



## Family Discipleship Resource

### Key Point: God is loving. He does what is best.

God is loving: He does what is best for His children. We looked in Genesis at the life of Jacob as a picture of God's mercy to an undeserving sinner. In all the bad things that happened to Joseph, God was doing what was best. He brought Joseph to Egypt and used him to save lives.

**Capture discipleship moments:** After dinner one evening, talk through the questions below. Anytime we open the Bible and talk about God, we need to pray and ask Him to help us because only God can teach our hearts. Pray with your family for God to give understanding and belief.

1. What word are we learning about today that describes God? What does it mean?  
**Loving: God does what is best for His children.**
1. How did Joseph end up in Egypt?  
**His brothers sold him into slavery because they were jealous of him.**
2. What did God reveal through Pharaoh's dream? **A famine was coming.**
3. What happens in a time of famine?  
**During a famine people do not have food. It would be like going to the grocery store and seeing that the shelves were empty.**
4. With God's help Joseph did something smart to save the people and prepare for the famine. What did Joseph do? **Joseph saved up or stored up grain for seven years. He made sure to save up food so that Egypt would have enough food to last them during the famine.**
5. When the famine came, many people from other countries traveled to Egypt in order to buy food since Egypt had stored up grain. Who were some of the people who traveled to buy food from Joseph? **His brothers came to him and asked for food.**
6. How did Joseph respond to his brothers when they came to buy food?  
**He was very emotional. He sold them food and eventually told them who he was. He forgave them and their family was restored.**

Read **Genesis 45:5** together. (Joseph is the one speaking in this verse. He is talking to his brothers.) **And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.**

7. Whose lives were saved because Joseph was put in charge of Egypt?  
**The lives of his brothers and family.**
8. Who else was saved because of Joseph?  
**People from all over the world who traveled to Egypt to buy food from Joseph.**
9. How did God show love to Joseph and his family? **He provided food for them so they would not starve and die. God also brought their family back together.**
10. Did God wait until Joseph's brothers had apologized before He provided for them?  
**No. He met them in the time of their need.**

11. How did God show love to people from many nations (countries)?  
God provided food for them through Joseph and saved them from starving to death.
12. God was loving to Joseph. Is God still loving today?  
Yes. God is unchanging so he never changes. He was loving to Joseph. He is loving to His children today and He will always be loving forever.

Read **Romans 5:8** together.

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1. How did God show His love for God's children? He sent Jesus to die for us.
2. Did God wait until we were good and we had no more sin in our hearts to send Jesus?  
No. Jesus came to die when we were still sinners.
3. Why was it loving for Jesus to die on the cross?  
When Jesus died he took the punishment sinners deserve for their sin. He made a way for God's children to be forgiven and in a relationship with God.
4. Did Jesus stay dead?  
No. He was raised to life 3 days later and now is with God the Father in heaven.
5. What happens to those who turn away from sin to love and trust Jesus?  
Those who love and trust Jesus are saved from sin and death, forgiven and adopted into God's family. They become children of God.
6. Is that a good thing? Yes!
7. Does it seem like Jesus dying is a good thing? Death never seems like a good thing but we can see how God did what was best by sending Jesus to die.
8. What attribute did we learn about today? Loving
9. What does it mean for God to be loving? God does what is best.

\*\*\*Additional passages for study: Romans 8:28-39.

**Create discipleship time:** Recap by asking your kids what they learned, as they **color their Loving Attribute Sign** for your Attribute Wall at home.

1. What is one thing you learned about God today?  
God did what was best in and through Joseph's life.
2. What is one thing you learned about yourself today?  
I can trust that God is always doing what is best in my life.

**Pray together as a family.** Praise God because He is loving. Thank God that He always does what is best for His children; that all He intends, purposes, plans and does is good. Confess to God times when it's hard to trust God's loving intentions towards you. Ask God to help you trust, despite circumstances, that God lovingly does what is best for His children.

**MVOTM.**

*But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress. Psalm 59:16*