**Sunday School from Home**

**October 4, 2020**

The story of Joseph continues when he is called on to interpret a dream for Pharaoh, which sets in motion events that change Joseph’s life for good.

* Read the story: Genesis chapter 41
* By the time Joseph is called in to hear Pharaoh’s dream, he has been in Egypt for 13 years, first as a slave, and then in prison for a crime he did not commit. As you read the story, imagine how this sudden turn of events must have felt.
* Pharaoh supplies Joseph with new clothes and jewelry befitting his new job. Try making an Egyptian collar with a paper plate or with heavy cardstock paper. Use paint, markers, or other supplies to cover your collar in jewels. You can find detailed instructions [HERE](https://www.firstpalette.com/craft/ancient-egyptian-collar.html).
* For older kids and adults, note that Joseph was also given a wife. What does that tell you about the role of women and marriage in this culture? Did either Joseph or Asenath have a choice about their union?
* Play a game of Pharaoh Says! A Pharaoh was like a king, and everyone had to do whatever he said. Play Pharaoh Says using the same rules as for Simon Says, and take turns being the leader. Try to think of silly movements.
* Pharaoh was glad to know there would be seven years of famine so he could prepare ahead of time. A famine is a time of great hunger due to crops not growing as they should. This would have been quite deadly in Joseph’s time because they did not have the means to store as much food long term as we do now. The exception to this was storing grain.
* What areas in the world today might still experience famine and hunger? Are there people in our area who have a shortage of food? What could we do about this problem? As a family, decide on some actions steps to take to help those who experience food insecurity. This might be a one-time project or an ongoing service.
* Dreams are an important part of many Bible stories. Try naming a few of these stories, and tell what the dreams meant. Use online resources to help if needed.
* For older kids and adults, discover how many times dreams appear in the Bible. Use the concordance in your Bible or go to biblegateway.com to look up this information. Make a list of Old and New Testament books that mention dreams, and note how many times they appear in each book. Which two books have the most mentions in the Old Testament? Which book in the New Testament has the most? Why do you think dreams are mentioned so many times in the Bible?
* In some stories about dreams, someone must interpret the meaning (such as Joseph with Pharaoh’s dream). In other stories, the dreams are a direct communication from God. Find at least one of each type in your list from above.