

Name _____

Date _____

Joseph's Faithfulness

Jacob should have learned from experience that it is not good for parents to play favorites, but he too had a favorite son, Joseph. This angered Joseph's 10 older brothers, who were jealous of their father's obvious favoritism. In time jealousy turned to cruelty, and Joseph's brothers sold him to a group of slave traders who were going to Egypt. Joseph was only 17 when he became a slave.



Joseph decided to trust in God and to do what was right no matter what his circumstances were.

Joseph was such a good worker that a government leader chose him as a personal assistant. Joseph was faced with a difficult situation when the leader's wife wanted to be with him. Joseph refused to be with her. She then lied and said that Joseph had tried to hurt her, so he was put in prison. Even in prison, Joseph demonstrated his goodness and faithfulness. People thought he was holy and came to him for advice. Eventually the ruler of Egypt made Joseph his chief advisor.

Many years later at a time of famine, Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt, seeking food to take back to their families and their aging father, Jacob. They were told to speak with the king's chief advisor—Joseph. Joseph instantly recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. Before revealing himself to his brothers, Joseph tested them to see if they were sorry for having sold him into slavery. Joseph then told them to return home, get their father and families, and come back to settle in Egypt. Joseph showed mercy and forgiveness.

Your Faithfulness

Think about a situation in which you had to make a difficult decision. What choice did you make? Was it the right choice? Why do you think so? What were the consequences of your choice? Write about the situation.
