

WEEK 6

God's Providence Over Nations

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

MEMORY VERSE:

Each week, cut apart the memory verses provided and tape them to bathroom mirrors, on the fridge, in the car, etc. If your child cannot read, instruct them to remind you to read it to them whenever they see the verse throughout the day. If your child is too young to memorize, have them keep you accountable to memorize the verse instead.

**“THE LORD HAS ESTABLISHED HIS THRONE IN HEAVEN, AND
HIS KINGDOM RULES OVER ALL.”**

PSALM 103:19

Each week your family memorizes the verse, we will have a prize for you back in LVKids! (one per family) This will be based on the honor system and at your discretion. Parents can pick up the prize from a box at the kids' gate when picking up the next week's family devotional guide.

PARENTS SHARE:

Share with your kids what you learned in church this Sunday, as well as anything you would like to add from your growth group.

SAY:

Do you remember what was happening in our story? Joseph was out of prison and in front of Pharaoh. “I have heard you can hear a dream and tell what it means,” Pharaoh said. “I can not tell you. It is God who will give you an answer,” Joseph told him. Let's see what happens next...
Pharaoh told Joseph about his dreams. “I dreamed I was standing by the Nile river when there came seven healthy and fat cows. Then behind them came seven ugly, skinny cows- and those cows ate up the nice fat ones! Even after eating them, they still looked ugly and skinny. And then I woke up.
In my other dream I saw seven heads of grain, full and good, growing on a single stalk. After them, seven other heads came up. These ones were withered and thin, and scorched by wind. The thin heads swallowed up the seven good ones! And then I woke up. I told this to the wise and important people I thought could help me, but nobody could explain it to me.”

(continued on back)

Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "Your two dreams both mean the same thing. God is showing you what He is about to do. The seven healthy and fat cows, and the seven full and good heads of grain, are both the same- they are a picture of seven good years. Then the seven skinny cows and seven withered heads of grain are seven more years, but those are years of famine. (Famine is a time in the land where there is no food to eat, nothing grows, and everyone is hungry.) It will happen soon just as I am saying because God is telling you what is about to happen.

There will be seven good years in the land, with lots of good food growing. But after them will come seven years of famine where nothing at all will grow. It will be so bad that even the years when there was plenty will be forgotten. The reason you had two different dreams to tell you the same thing is because God has made up His mind that this is going to happen, and it is going to happen soon."

"So now you should find a wise man to put in charge of the land of Egypt," Joseph said. Put people in charge to set aside a part of the food each year for the seven years when plenty of food will grow. They should store up the grain in the cities, and you should be in charge of it. This food should be set aside to have during the seven years when no new food will grow in Egypt, so that people will have something to eat."

This seemed like a good plan to Pharaoh and to his important helpers. So Pharaoh asked them, "Is there a man like this I can put in charge? Someone who has the Spirit of God?"

Older kids: Read Genesis 41: 17-38

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

HOW DO WE SEE THAT GOD IS STILL THERE WITH JOSEPH?

HOW CAN THIS STORY HELP US SEE THAT GOD IS ALWAYS IN CHARGE, EVEN IN THE HARD TIMES?

Joseph was in prison and forgotten, but now he is out and standing before Pharaoh. God is using him to tell Pharaoh how the land of Egypt can be ready for the hard times ahead. Even though the land is going to go through a terrible famine for seven years, God is giving them seven years with plenty so that they can get ready for the hard years. We see God's care and compassion for the nation of Egypt, and later we will see that even the nations around them were taken care of because of this. God is using the nation of Egypt to accomplish His perfect plan.

PRAY TOGETHER:

Pray, asking God to help your family trust Him when hard things happen.



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ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL
BY SCANNING HERE!**