

# Youth SERIES

## Origins: The Story of Joseph

How the decisions you make today affect the person you'll be in the future.

[Online @ pursueGOD.org/origins](https://pursueGOD.org/origins)

- ❑ **Lesson #1**  
Learning to deal with adversity
- ❑ **Lesson #2**  
Learning to deal with temptation
- ❑ **Lesson #3**  
Learning to deal with waiting
- ❑ **Lesson #4**  
Learning to deal with injustice

Group Notes



1

**Step 1: Watch the lesson video and fill in the blanks.**

Before God could use Joseph, he first had to break him from the security he had in his father's home.

Joseph was an average kid from a dysfunctional family. (Genesis 37:2)

Joseph had strange dreams about his future. (Genesis 37:5-8)

God allowed Joseph's easy life to come to an end. (Genesis 37:15-28)

Adversity is an opportunity for you to depend on God. (Deuteronomy 31:8)

2

**Step 2: Talk about it with your group or mentor.**

1. How familiar were you with the story of Joseph before this lesson?
2. Describe your relationship with your siblings. Can you relate to some of the feelings in Joseph's family? Explain.
3. If you were Joseph, how would being sold into slavery affect your feelings toward God? Explain.
4. Describe a time when you had to overcome a big obstacle in your life (it can be any type of obstacle). What did this experience teach you about adversity?
5. Why do you think God allows adversity into our lives?
6. Read [Deuteronomy 31:8](#). What does this verse teach us about how God helps us in the midst of adversity?
7. How will learning to depend on God in all circumstances help you in the future?

Get more tips on small groups and mentoring @ [pursueGOD.org/youth](http://pursueGOD.org/youth).

3

**Step 3: Apply it to life.**

- Read [Deuteronomy 31:8](#) and write your questions, comments, or insights.
- Write a personal action step for today.
- Preview the links and downloads for the next lesson or topic.



1

**Step 1: Watch the lesson video and fill in the blanks.**

*In Potiphar's house, Joseph faced his next lesson: dealing with temptation.*

In Egypt, Joseph was put in charge of Potiphar's house. (Genesis 39:1-4)

By doing the right thing, Joseph lost everything. (Genesis 39:6-20)

Honoring God doesn't lead to an easy life.

Joseph wasn't a perfect person, but he believed in a perfect God. (Genesis 39:9)

2

**Step 2: Talk about it with your group or mentor.**

1. Have you ever gotten into trouble for doing the right thing? Explain.
2. How would you describe Joseph's character in Genesis 39?
3. Read [Genesis 39:9](#). Why is Joseph unwilling to give into the temptation of Potiphar's wife?
4. What does Joseph's response to Potiphar's wife teach us about handling temptation?
5. Read [1 Corinthians 10:13](#). What are the promises to Christians in 1 Corinthians 10:13? How did this verse come true for Joseph?
6. List some ways that you can overcome temptation in your own life.

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3

**Step 3: Apply it to life.**

- Read [1 Corinthians 10:13](#) and write your questions, comments, or insights.
- Write a personal action step for today.
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1

**Step 1: Watch the lesson video and fill in the blanks.**

*Before Joseph could experience God's great plans for his life, he first had to go through a time of waiting.*

Joseph refused to get bitter over his circumstances. (Genesis 39:20-23)

God gave Joseph the ability to interpret dreams. (Genesis 40:1-4)

God kept Joseph in prison for two more years. (Genesis 40:23)

God makes us wait to learn to trust in his timing. (Romans 8:28)

At the right time, God freed Joseph.

2

**Step 2: Talk about it with your group or mentor.**

1. What's the longest you have had to wait in line or at a doctor's office?
2. If you were Joseph, stuck in prison for a crime you didn't commit, how would you feel? What would have been your attitude toward God in prison?
3. Read [Genesis 39:20-23](#). What was Joseph's attitude in prison?
4. What does it mean to become bitter? Have you ever been bitter at someone or about some situation? Explain.
5. What do you think would happen if God gave us everything we wanted the moment we wanted it?
6. Read [Romans 8:28](#). How can this verse help you to deal with difficult times? Have you put your faith in Christ so that Romans 8:28 is true for you?

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3

**Step 3: Apply it to life.**

- Read [Romans 8:28](#) and write your questions, comments, or insights.
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1

**Step 1: Watch the lesson video and fill in the blanks.**

*For Joseph's final test, he was reunited with his brothers. He had to decide how he was going to handle meeting them after all these years.*

In Egypt, God fulfilled Joseph's childhood dreams. (Genesis 43:26-28)

Joseph extended forgiveness instead of revenge. (Genesis 45:1-3)

Joseph understood God's plan. (Genesis 50:18-21)

To forgive others, you must acknowledge the evil done to you.

Offer others forgiveness because God forgave you. (Ephesians 4:32)

2

**Step 2: Talk about it with your group or mentor.**

1. Have you ever had a difficult time forgiving someone? Explain.
2. Read [Genesis 50:18-21](#). Why didn't Joseph take revenge on his brothers for what they did to him? What would you have done if you had been in Joseph's place?
3. What are some of the consequences for taking revenge against someone, instead of forgiving them?
4. Read [Ephesians 4:32](#). How does understanding God's forgiveness to us help us forgive others?
5. Write down the name of a friend, family member, or other person in your life that you need to forgive. If you are willing, share this with your group.

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3

**Step 3: Apply it to life.**

- Read [Ephesians 4:32](#) and write your questions, comments, or insights.
- Write a personal action step for today.
- Preview the links and downloads for the next lesson or topic.

