

READ IT

This Rotation's Bible story is

Joseph and Pharaoh

from Genesis 39:20—41:57; 45:1-15; 50:15-21.

God is always at work for good.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Joseph
- Pharaoh
- Dreams
- Brothers
- Famine
- Egypt

Joseph's story introduces one of the Bible's main themes: that God is working for good even in the midst of terrible things. This theme plays out many times in the biblical story.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 54-65

Spark Bible pages 45-48, 51-52, and 58

Family Prayer

Open our eyes, O God, so that we might see your good work in all things. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 What special abilities has God given you to help others?
- 2 How can we help each other in our family?
- 3 Share a memory of a time when God made something good out of something bad in your lives.
- 4 When and why is it difficult to forgive another family member?



Eye Spark

The next time you see something bad happen, look for where God is working for good.



Ear Spark

Listen for the word "good" and whisper, "God is always working for good."

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Feed people like Joseph did. Contact your local food shelf or soup kitchen and see how they might be able to use your family in a volunteer capacity. Can you shop, stock shelves, serve food, or address envelopes?

For younger kids

Feeding people is something we do every day. Help make and serve a special meal one day this week.

For older kids

Use online newspapers and resources to find where famine is a problem today. What relief organizations are working in these areas? What are they doing to alleviate the problem?

TRY IT

Art

Joseph decided to walk with God in good times and bad. Trace each family member's foot onto construction paper and cut out. Write on each footprint: God walks with me. Tape your footprints in a place you see every day to remind you that God is there.

Computer Lab

Joseph made a plan that saved Egypt from famine. Make your own family emergency plan. Check the internet for great ideas on what to do if there's a fire, tornado, hurricane, flood, or robbery. Post your plan in a place where everyone can see it.

Creative Drama

Tell the story of Joseph helping his family one phrase at a time! Sit in a circle. The first person starts the story by saying "There was a severe famine in the land, so Joseph's brothers..." and then points to the next person in the circle. That person adds a little more to the story and then passes it to the next person. Can you tell the whole story? How long does it take?

Video

Watch a video about disability. Talk about the opportunities that disabled people have. They learn to use what they have even more. They inspire people. Sometimes things that seem bad can be really great opportunities! God is with us and watching out for us always.

Bible Skills and Games

Blindfold a member of the family and lead him/her around the house. Talk about how the blindfolded person needs to trust the leader. That's how we need to trust God. Take turns leading and wearing the blindfold.

Cooking

Take a "feast and famine" trip to the grocery store. Buy double of selected staples like canned foods, boxed dinners, and pasta. When you get home, put one food item in your pantry of plenty, and save one in a bag to give away to someone experiencing famine.

Music

Pick a happy song to sing together. It can be as simple as a fun rendition of "Happy Birthday." Sing the song with bright, happy, smiling faces. Then sing it together with sad, angry, grumpy faces. That's harder to do! Singing is a great way to lift yourself up when you're down.

Science

Famines and droughts happen in nature and keep people from having food or water. They're bad things! Joseph saved Egypt from famine because God had a great plan for him. Talk with your family about ways God helps you in tough times.