

Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

Volume 2, Issue 12

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery

Today's Words: Ephraim and Manassah

March 19, 2006

Lesson 12: "Fruitful in the Land of My Affliction"

Are You:

- Preparing Yourself Temporarily as Well as Spiritually?
- Treating Others in a Christlike Manner?
- Saying Your Prayers and Reading Your Scriptures Daily?

Next Week

Lesson 13

"Bondage, Passover, and Exodus"

Exodus 1-3

Exodus 5-6

Exodus 11-14

Questions to Ponder

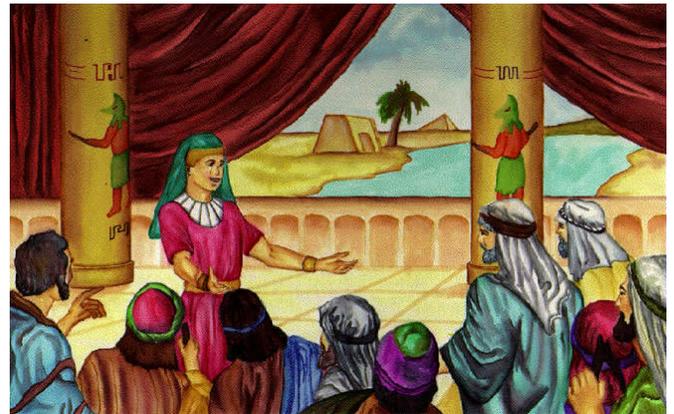
- What does the world tell us to do when someone has wronged us, as Joseph's brothers had done to him?
- How have you been blessed when you have dealt kindly with others who have mistreated you?
- What experiences have you had in which events that at first appeared negative became blessings?

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin:



Joseph, the son of Jacob, was a model of integrity. . . . He did what was right and good; he was trustworthy and incorruptible, self-disciplined never to violate a trust.

Because of his integrity and righteousness, Joseph was favored and blessed of the Lord in every circumstance. His life is evidence that "all things work together for good to [those] who love God" (Rom. 8:28) ("Personal Integrity," *Ensign*, May 1990, 30)



Joseph reveals himself to his brothers

Elder L. Tom Perry taught:

"Just as it is important to prepare ourselves spiritually, we must also prepare ourselves for our temporal needs. . . . We have been instructed for years to follow at least four requirements in preparing for that which is to come.

"First, gain an adequate education. Learn a trade or a profession to enable you to obtain steady employment that will provide remuneration sufficient to care for yourself and your family. . . .

"Second, live strictly within your income and save something for a rainy day. Incorporate in your lives the discipline of budgeting that which the Lord has blessed you with. As regularly as you pay your tithing, set aside an amount needed for future family requirements. . . .

"Third, avoid excessive debt. Necessary debt should be incurred only after careful, thoughtful prayer and after obtaining the best possible advice. We need the discipline to stay well within our ability to pay. . . .

"Fourth, acquire and store a reserve of food and supplies that will sustain life [if local laws permit such storage]. Obtain clothing and build a savings account on a sensible, well-planned basis that can serve well in times of emergency.

As long as I can remember, we have been taught to prepare for the future and to obtain a year's supply of necessities. I would guess that the years of plenty have almost universally caused us to set aside this counsel. I believe the time to disregard this counsel is over. With events in the world today, it must be considered with all seriousness" (in Conference Report, Oct. 1995, 46-47; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 36).

**"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."
—Mahatma Ghandhi**

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