

**Story Time: Read the story to the children:**  
**Lesson 32: JOSEPH REVEALS HIMSELF TO HIS BROTHERS**  
**Genesis 45:1-16**

Since Joseph couldn't control his feelings any longer in front of his servants, he sent them out of the room. When he was alone with his brothers, he told them, "I am Joseph." Then he cried so loudly that the Egyptians heard him and told other people about it in the king's palace. Joseph asked his brothers if their father was still alive, but they were too scared to answer. Joseph told them to come closer to him, and when they did, he said: Yes, I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into slavery here in Egypt. Don't worry or blame yourselves for what you did. God is the one who sent me ahead of you to save the lives of the Hebrew people. There has already been a famine for two years, and for five more years no one will be able to plow fields or harvest grain because there will be no crops. But God sent me on ahead of you to keep your families alive and to save you in this wonderful way. After all, you weren't really the ones who sent me here--it was God! He made me the highest official in the king's court and put me in charge over all of Egypt. Now hurry back and tell our father that his son Joseph says, "God has made me a ruler of Egypt. Come here as quickly as you can. You will live near me in the region of Goshen with your children and grandchildren, as well as with your sheep, goats, cattle, and everything else you own. I will take care of you there during the next five years of famine. But if you don't come, you and your family and your animals will all starve to death." All of you, including my brother Benjamin, can tell by what I have said that I really am Joseph. Tell our father about my great power here in Egypt and about everything you have seen. Hurry and bring him here! Then Joseph and Benjamin hugged each other and they both started crying. Joseph was still crying as he kissed each of his other brothers. After this, they started talking with Joseph. When it was told in the palace that Joseph's brothers had come, the king and his officials were all happy for them.

## **32. JOSEPH REVEALS HIMSELF TO HIS BROTHERS**

### **(GENESIS 45:1-16)**

#### **MEMORY VERSE:**

“Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.” LUKE 6:36

#### **TRUE OR FALSE?**

1. Joseph finally told his brothers who he really was. TRUE or FALSE
2. Joseph laughed very loud when his brothers recognized him. TRUE or FALSE
3. Joseph told his brothers that it was not God’s plan for them to sell him as a slave. TRUE or FALSE
4. Joseph told his brothers that it was not them who sent him to Egypt, but it was God who sent him there. TRUE or FALSE
5. Joseph told his brothers to bring back all their people, including their father Jacob to live in the land of Goshen. TRUE or FALSE

#### **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

6. When Joseph told his brothers to go back home and tell their father about his power in Egypt, where did he want them to bring their father Jacob?
7. After Joseph talked to his brothers, what did he do?
8. Was Joseph happy?
9. Were the people in the palace and the Pharaoh King happy for Joseph and his brothers?

## 32. JOSEPH REVEALS HIMSELF TO HIS BROTHERS (GENESIS 45:1-16)



Joseph Hugs His Brothers

## LESSON 32 ACTIVITY

### Blindfold Buffet

You will need blindfolds, paper, writing boards, and markers. Form pairs and have the children sit in chairs facing their partners. Have one child in each pair volunteer to be blindfolded. Give a few markers to the blindfolded child. Have the un-blindfolded child hold up to his or her partner a blank sheet of paper on a writing board. The object is to have the blindfolded child draw the best picture possible. Tell the children that the team with the best picture wins.

After a few minutes of allowing the partners to draw their pictures, have the children with the blindfolds remove them. Collect the pictures. Mix them up and display on the chalkboard. Conspicuously, pick the worst picture in the group as a demonstration of mercy and declare it the winner. Perhaps award a small prize to the team. Explain that this demonstrates our lesson today. We will see that mercy is shown in a situation where mercy was not deserved. That is how God deals with us. He gives us mercy even though we do not deserve it. And because God is merciful towards us we should be merciful towards others. **Let us show mercy to others, for God is merciful to us.**

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

#### "Goofed-Up" Give Away

You will need small prizes (stickers, erasers, pencils, etc.), and prize gift certificates (template provided) that you prepare before class.

Give each child a treat, gift certificate, or small prize. Explain that this gift is not for them, but for a person this past week that has treated them in a wrong way. Maybe it is a brother or sister or friend at school.

Have them think of someone and write that name on their certificate. Instruct the children that the next time they see that person, they can give them the gift.

Next week remember to ask the children how it went and what some of the reactions were that they received. How is this like Jesus?

As an option you can have the children share next week what happened and then give those who participated a prize for doing the right thing. **Let us show mercy to others, for God is merciful to us.**

### PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to be merciful, because God is merciful to us. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity to do so.

**Template – Goofed Up Giveaway**

PRIZE CERTIFICATE

Date \_\_\_\_\_

This coupon is presented to

\_\_\_\_\_ as an act of kindness. Because  
God loves me I also want to be nice to others. There is nothing that you have to give  
in return. God bless you.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever  
believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

PRIZE CERTIFICATE

Date \_\_\_\_\_

This coupon is presented to

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_