



Grades 4-5 • Lesson 47

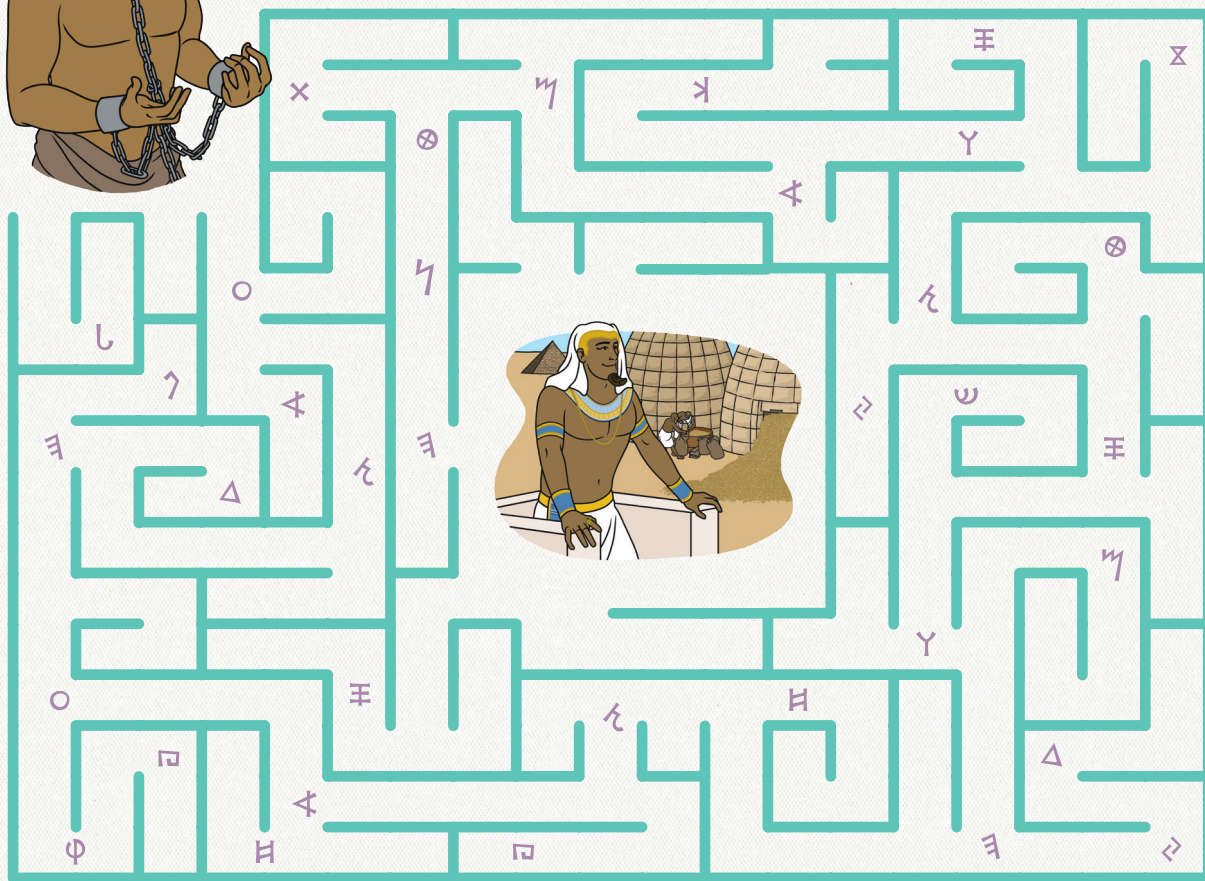
Joseph Rises to Power

Genesis 41:1-8, 41:15-16, 41:39-43, 41:48-49

God directed Joseph's path so that he would be taken from prison to Pharaoh's palace at just the right time. Decode the hieroglyphics along Joseph's path to discover why God brought Joseph to Egypt. Write your answer in the blanks below the maze.



⌘ □ 1 Δ 3 Y I H ⊗ 2 X L 7 7 7 0 7 2 Φ 9 W X 7 2 X
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



0 2 7 0 4 2 7 Y 7 2 Y 4 7 ⊗ 7 7

ANSWER: Prepare for famine

Name

Memory Verse

Write the letters of the numbers they have replaced on the clock to complete the verse.

And we 2 4 11 5 that

for those who 6 11 7 1

God all things 5 11 12 2

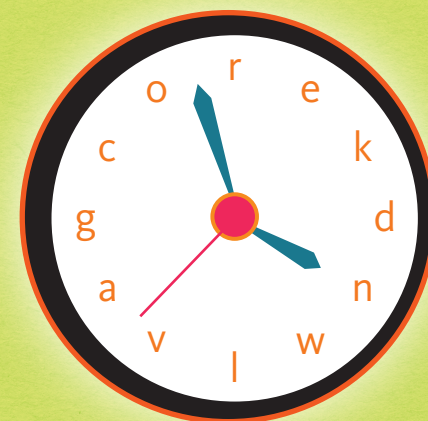
together for 9 11 11 3

for those who are

10 8 6 6 1 3

according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28



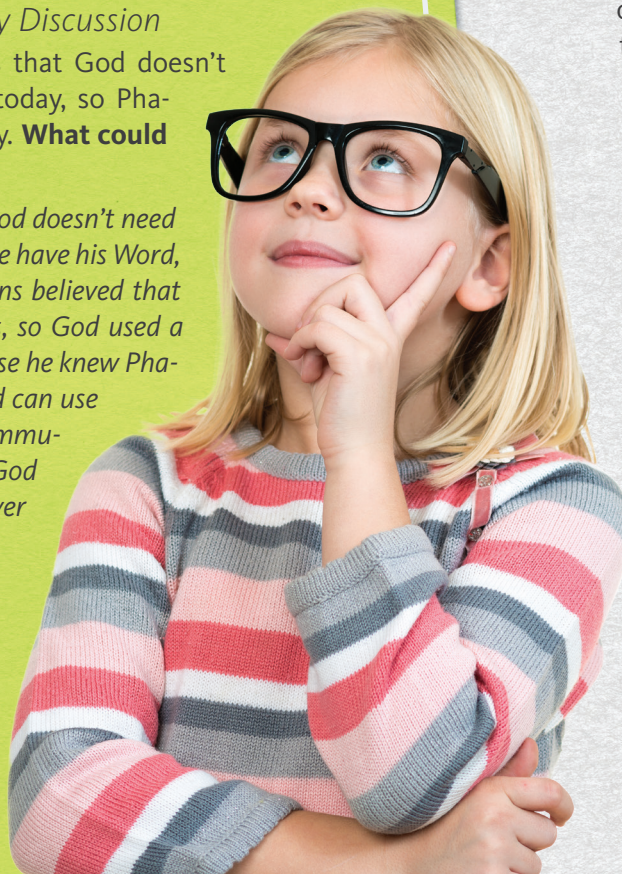
What You Heard *In the Word*

- God gave Pharaoh dreams about the future that only Joseph could interpret.
- Pharaoh liked Joseph's plan to prepare for the coming famine and made him a ruler in Egypt.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose your friend says that God doesn't speak to people in dreams today, so Pharaoh's dreams are just a story. **What could you say?**

I believe the Bible is true. God doesn't need to use dreams today because we have his Word, the Bible. The ancient Egyptians believed that gods spoke to them in dreams, so God used a dream to warn Pharaoh because he knew Pharaoh would pay attention. God can use any method he wants to communicate with us because he is God and we are not. We should never doubt his Word.



HomeWord *For Parents*

In his position caring for other prisoners in the king's jail, Joseph met and interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh's cupbearer and baker (Genesis 40). He correctly described what these servants' dreams meant, but nearly two years passed before the cupbearer remembered him and recommended him to Pharaoh as an interpreter of dreams. After giving God the credit (Genesis 41:16), Joseph explained Pharaoh's dreams, declaring that seven years of plenty would be followed by seven years of famine in the land. Impressed by Joseph's interpretation and advice, Pharaoh appointed him over all the land of Egypt (Genesis 41:41). Pharaoh gave Joseph authority with his signet ring and honored him with gifts and a wife.

More details on Joseph's position are given in Genesis 45:8, in which Joseph identifies himself as "a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt." These three titles provide insight into Joseph's roles as a leader. First, "lord of Pharaoh's house" was a title for chief steward of the king. The chief steward oversaw the king's agricultural holdings, including the royal granaries. God prepared Joseph for this role when he made Joseph the overseer of Potiphar's household. Second, the title of "father to Pharaoh" was used by Egyptians for officials who provided long-term service or who performed a special favor for the king. By interpreting Pharaoh's dream and recommending a plan for the famine, Joseph performed a special favor for the king. The third title of "ruler over all the land of Egypt" could refer to the position of vizier, or prime minister. The vizier was a record-keeper, supervisor, agricultural overseer, and foreign ambassador. The positions of vizier and chief steward were important government positions, but the names of men who held these positions during this time period have not been discovered. By the time of the Middle Kingdom, there were men who held both positions, so Joseph may have been one of the first to do this.