

The Israelites Journey to Egypt

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 8*.

❖ Divine Providence means that God can bring good results from the bad choices we make. It is proof that God is always loving and caring for us, even when we make mistakes.

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❖ Joseph was the eleventh son of Israel and his favored son. Israel's other sons were so jealous of Joseph that they couldn't even greet their brother. When they heard about Joseph's dreams, they decided to kill him. Reuben convinced them to sell him into slavery instead.

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❖ Joseph's brothers were guilty of the sin of envy. This sin is a feeling of anger, sadness, or resentment because someone has something that we want. Envy caused damage to their relationships with God.

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❖ Joseph was sold again as a slave to Potiphar. Potiphar put Joseph in charge of all his possessions. Potiphar's wife fell in love with Joseph, but Joseph would not betray Potiphar or break God's law. She took revenge on him by having him thrown in prison.

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❖ In prison, Joseph interpreted dreams. He even interpreted Pharaoh's dreams. Pharaoh's dreams prophesied seven years of good crops, then seven years of famine. The prophesy allowed Egypt to store food for the coming famine. As a reward, Pharaoh made Joseph governor of Egypt.

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❖ Joseph's brothers, except for Benjamin, came to Joseph to buy food, but they did not recognize him. Joseph kept Simeon as a prisoner until they returned with Benjamin. When Joseph's brothers returned, Joseph accused Benjamin of theft. The brothers said that their father would die if Benjamin did not return home with them. Joseph was moved, and he revealed who he was.

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❖ Joseph's brothers returned home and told Israel that Joseph was still alive. The whole family then went to Egypt to be with Joseph.

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❖ After Israel died, Joseph's brothers were afraid that Joseph would harm them for what they had done. Joseph said, "Do not be afraid. God planned that it would bring good." He realized that God had sent him to Egypt so that he could save his family during the famine.

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❖ The Fourth Commandment calls us to honor and respect our parents. The family is the central institution of our society and one way that God works in our lives.

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