positive?

PRAY TOGETHER

Focusing the last thoughts of our day on God can help us rest – truly rest – in him. Each night read and reflect on Genesis 50:20, either on your own or with others if there are others living in your home. Pray and ask God to help you fully embrace the story of Joseph. As you do this each night before bed, let the power of the verse impact both heart and mind.

LIVE THE STORY ~ Thursday

Take Action

We don't want to simply be hearers of the Word but also doers of the Word. Take some time to reflect on what you have read and studied this week.

1. Did you have a new discovery from your reading and study this week? If so, what was it?
2. Is there something you need to do based on what you learned?
3. Who can you tell about what you learned? Make a plan right now to share with that person.

TELL THE STORY ~ Friday

As we go through *The Story* together, we want to learn how to tell the story. This week we will begin to focus on Movement 1. Read through Movement 1 below several times as you continue to commit it to memory.

Movement 1: The Story of the Garden (Genesis 1-11)

In the Upper Story, God creates the Lower Story. His vision is to come down and be with us in a beautiful _____. The first two people reject God's vision and are escorted from paradise. Their decision introduces _____ into the human race and keeps us from community with God. At this moment God gives a promise and launches a plan to get us back. The rest of the bible is God's story of how he kept that promise and made it possible for us to enter a loving _____ with him.