

# Stanmore Chapel Sunday School

## Joseph – part 3

### *Genesis 42-45*

After the seven years of abundance had ended, there was famine throughout the land, just as God had revealed to Joseph. Israel sent all of his remaining sons, except Benjamin, to Egypt to get food.

‘Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the person who sold grain to all its people. So when Joseph’s brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground.’ *(Genesis ch.42 v.6)*

Can you remember Joseph’s dreams from the first story in Genesis 37?

**(Draw Joseph’s brothers bowing to him here, and one of his dreams)**

Brothers in 42 v.6	Dream in 37 v.7 or v.9

Joseph recognised his brothers, but they did not recognise him. He pretended to be a stranger, he accused them of being spies, and put them in prison for three days, saying the test for their innocence would be bringing their youngest brother to him. *(Source: Genesis ch.42 v.7-20)*

**Cross out the wrong word to complete the verses:**

They said to one another, “Surely we are being **(punished/promoted)** because of our brother. We saw how **(hyper/distressed)** he was when he pleaded with us for his **(Lego™/life)**, but we would not listen; that’s why this distress has come on us.”

Reuben replied, “Didn’t I tell you not to **(sin against/go on the swings with)** the boy? But you wouldn’t listen! Now we must give an accounting for his **(blood/taxes)**.” They did not realize that Joseph could understand them, since he was using **(an interpreter/Google translate)**.

*(Genesis ch.39 v.3-5a)*

Joseph kept Simeon in prison and sent the others back to their father with their bags filled with grain, provisions for the journey, and even all of the silver they had brought to buy food. *(Source: Genesis ch.42 v.24-25)*

After the grain had been used up, Israel sent his sons back to Egypt. He did not want to send Benjamin but they could not go without Benjamin because of Joseph’s command. So Judah said to his Father:

**'I myself will guarantee his safety; you can hold me personally responsible for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him here before you, I will bear the blame before you all my life.'**

*(Genesis ch.43 v.9)*

When they got to Egypt they were sent to Joseph's house, where they were reassured that *God* had given them their silver, Simeon was released to them, and they all feasted freely in Joseph's house.

When they were sent away, Joseph once again had their bags filled with as much food as they could carry and all of their silver, but he also had something placed in Benjamin's bag. What was it?

**(Circle the right answer)**



After they had left, Joseph sent his Steward after them to get the cup and the steward accused them of doing a wicked thing in stealing it. When the brothers were again brought before Joseph, he asked them what they had done?

**Unscramble the words to complete verses:**

"My 'What can we say to my (**drol**) \_\_\_\_\_?' Judah replied. 'What can we say? How can we prove our (**nonicecen**) \_\_\_\_\_? God has uncovered your servants' guilt.'" *(Genesis ch.44 v.16a)*

"Your (**trevans**) \_\_\_\_\_ guaranteed the boy's safety to my father. I said, 'If I do not bring him back to you, I will bear the (**mebal**) before you, my (**herfat**) \_\_\_\_\_, all my life!' Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord's (**vales**) \_\_\_\_\_ in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers.'" *(Genesis ch.44 v.32-33)*

Then Joseph could no longer contain himself, so he sent his attendants away and wept loudly. When nobody else was there, he revealed who he was to his brothers, and said:

"And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no ploughing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance." *(Genesis ch.45 v.5-7)*

## Beginners/Pioneers Supplementary page

### Chat with your parents/caregiver

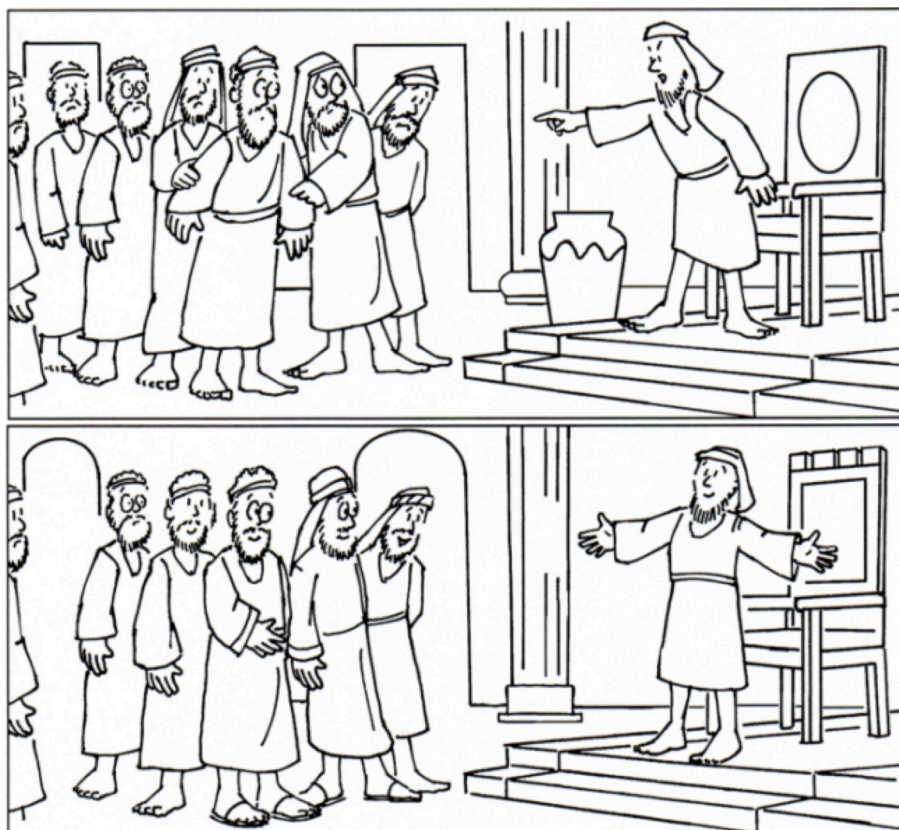
- What happened in the land, just as God had revealed to Joseph, causing Israel to send his sons to Egypt? (ch.42 v.5)
- What did Joseph's brothers think God was doing to them in ch.42 v.21?
- However when he was comforting his brothers, who did *Joseph* say had sent him to Egypt, and why did he say this had happened? (Hint ch.45 v.5-7)

Remember what we've seen in the last two week from Genesis ch.50 v.20 when Joseph says to his brothers: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Now we are *really* starting to see exactly how that has been working out. Israel and his family are being fed and provided for, because not only had Joseph gone down into Egypt, but he was now 'father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.' (ch.45 v.8b)

### Let's pray!

Let's thank God that he keeps his promises to his chosen people. That when he says he will bless them and save them - he does. Thank God that this is exactly what he did for us when he sent his Son Jesus Christ to save us. Let's pray that we would learn to trust Him more and more each day!

### Colour in the differences in the pictures of Joseph with his brothers



## Explorers Supplementary page

### Have a think/chat with your parents/caregiver

- What happened in the land just as God had revealed to Joseph? (ch.42 v.5)
- What did Joseph's brothers think was happening to them in ch.42 v.21?
- How did Judah convince his Father to send Benjamin with them? (ch.43 v.8-9)
- After the cup had been found, what did Judah offer to do in order to save Benjamin? (Hint ch.44 v.33)
- Does Judah's actions and offer here remind you a little bit of anyone else in the bible? (Hint – perhaps a future descendant of Judah)
- When he was comforting his brothers, who did Joseph say had sent him to Egypt, and why did he say this had happened? (Hint ch.45 v.5-7)

Remember what we've seen in the last two week from Genesis ch.50 v.20 when Joseph says to his brothers: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Now we are really starting to see exactly how that has been working out. Israel and his family are being fed and provided for, because not only had Joseph gone down into Egypt, but he was now 'father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.' (ch.45 v.8b)

### Let's pray!

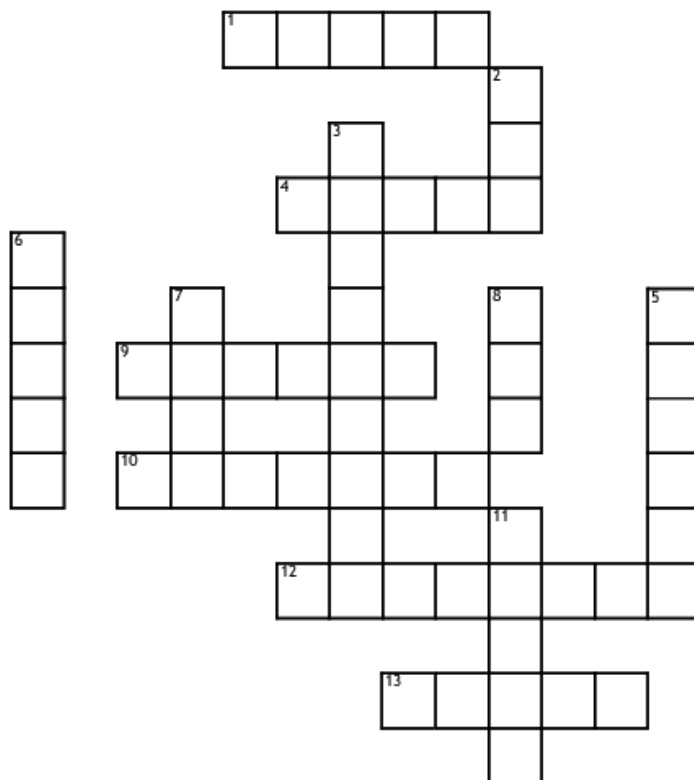
Thank God that he keeps his promises to his covenant people. That when he says he will bless them and save them he does. Thanks God that he did this for us through his Son Jesus Christ, sending him to die on the cross in our place.

#### Down:

2. When comforting his brothers, who did Joseph say sent him to Egypt? (ch.45 v.5-7)
5. What land did Joseph's brothers say they came from? (ch.42 v.7)
6. What did Joseph accuse his brothers of being when they first arrived in Egypt? (ch.42 v.9)
7. Complete the verse: 'We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his \_\_\_\_\_.' (ch.42 v.21)
8. What silver object did Joseph order his steward to put in Benjamin's sack? (ch.44 v.2)
11. Who sent his sons to Egypt to get food when there was a famine? (ch.42 v.1)

#### Bonus silly question:

3. What would no feast be complete without? (hint – we get lots of it at Easter)



#### Across:

1. Who promises to deliver Benjamin safely & to take the blame if anything happens to him? (ch.43 v.8-9)
4. Complete the verse: On the \_\_\_\_\_ day, Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God" (ch.42 v.18)
9. Which brother was bound and thrown into prison until the brothers returned? (ch.42 v.24)
10. How did Judah keep referring to himself to Joseph? Your \_\_\_\_\_. (ch.44 v.18)
12. Which brother received a portion of food five times the size of everyone else? (ch.43 v.34)
13. Complete the verse: Now we must give an accounting for his \_\_\_\_\_. (ch.42 v.22b)