

# CHILDREN'S BIBLE INSTITUTE

## GREAT MEN & WOMEN OF GOD



A SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS BY MASTER MINISTRIES - ABB THOMAS

GRADES 4-6 - COURSE A - LESSON 4

# 4 LESSON



# JOSEPH PART 2

Joseph's brothers sold him as a slave. God arranged his life to be far different than a slave. He became steward over the house of Potiphar. This man's wife lied about Joseph, and he was placed into prison. There he told meanings of dreams to others. One day Pharaoh heard of this man's ability. Joseph was called. After God had given Joseph the meaning of Pharaoh's dreams, he was placed as governor over all of Egypt.

### THE GOVERNOR'S JOB

Joseph told Pharaoh that his dreams told of a great famine to come to their land. So, part of Joseph's work was to prepare this large land for tough times.

Joseph was now second in command over the entire land of Egypt. Only Pharaoh had more power and authority. Joseph was probably over Egypt's army, finances, agriculture, and justice system. Wow!

Remember what the brothers of Joseph had done? Their sinful thinking led to sinful behavior, and now they still had sinful feelings. You just can't forget the sin you have done.



Joseph was different. He did not have the sinful thinking of his brothers, so, he had not behaved like his brothers. He also did not begin the big cycle of sinful thinking or sinful behavior after his own brothers had sold him into slavery. Joseph was like this:



## A. JOSEPH ALLOWS GOD TO USE HIM

We have a *potential* for good or for evil. We choose to live our lives for God, or for Satan. God used all the bad events in Joseph's life for good. That's what God will do, *IF* we allow Him to develop our potential.

He could have turned bitter and angry, but he did not. Genesis 37:11, "And his brethren envied him", and that's where many problems begin - we want what someone else has (envy). Their potential went from wrong thinking to wrong behavior, and to many years of feeling sinful.

## B. COULD GOD TRUST JOSEPH?

If God can't trust us, he can't use us. How sad when our potential is never put into "*God's hand*".

### LOOK UP THESE VERSES:

(fill in missing words)

#### Genesis 39:2

"And the \_\_\_\_\_ was with Joseph and he was a prosperous (rich) man..."

#### Genesis 39:3

"And his master (Pharaoh) \_\_\_\_\_ that the \_\_\_\_\_ was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand."

**THESE VERSES TELL US THAT GOD WAS BLESSING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH!**

## C. JOSEPH GAVE HONOR TO GOD

When Pharaoh called Joseph to interpret his dream, God was the one honored by Joseph.

Genesis 41:16 "And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer..."

## TO FINISH THE STORY

Your *last goal* is to read the end of the story, found in Genesis 50:15-26. Open your Bible now and *watch for the missing words below*:

"...all the \_\_\_\_\_ which we did unto him." (vs. 15)

"...for they did unto thee \_\_\_\_\_." (vs. 16)

Now, look at the life of Joseph:

(vs.20) "But as for you, ye thought \_\_\_\_\_ against me; but \_\_\_\_\_ meant it unto \_\_\_\_\_, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake \_\_\_\_\_ unto them." (vs. 21)



Did God make this happen because of the evil the brothers had done? No. But, God had found a man He could trust, and so God accomplished great things through the life of Joseph!

Our great God can also accomplish very good things through the lives of boys and girls. Joseph was young when sold as a slave - *but not too young* to trust his

God through it all! Here are three good lessons that we see from the life of Joseph:

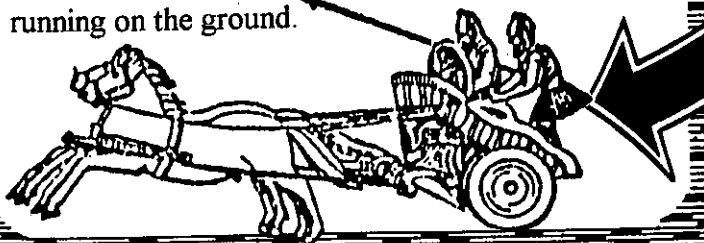
1. When God can trust us, He can use us.
2. God is on *our* side, in spite of the troubles around us.
3. My obedience will bring honor and glory to God.

Are you at a place in your life where God can trust you to obey His Word? Our dear Lord is willing and able and desires to help us. We are never more than one prayer away from making everything right with God. *Are you right with God?*

## - A WAR MACHINE - CHARIOTS

An Egyptian chariot was a deadly weapon of war, as well as the fastest means of travel in those days. In most times of war, two men rode in the same chariot, a driver and the warrior.

The frame was wood or wicker, with a soft rug in the floor for standing, as the roads were very rough. The old style of chariot was heavy, slow, and pulled by donkeys. But the newer chariots were lightweight and pulled by the fastest horses. Many of the war chariots had very long knife blades attached to the wheels, and would cut soldiers running on the ground.



## THE CONCLUSION

The brothers of Bible times had more problems than they expected. When sin is in our lives, we feel it, and we know we do. When we hate, when we lie, cheat, steal, gossip, or feel jealous of others, we feel it. We may not do some vicious act, but we know when the thoughts fill our mind. Everyone is tempted at times to lie or cheat. The problem comes when we continue to think on these things.

The brothers of Joseph had gone from Sinful Thinking to Sinful Behavior quickly. But, they never understood how long their Sinful Feelings would last. Their actions brought immediate pain to Joseph and his Father. Near the end of this long story (years later) we read in Gen. 42:21, "...we are verily guilty concerning our brother,..." Sin brings an awful scar in your remembrance.

Right thinking brings all the good things: right behavior, and right feelings!

## REVIEW... FANNY CROSBY

(find answers in story)

1. Fanny was only \_\_\_\_\_ old when her sight was destroyed.
2. Over \_\_\_\_\_ of her poems were set to music.
3. Often, she wrote as many as \_\_\_\_\_ hymns in one day.
4. In one of your church hymnal books, find at least 5 songs by Fanny Crosby. Write the title and date written, give this list to your Club leader.

# CORONATION

## IN A CORNFIELD

### CHAPTER 4

by Adriana Kassner

We all decided that maybe we needed a little help to regain possession of the Golden City. So, we went to Heiko and Anna Katrina's grandfather for advice.

We explained to him that the Eversoles had us outnumbered, so we couldn't storm the place fighting or seeking revenge.

"Is it really their property, Grandpa?" asked Anna.

"No, it's not. They live on a small plot which they rent from me. There are lots of children living there as you already know. Some are siblings, some are cousins. The father of the household is a drunkard. I have a hard time getting him to pay his rent on time. The children probably often go hungry I'm afraid."



A bit more of our anger was suddenly diffused.

"You children would do well to include them in your fun, as you are careful not to let them take advantage."

"But how can we include them in anything when they won't let us near them?" I asked. We all nodded.



"Then maybe you should change your approach a bit."

"The Golden City is a wonderful place," said Heiko. "I can understand why they want to hang out there."

"Why don't we offer to help them build another castle on the other side of the creek," suggested Elizabeth.

That evening Marta helped me bake a platter of neat cookies as a peace offering for the Eversoles. We all met at Heiko and Anna's very early the next morning and proceeded to the Golden City. The castle was vacant. They were not out playing yet. They were obviously not a bit concerned that we would come back to reclaim our castle. They were confident that they had scared us off for good.

Peter, James, and John arrived with two big brightly colored flags that Mrs. Lovric had made out of the old parachute, each of which bore a different design. One was for our castle, the other was for the castle we intended to build. James and John raised our flag as

Heiko climbed up to the lookout and prepared to warn us at the first sight of an approaching Eversole.

As Queen, I wrote a message inviting them to our fort for peace talks. Then, at Heiko's signal, I sent Peter out to meet them with the invitation and the platter of big fat cookies. Much to our surprise our plan turned out to be a success. The Eversoles seemed just as taken back by our kindness as we were by their compliance.

At the end of the day two flags flew over two castles in two very different kingdoms. (end chapter 4)

# CORONATION

IN A CORNFIELD by Adriana Kassner

## CHAPTER 5

Lewis Selbourne, one of my father's friends, was a journalist who worked for a large newspaper. He once spent some time as a guest in our home while he did some research work on the Underground Railroad and wrote an article about the burning of Mr. Henry's house.

The next morning during breakfast, Mr. Selbourne had time to share with us some things he had learned about the history of our area and specifically Mr. Henry's house.

"The Underground Railroad was not really a railroad under the ground," he explained. "It was a secret network of Americans who lived in the north before the Civil War. They were opposed to slavery, so they did whatever they could to help the slaves obtain their freedom."

We listened intently as he told us about the negro slaves who fled from their masters. Many were chased by dogs. Some had to swim across the Ohio River in

complete darkness to safety.

"Mr. Henry's house was once owned by Dr. and Mrs. Havisham. They installed a trap door beneath their kitchen table as a secret entrance to their cellar, then courageously provided their home as a refuge for the frightened runaways."

The history of our town came alive to us on that day. Corrie had especially been intrigued by the stories.

Later, I went back to the Golden City and told my friends everything I had learned. We then invented our own Underground Railroad game. Three or four of us were chosen as slaves. The slaves would have to go to the Eversoles' castle across the creek, from which they would eventually try to escape. The Eversoles were the slave masters who unmercifully tried to track down the runaways. The Golden City was of course, the place of refuge. Those who made it there without being caught by an Eversole were deemed "free".



I knew Corrie would have loved the Underground Railroad game. Even though I had once promised to bring him to the Golden City, I had not yet done it. I still viewed him as a whining little pest who was afraid of the dark. But all of that was about to change.

One evening, Anna Katrina came over to spend the night. Foolishly, we planned to sneak out after everyone was asleep. We dared each other to walk all the

way to the Golden City in the dark. Just as we were preparing to leave, we discovered that Corrie had overheard our plans. I forced him to come with us because I didn't want him to stay behind and tell on us.

Of all the times I had walked to the Golden City this seemed to take the longest. We each wanted to prove our bravery to each other, though we were all scared stiff. Every time the wind rustled the trees or a dog barked, we jumped. Though we had started out boldly on our way, as we neared our destination, we moved in a huddled mass clinging to each other in fear.

We never made it to the castle. As we were fumbling through the high grass at the edge of the treeline, Anna Katrina screamed. We were so far from the nearest house that Corrie and I were the only ones to hear her. She screamed again and grabbed her leg in pain.

The next thing I knew we were hoofing it back through the tall grass to the dusty lane. There, Anna collapsed in pain on the moonlit road. She had a nasty snake bite on her leg and she had broken into a cold sweat.

I panicked. "Come on Anna," I said. "Let's run to your grandfather's house."

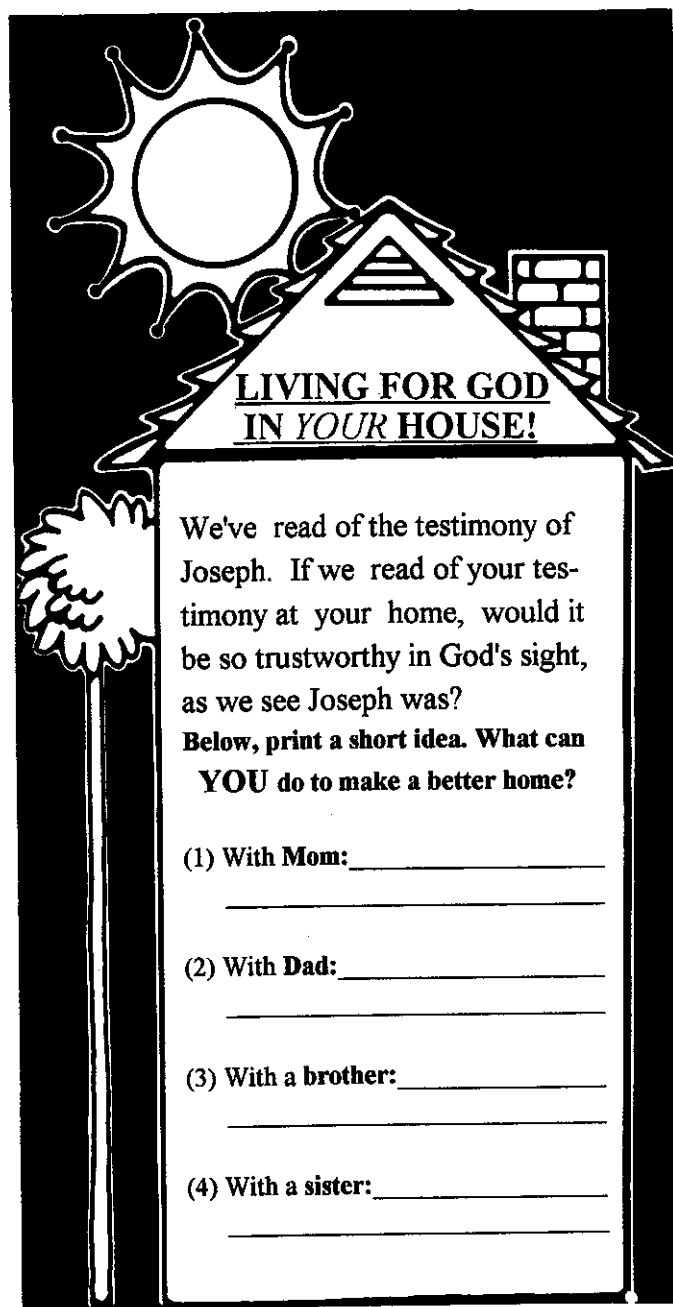
Suddenly to my surprise, Corrie took control. "No" he said firmly. "If it was poisonous, running will pump the poison straight to her heart."

He then helped me move her to a nearby incline and positioned her leg so that it was lower than the rest of her body.

"Stay with her Catherine." he commanded. "Try to keep her calm. I'll go for help."

Corrie then ran bravely to the farmhouse while Anna and I waited anxiously for help to arrive.

(end chapter 5)



**LIVING FOR GOD  
IN YOUR HOUSE!**

We've read of the testimony of Joseph. If we read of your testimony at your home, would it be so trustworthy in God's sight, as we see Joseph was?  
**Below, print a short idea. What can YOU do to make a better home?**

(1) With Mom: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_


(2) With Dad: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(3) With a brother: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(4) With a sister: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## REVIEW...JOSEPH

(find answers in the story)

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1. Joseph's role was \_\_\_\_\_ over all of the land of Egypt.
  2. Who, alone, was more powerful in Egypt?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  3. List here two Bible references showing God's blessings on Joseph:  
(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

# FANNY CROSBY



**BORN:** March 24; 1820 in New York. **DIED:** Feb 12, 1915 in Bridgeport, Conn. Blind from six weeks of age, she once told her mother, "Mother, if I had a choice, I would choose to remain blind...for when I die; the first face I will see will be the face of my blessed Savior."

Fanny Crosby, without question, is the greatest writer of hymns that the church has ever seen. Look through your church hymnal and notice how often you see the name of Fanny Crosby. In fact, it is known that many hymn publishers put her songs in print under a total of 200 other "pen names". This was done so the public wouldn't know she wrote so many, and perhaps get tired of the name. Historians say she often wrote as many as seven hymns in one day. She had over 8,000 poems set to music.

Often, a musician or song leader would come to her house, play a melody on the piano, without words, then ask her, "Fanny, what does that tune say to you?" In a moments time, she would reply, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!" One of her greatest songs ever written was this one, then God would give her the full line of verses to complete that thought.

When only six weeks old, she caught a simple cold in her eyes. The family doctor was out of town, so they called in another country doctor. What he prescribed actually destroyed Fanny's sight completely and forever. Later, they found out the doctor was not even a qualified doctor. Fanny never remained bitter, believing God allowed it to fulfill His purpose for her in life.

At the young age of eight, she recorded her first poem:

**Oh what a happy soul am I! Although I cannot see, I am resolved that in this world, contented I will be. How many blessings I enjoy, that other people don't. To weep and sigh because I'm blind, I cannot and I won't!**

Her father died by Fanny's first birthday. Her mother was busy at work, so her grandmother was the one who spent most of the time with Fanny. She spent hours describing nature to Fanny, and talked very often of the things of Heaven. She read the Bible more than any other book to Fanny. She helped Fanny to memorize many full books of the Bible and most of the New Testament. Of course, God would use all of His Word in Fanny's heart to inspire her for thousands of songs.

She attended and then taught at The Institution For The Blind in New York City for 23 years. In her lifetime, she knew all the presidents except George Washington, and was close to several. At 90 years of age she said, "My love for the Holy Bible and its Sacred truth is stronger and more precious to me at ninety than at nineteen. On her grave it says, *"she hath done what she could!"*