

# Stanmore Chapel Sunday School

## Joseph – part 4

### *Genesis 45-50*

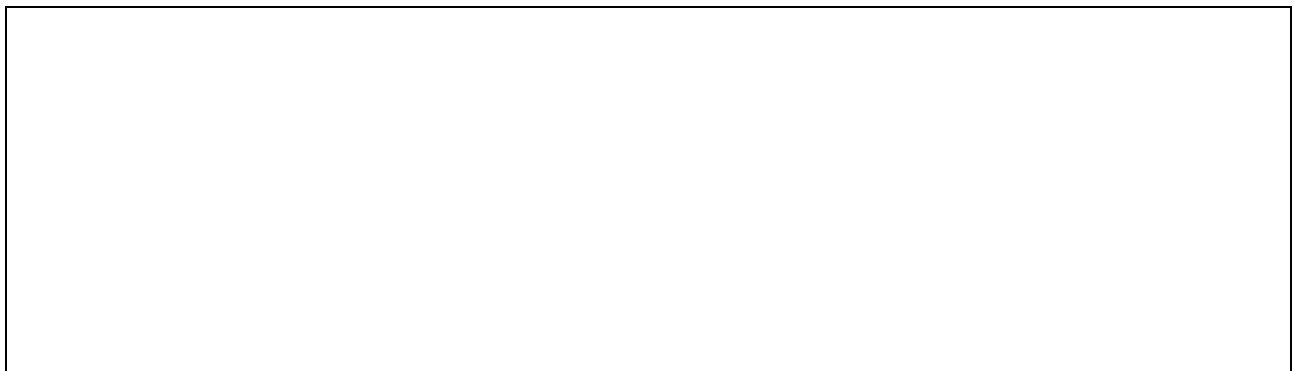
At the end of last weeks session Joseph had comforted his brothers, saying that it was **God** who had sent Joseph to Egypt to save lives.

‘When the news reached Pharaoh’s palace that Joseph’s brothers had come, Pharaoh and all his officials were pleased. Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Tell your brothers, ‘Do this: Load your animals and return to the land of Canaan, and bring your father and your families back to me. I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you can enjoy the fat of the land.’”

*(Genesis ch.45 v.16)*

So they went back, got their father, and they all left for Egypt. There were 70 people in Israel’s family. *(Source: Genesis ch.45 v.25-28; ch.46 v.27)*

**(Draw Israel and all of his family travelling to Egypt)**



**Cross out the ‘x’s to complete the verses: (xexx.xgx xx becomes e.g.)**

‘And God spoke to (xIxxxsxxrxxxaexxxl) in a vision at night and said, “(xxxxJxxxaxxxxcxxxoxxxbxxx)! Jacob!” “Here I am,” he replied.

“I am God, the God of your (xxxfxaxxxtxxhxexxr),” he said. “Do not be (xxaxxfxraxxxixdxxx) to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there. I will go down to (xxxExxxgxxxxyxxxpxxxxt) with you, and I will surely (xxxxbxxrxxxixnxxgxxxx) you back again. And Joseph’s own hand will close your eyes.”

*(Genesis ch.46 v.2-4)*

So Israel’s family came down to Egypt as God had said, and Pharaoh let them settle in the best part of the land. *(Source: Genesis ch.47 v.5-6,11-12)*

Some time later Israel (Jacob) became ill, and Joseph came to see him.

‘Jacob said to Joseph, “God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and there he blessed me and said to me, ‘I am going to make you fruitful and increase your numbers. I will make you a community of peoples, and I will give this land as an everlasting possession to your descendants after you.’”

*(Genesis ch.48 v.3-4)*

Then Israel called his sons together, and blessed them and told them what would happen to them in the days to come. He gave instructions that they were to bury him with his father Isaac, and his grandfather Abraham, in the Promised Land, Canaan. Then he drew his feet up into his bed and was gathered to his people. *(Source: Genesis ch.48 & ch.49)*

So Joseph and his brothers, accompanied by all of Pharaoh's officials, did as Israel had commanded them, and buried him in Canaan, with his forefathers. Then they returned to Egypt. *(Source: Genesis ch.50 v.4-14)*

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" *(Genesis ch.50 v.15)*

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

His brothers then came and threw **(water balloons/themselves)** down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. But Joseph said to them, "Don't be **(afraid/sore losers)**. Am I in the place of God? You intended to **(drench/harm)** me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many **(video games/lives)**. *(Genesis ch.50 v.18-20)*

Joseph stayed in **(Egypt/The Hilton)**, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years. *(Genesis ch.50 v.22)*

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. But God will surely come to your **(aid/wedding)** and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." And Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath and said, "**(Gondor/God)** will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place." *(Genesis ch.50 v.22)*

Then having told his brothers what God would do, he died.

Let's have a quick think back to what we've seen in the last 4 weeks. **For each week, draw what happened, and think about how we saw God working in this situation 'for good'. (write it in as well if there's space)**

1. Joseph's dreams & being sold into slavery	2. Joseph in prison & interpreting Pharaoh's dreams
3. Famine in Egypt and Canaan	4. Family in Egypt, & Joseph's last words to his brothers

## Beginners/Pioneers Supplementary page

### Chat with your parents/caregiver

- Who was it that invited Israel and his family down to Egypt to live in the best of the land? (ch.45 v.16)
- But who did we see was really in charge and orchestrating things? (ch.46 v.2-4)
- What did God say he was going to do whilst they were in Egypt? (ch.46 v.3)
- Before he died, what did Joseph tell his brothers God would do? (ch.50 v.24)

Each week we've looked at 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." This week, we are seeing 'God's big picture' coming into view. God wasn't just saving lives from this famine, he was keeping his promises made to Abraham (Gen. ch.12 v.1-3; ch.15 v.5,13-16), to Isaac (ch.26 v.1-5,24), and to Jacob (ch.28 v.13-15; ch.35 v.10-13; ch.48 v.3-4). God was making 'Israel' into a great nation, one that would bless the nations around them, and God would bring them up out of Egypt into Canaan, the land promised to be their inheritance.

**Let's pray!**

**Let's thank God that he really keeps his promises to his chosen people. Thank God that when things around us look bad – like the famine here – God is always working for good, doing something amazing, the saving of many lives.**



"And God appeared to Jacob again... and blessed him... 'I am God Almighty Be fruitful and multiply... to you; and to your descendents after you I give this land'..." Genesis 35: 9-12

## Explorers Supplementary page

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

- Who was it that invited Israel and his family down to Egypt to live in the best of the land? (ch.45 v.16)
- But who did we see was really in charge and orchestrating things? (ch.46 v.2-4)
- What did God say he was going to do whilst they were in Egypt? (ch.46 v.3-4)
- Before he died, what did Joseph tell his brothers God would do? (ch.50 v.24)

Read God's promises that Joseph mentions: to Abraham (Gen. ch.12 v.1-3; ch.15 v.5,13-16), Isaac (ch.26 v.1-5,24), & Jacob (ch.28 v.13-15; ch.35 v.10-13; ch.48 v.3-4).

- What has God been doing through these chapters that we have looked at over the last 4 weeks? Why should this give us confidence in God?

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### Let's pray!

Let's thank God that he really keeps his promises to his chosen people. Thank God that when things around us look bad – like the famine here – God is always working for good, doing something amazing, the saving of many lives.

## Joseph

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Q Z Y G Q M N I N T E R P R E T S D R E A M S K

palace	Potiphar	pit	seven	silver cup
Ephraim		Manasseh	Goshen	Pharoah
Jacob		skinny ears of corn	fat cows	baker
cupbearer		famine	Rachel	Benjamin
prison	interprets dreams	slavery		Coat of many colors