

Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors

A family learning to love fairly

Ages about 7-11 | Video 6:05 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Every person deserves love; jealousy and favoritism can hurt a family, and we can choose kindness.

Learning goals Recall key events; explain the central truth; choose one safe way to respond in daily life.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Find Canaan and Egypt on a map, if available. Recall the previous part of Joseph's story, then ask: What special gift did Jacob give Joseph?

Watch and notice

Notice the choices people make and how those choices affect others. Listen for signs that God has not forgotten Joseph.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. What special gift did Jacob give Joseph?

He gave him a beautiful robe, traditionally called the coat of many colors.

2. Why did the brothers feel hurt?

They saw that Jacob favored Joseph. Their hurt was real, but hatred toward Joseph did not make things right.

3. Was Joseph wrong simply to receive the gift?

No. Joseph did not choose his father's favoritism. The brothers were responsible for how they treated him.

4. What can we do when we feel jealous?

Name the feeling, speak to a trusted adult, thank God for a gift of our own, and choose a kind action.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

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Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Use the two large picture spaces. Read the prompts aloud and accept pointing, drawing, or a spoken answer.

Read & Write Invite one story detail, one explanation, and one practical choice. Short or dictated answers are welcome.

Adapt by readiness

Younger or emerging readers: read aloud, pause often, and accept drawings or dictated answers.

Older children: use the Scripture passage to distinguish what happened from what should have happened.

One faithful choice | Optional 4 minutes

Give each child a paper strip. Draw one way to help another person feel included. Join the strips into a paper chain, explaining that everyone belongs even though gifts and jobs differ.

Look for understanding The child connects a concrete story detail to a kind, truthful, or responsible choice without excusing harm.

Closing prayer Lord, help us notice each person with love. When we feel jealous, help us choose kindness. Amen.

At home Tell someone at home one thing you remember. Practice the small action you chose with an adult's help.

Handout answer notes Recall: accept accurate details from the story. Explain: Every person deserves love; jealousy and favoritism can hurt a family, and we can choose kindness. Apply: accept a specific safe action appropriate to the child.

Teach with care

Preview the story and the parent/teacher notes below. Explain unfamiliar words before watching; pause for questions. The story mentions Rachel's death and family conflict. Do not ask children to identify a favorite child in their own family. Explain that feelings are different from harmful actions. The exact appearance of the biblical robe is uncertain; many colors is the traditional portrayal.

Words to explain Favoritism: treating one person as more important than others. Jealousy: hurt or resentment about another person's gifts. Kindness: choosing care for someone.

Sources for the leader

Scripture: [Genesis 37:1-4 - USCCB](#)