

GOD'S CALLING

Lesson Twelve

God Called Joseph (Part 1; Genesis chapters 37, 39, 40 and 41)

Burden to Impart:

In this lesson we see how God called Joseph, the eleventh son of Jacob, while he was a young shepherd and through two dreams showed him that one day he would reign over his older brothers. After receiving the dreams, Joseph passed through many injustices, temptations and sufferings. All of these things trained and prepared young Joseph so that at 30 years of age he would be able to rule over all of Egypt.

Memory Verse: Therefore be humbled under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

1 Peter 5:6

Facts to Teach:

1. Joseph was loved by Jacob (Gen. 37:1-11)
 - a) He was born in Jacob's old age.
 - b) He was Rachel's son. (Rachel was Jacob's most loved wife.)
 - c) He was well behaved, and reported his brother's evil doings to Jacob.
 - d) Jacob gave him a beautiful coat of many colors.
2. Joseph was hated by his brothers.
 - a) They were jealous of him because their father loved him more.
 - b) They were envious of his receiving the coat of many colors.
3. Joseph's dreams.
 - a) At seventeen years of age Joseph was a shepherd-boy.
 - b) He had two dreams from God which would one day be fulfilled.
 - 1) The sheaves bowing down to Joseph's sheaf.
 - 2) The sun, moon and eleven stars bowing down to Joseph.
4. Joseph's brothers sold Joseph as a slave into Egypt (Gen. 37:12-36).
 - a) Joseph's brothers plot to kill Joseph.
 - b) Ruben attempts to deliver Joseph.
 - c) Judah attempts to save Joseph's life by selling him.
 - d) Joseph's brothers tell Jacob that he was dead.
5. The Lord was with Joseph in Egypt and blessed him (Gen. 39:1-6).
 - a) Joseph was sold to an officer in Egypt.
 - b) Joseph's master saw that the Lord was with Joseph; that he prospered in everything he did.
 - c) Joseph was made overseer of all of Potiphar's house and possessions.
6. Joseph's overcoming and fleeing from temptation and being unjustly cast into prison (Gen. 39:7-20; 2 Tim. 2:22).
 - a) Joseph daily tempted by Potiphar's wife to lie with her.
 - b) Joseph's continual refusal to listen to her or even be near her.
 - c) Joseph's fleeing from her and leaving his outer garment.
 - d) Potiphar's wife's false accusation to the other servants and to her husband.
 - e) Joseph cast into prison.
7. The Lord was with Joseph in prison and blessed him (39:21-23). Eventually, he interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh (40:1-36).
 - a) The Lord was with Joseph in prison.
 - b) The keeper of the prison put all things under Joseph's charge.
 - c) After ten years in prison Joseph accurately interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh's butler and Pharaoh's baker.

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- d) Joseph was forgotten in prison two years longer.
 - e) Joseph accurately telling and interpreting Pharaoh's two dreams.
8. Joseph ruled over all the land of Egypt (Genesis 41:36-57).
- a) Pharaoh set Joseph over all Egypt when he was thirty years old.
 - b) Joseph stored up much grain during the seven years of plenty.
 - c) People from all countries came to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was bad in all the earth.

(This lesson may be divided into two parts as follows: points 1-5 as one lesson and points 6-8 as another lesson.)