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Study No. 4
Jacob and His Family - In Canaan

Read *Genesis 37: 1-36*

Suggested Further Reading
 Psalm 56 Matthew 5: 43-48 Ephesians 4: 22-32

Key Verses *Ephesians 4: 31 & 32*

Jacob already had ten sons and one daughter, when Joseph was born. Joseph was the elder son of Rachel. There was jealousy and other problems within the family. Joseph suffered the grief of his mother's death at the birth of his brother, Benjamin. All these experiences could have made Joseph bitter, but he had a faith in God to carry him through. We do not know when Joseph began to have faith in God.

The Bible Reading introduces us to Joseph. **How old was Joseph here?** 1

Look at verse 2 and write **IN YOUR OWN WORDS** what Joseph did that probably upset his brothers.

1

There was a special bond of love between Jacob and Joseph because of Jacob's love for Rachel. Jacob showed his love for Joseph in a way that seems unwise and caused the envy of his brothers to grow into bitterness and jealousy.

What did Jacob give Joseph and why?

2

The ten brothers wore coarse clothing reaching only to the knee, as working men did who worked out of doors in a rough existence. Joseph's new coat was the sort of garment only worn by noblemen who did not have to work, and was normally worn by wealthy men. Jacob was putting Joseph above his brothers. The hatred of the brothers was greatly intensified by the dreams Joseph had.

What were these dreams? You can either write them in words or draw them as pictures.

4

What did the brothers say about Joseph's first dream?

1

What did Jacob say about the second dream?

1

Answer the following clues, then fit your answers into the grid provided. There is only one possible solution. (Hint:- Start with the longest and shortest answers.) The numbers in brackets at the end of each question indicate the number of letters in each word.

To what place was Joseph sent by his father to see if his brothers were well? (7)

Where did Joseph find his brothers? (6)

Which of Joseph's brothers did not want to kill him? (6)

Which of Joseph's brothers suggested selling him to the Ishmaelites? (5)

Where had the Ishmaelites come from? (6)

Where were they going to? (5)

They bought Joseph for twenty pieces (shekels) of this. (6)

Joseph's brothers killed this animal so they could dip his coat in its blood. (4)

The seed of envy in the hearts of Joseph's brothers grew into bitterness and hatred and eventually led them into committing a great sin. The result of this uncontrolled jealousy was:

- a) Joseph became a slave.
- b) Great sorrow was brought to Jacob.
- c) The brothers had to live with their guilt for many years.

Look up the Key Verses and write them out.

Have your sins been forgiven by God through the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you realize that He died in order that your sins can be forgiven?

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