

Book Introduction

Joseph was put in prison even though he hadn't done anything wrong. While he was in prison Joseph trusted God and showed that he was a very wise man who did what was right.

Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, had a dream that bothered him a lot. In one dream seven fat cows were eaten up by seven ugly and skinny cows. In the other dream seven healthy stalks of grain were swallowed up by seven thin and dried up heads of grain.

Pharaoh found out that Joseph could understand dreams so he brought Joseph out of prison to explain his dreams to him. Joseph told Pharaoh that the dreams were from God and told him what was going to happen in Egypt. God said there would be seven years with lots of food, followed by seven years where there wouldn't be any food. When there isn't any food to eat, it is called a famine.

Pharaoh saw that Joseph was very wise and he made him an important ruler in Egypt to collect the grain in the good years so there would be something to eat in the bad years.

Discussion Questions

Day 1: What did Joseph do in jail? Why did Joseph do what was right?

Day 2: Who did Pharaoh put in prison? What happened to them in prison?

Day 3: What happened to the cupbearer? What happened to the baker? What did Joseph ask the cupbearer to do?

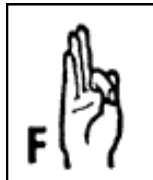
Day 4: What happened when Pharaoh had a dream?

Day 5: What was the meaning of Pharaoh's dream?

Day 6: What did Pharaoh do for Joseph? Why did Pharaoh do that?

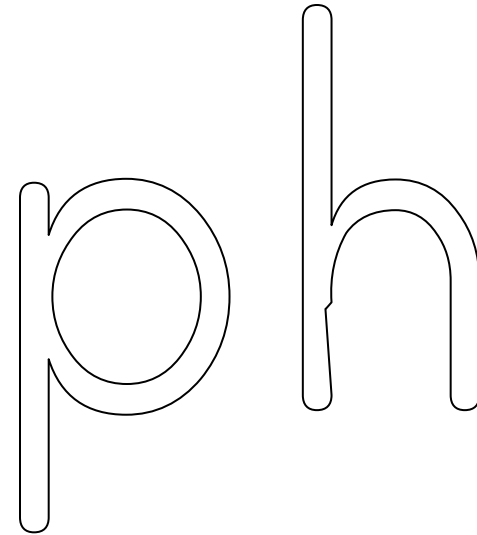
Lesson Rhyme

F—F	Make sign of "F"
Pharaoh	Make crown on head
Had a terrible	Shake hands and body
Dream	Make like sleeping
F—F—Pharaoh	Same as above
Wondered what	Put hand on chin like thinking
it did mean	Look around in thought position



#43

Why did Pharaoh send for Joseph?



ph—ph—Pharaoh
Had a terrible dream
ph—ph—Pharaoh
Wondered what it did mean

Day 1

Draw a picture of Joseph in jail.

Joseph was thrown into jail,
though he did nothing wrong
He continued to do right
because to God he did belong.
He was put in charge
of all things in the jail.
Because whatever Joseph did,
he did it very well.

Day 6

Draw a picture of Joseph as the ruler.

Pharaoh then made Joseph
the ruler of his lands.
He put the care of Egypt
into Joseph's righteous hands.
He saw that Joseph's wisdom
came from God above.
As Joseph truly trusted
in God's goodness and his love.

Genesis 39:22-23:²² So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there.²³ The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

Genesis 41:39-40:³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you."⁴⁰ You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you."

Day 5

Draw a picture of seven cows.

Pharaoh then told Joseph
of his terrible dream.
And Joseph learned from God
what the dream did mean.
Seven cows and heads of grain
growing on a stem.
Meant 7 years of great abundance
God would give to them.
Seven years would follow
when food they couldn't grow.
Pharaoh's dreams and what they meant
to Joseph God did show.

Genesis 41:29-30:²⁹ Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt,³⁰ but seven years of famine will follow them. Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land.

Day 2

Draw a picture of Pharaoh's servants.

To the prison Pharaoh sent
two of his servants there.
Pharaoh's baker and his cupbearer
were put under Joseph's care.
Then one night both servants
had a dream that caused them grief.
Joseph knew the meaning,
which to the cupbearer brought relief.

Genesis 40:8:⁸ "We both had dreams," they answered, "but there is no one to interpret them." Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams."

Day 3 Draw a picture of Joseph and the cupbearer.

The cupbearer was restored
to the job that he once had.
But the baker lost his life
as Pharaoh deemed him bad.
Joseph asked the cupbearer
to get him out of jail.
But he didn't help out Joseph,
he just left him in his cell.

Day 4 Draw a picture of Joseph going to Pharaoh.

However, after two years
Pharaoh had a dream,
There was no one he could find
to tell what it did mean.
The cupbearer was reminded
of what Joseph did in jail.
And that the meaning of a dream
Joseph sure could tell.
So Pharaoh sent for Joseph
to come into his home.
Joseph had to bathe and shave
to come before the throne.

Genesis 40:21-23: ²¹ He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, so that he once again put the cup into Pharaoh's hand, ²² but he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had said to them in his interpretation. ²³ The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

Genesis 41:15-16: ¹⁵ Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." ¹⁶ "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires."