

UNIT 2

TRUST WHEN BETRAYED

DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Surrounded by God's Protection

KEY VERSES

"Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh." And his brothers listened. Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

-Genesis 37:27-28 (NKJV)

LAUNCH • UNIT 2

PRAYER OF PROMISE

Prepare your heart for the Word by trusting God to surround you with His protection.

Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me,
For my soul takes refuge in You;
And in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge
Until destruction passes by.

–Psalm 57:1

OVERVIEW

In Unit 2, we will learn through the life of Joseph that God will protect even when believers are betrayed or disregarded.

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

Literary Style: Narrative

- **GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION**

Joseph with the Merchants

- **PARALLELS BETWEEN JOSEPH AND JESUS**

Loved by His Father: Genesis 37:3; Matthew 3:17

- **IN GOD WE TRUST**

God's Protection: Gladys May Aylward

- **PROMISE OF GOD**

God Is Our Protector: 2 Thessalonians 3:3

- **TEACHING OF JESUS**

Forgive When Hated: Luke 6:27-37

- **PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS**

Matthew 5:44



**NAVIGATE
MEMORY PASSAGE**
Genesis 37:26-28



**EXPLORE
MEMORY PASSAGE**
Luke 6:27-31



KEY VERSES
Genesis 37:27-28

STUDY PASSAGE
Genesis 37

**JOURNEY THROUGH
GENESIS PASSAGE**
Genesis 1-9



Keywords



Definitions



Themes



Toledo's



NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Genesis 37:26-28 | Journey Passage: Genesis 1-2

Begin your study with the *Prayer of Promise* located on the *Launch* page. We will prepare our hearts to receive the Word of God by praying promises of God that believers find in His Word. Also, do not forget to read the Journey through Genesis passages daily as you make your way through the book of Genesis during this *Trust* study. You will see God's hand in history as He reveals His plan for redeeming the world. We trust in His redemptive plan.

In Units 2-7, you will read and observe the study passage (Lessons 1 and 2), interpret Scripture (Lesson 3), apply the study passage to your personal life (Lesson 4), and review what you have learned in that unit (Lesson 5). The Bible study tools used in **Read & Observe**, **Interpret**, and **Apply** can be found on pages vii-viii. All lessons in this study lead us to trust God with our lives because of His character, His works, and His Word. In this unit, we learn to trust God when we suffer and are betrayed.

- Read the study passage, Genesis 37, and mark **Joseph** and all other people. We will see how God used Joseph and others to save the nation and preserve the lineage of the Promised Seed, Jesus Christ.

When observing the passage, read slowly and ask observation questions so that the text reveals the truth.

1. *What* was the purpose of Joseph's trip to Shechem?

2. *Why* did Joseph's brothers hate him?

3. *How* was Joseph received by his brothers?

4. *Who* are the traveling merchants?

5. *Where* are they going and why?

God uses people to accomplish His plan. In Unit 1, we marked the people God used in Genesis 37. To better understand God's plan as it unfolds, it is important to observe how people are related to one another.

6. Read Genesis 35:22-26 for some background information, and fill in the chart by writing the name of each of the sons of Jacob next to his mother's name.

Mothers	Sons
Leah	a.
Rachel	b.
Bilhah (Rachel's servant)	c.
Zilpah (Leah's servant)	d.

WORD STUDIES

plotted/conspired

(Gen. 37:18)

Strong's #

Hebrew word:

Meaning:

NAME MEANINGS

Joseph


Reuben



EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Luke 6:27-31 | Journey Passage: Genesis 1-2

Congratulations for committing to dig deeper into the Word of God. Joseph was surrounded by God's presence because God had a purpose for Joseph even though he was betrayed by his brothers and suffered.

-  The more you read and meditate on a particular passage of Scripture, the more you will understand the Word of God and it will be engrafted into your heart and life. Read Genesis 37 again, and this time, mark the keywords **tunic/robe/coat, dream** and **kept/observed**.

Joseph's coat was not a regular shepherd's tunic. John MacArthur gives insight into the significance of his cloak. He states, "The meaning of this phrase is uncertain—it may simply refer to a robe with long sleeves. Whatever its distinguishing features, this cloak signified Jacob's favoritism of Joseph and perhaps also some of Joseph's authority over his brothers."¹

WORD STUDIES

kept/observed (Genesis 37:11)

Strong's #

Hebrew word:

Meaning:

1. Reuben and Judah both had a role in saving Joseph's life in chapter 37. Which brother was responsible for each statement below?

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. "Let's sell him to the Ishmaelites." | <input type="radio"/> Reuben | <input type="radio"/> Judah |
| b. "Let's not kill him." | <input type="radio"/> Reuben | <input type="radio"/> Judah |
| c. "What will we profit if we kill him?" | <input type="radio"/> Reuben | <input type="radio"/> Judah |
| d. "Let's cast him into the pit." | <input type="radio"/> Reuben | <input type="radio"/> Judah |


2. List three items the traders were taking to Egypt to sell.

The narrative of Joseph describes human relationships—some bad, some good. From your observation of Genesis 37, contrast Joseph's relationship with his father to his relationship with his brothers.

3. Describe Joseph's relationship with his father.

4. Describe Joseph's relationship with his brothers.

As you journey through Genesis, we will draw attention to the historical account of the event or man named in each toledoth from Unit 1.

-  **5. Name the toledoth's event or patriarch from this unit's Journey through Genesis passages.**
This one is done for you.

Genesis 2:4 Heavens and earth



NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Genesis 37:26-28 | Journey Passage: Genesis 3-4

BACKGROUND STUDY • Literary Style: Narrative

The Bible contains different genres or forms of literature. They include law, history, wisdom, poetry, gospels, epistles or letters, and prophetic literature. Moses wrote Genesis in a narrative form, and the final section is of Joseph's life. This narrative or account of events begins with his youthful dreams and follows his rise to power in the land of Egypt. This sets up the Egyptian backdrop for the exodus narrative that begins in the next book of the law, Exodus.

Joseph's life was an adventure! It was like a roller coaster. Even though some events in his life were tragic, at other times, he was shown favor; but in all, he maintained his hope in God. God had a plan and purpose for Joseph's life, but not only for him. God was preserving the family line for the coming of Jesus, the Messiah, about 1,800 years later.

- 🔍 Joseph's life is written in a literary technique called **chiasmus** (pronounced *kī-'az-məs*), which is a literary device in which words, phrases, or concepts are repeated in reverse order to emphasize a point. This narrative contains a series of chiastic elements that build toward a climax. A second series follows in reverse order, which brings the narrative to its close. Notice in the simple chiasmus below how verses A and A' have similar themes, as do B and B' and C and C'.

1. Using the Braille Cipher (see p. 104), decode the words in the box to fill in the chiasmus.

A Joseph _____ and Jacob _____ (37:3-36).

B Joseph and _____ are favored (38:1-41:14).


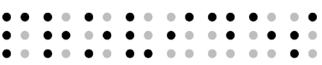


C Joseph saves _____ (41:15-46:7).

✕ The genealogy of Israel (46:8-27).

C' Joseph saves his _____ (46:28-47:31).

B' _____ and Joseph are favored (48:1-49:28).

A' Jacob _____ and Joseph _____ (49:29-50:26).

A   A'  
B  B'  C  C' 

2. Read the study passage, Genesis 37, and mark all geographic terms. Observe the setting of our study passage by reading the references below and filling in the chart. The first one is completed for you.

Verse	Location	Who or What
a. v. 1	Canaan	Jacob/Israel
b. v. 14		
c. v. 17		
d. v. 25		
e. v. 36		



EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Luke 6:27-31 | Journey Passage: Genesis 3-4

Behavior and attitude reveal a person's character. In this lesson, you will discover Joseph's behavior to be the antithesis of his brothers'. Joseph was an obedient son to his father, but that obedience did not save him from suffering (Gen.37:13). His brothers betrayed him and hatched a murder plot against him, nevertheless, God ordained the pit to be his protection. His obedience is in stark contrast to the sinful behaviors of his brothers, and God was there to protect him.

- Read Genesis 37 and mark the keywords that describe the brothers' feelings or actions toward Joseph.

1. Divide this chapter into sections using words from the word bank that describe the brothers' actions against Joseph.

- a. _____ (vv. 1-4)
- b. _____ (vv. 5-11)
- c. _____ (vv. 12-24)
- d. _____ (vv. 25-28)
- e. _____ (vv. 29-36)

Jealousy/Envy
Deception
Hate
Greed
Violence

The combination of hatred and envy led to violence and deception, which in some cases can lead to murder. This hatred and desire to murder was evident before the time of Joseph and has remained since.

2. Read the verses below and record what you learned about hatred.

Questions	Genesis 4:1-16	John 11:43-57; 19:13-16
a. Who hated whom?		
b. Why did he/they hate?		
c. What did he/they do?		

Count the number of times the words "brother" or "brothers" are used in chapter 37. We think of brothers as friends, yet it was the *brothers* who displayed animosity toward Joseph. Besides hatred, they had other sinful behaviors toward their brother.

Match the references with the words that describe the brothers' attitude toward Joseph.

- ___ 3. Genesis 37:19 a. Heedless
- ___ 4. Genesis 37:25a b. Heartless
- ___ 5. Genesis 42:21b c. Sarcastic

- A **theme** is a subject or topic of discourse. The study passage will reveal the theme through keywords, key verses, and memory passages.

- 6. Read the sample theme and then write one of your own.** Sample: *Trust God to surround you with His protection even when you are mistreated and in danger.*



NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Genesis 37:27-28 | Journey Passage: Genesis 5-7

God's Plan of Redemption: Joseph with the Merchants

God's plan of redemption begins with Adam and Eve and continues with Abraham. God's hand is also evident in Joseph's life, including in his journey to Egypt with the merchants.

1. Read the cross-references below and record what you learn about the providential hand of God on Joseph.

- a. Psalm 105:17
- b. Acts 7:9

Per God's plan, the lineage of Christ did not come through Joseph, but through one of his brothers.

2. Read the genealogy of Christ in Matthew 1, and write the name of the son of Jacob who was in the line of the Promised Seed.

In this study, we will see how God used people in Joseph's life to bring about the salvation of Israel. Read chapter 37 to see how God used merchants to transport Joseph to Egypt, to protect his life, and ultimately to save the nation of Israel, from which would come the Promised Seed.

3. According to Genesis 16:15 and Genesis 25:1-2, from whom did the Ishmaelites and the Midianites descend?

God used these merchants to get Joseph to Egypt in spite of his brothers' betrayal. Genesis 37:32-35 reveals their conspiracy to lie about Joseph's death and conceal the lie for decades.

4. Read Psalm 32:3-4 and record how King David felt when he concealed his sin.

5. Now read Psalm 32:1-2 and record your thoughts about King David's response to his being forgiven.

Ask God to search your heart to reveal any deception there. God's forgiveness brings freedom.

Parallels between Joseph and Jesus: Loved by His Father

In each study, we will see how Joseph's life compares to the Messiah's. God fulfills His covenant to Abraham through Joseph's, which often mirrors the life of Christ.

Joseph	Jesus
6. Circle the word "loved" in Genesis 37:3 to see that Joseph was loved by his father.	7. Circle the verse below that shows Jesus was loved by His father.
	1 John 4:19 Jeremiah 31:3 Matthew 3:17

8. Write down any other parallels you see between Joseph and Jesus in Genesis 37.



EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Luke 6:27-31 | Journey Passage: Genesis 5-7

God used dreams at various times to speak to His people. In Genesis 37, Joseph's two dreams both spoke to a time in his future when he would rule over his brothers.

1. Compare the reactions to Joseph's dreams by his brothers and his father.

- a. Brothers' reactions:
- b. Jacob's reaction:

2. Look in *Easton's Bible Dictionary* (see p. viii) under the word "dream" and list the men God communicated with through dreams and visions.

Events in Genesis 37 were reminiscent of previous incidents in Genesis. **Read the cross-references below and match the references to the sin by writing the correct letter(s) on the line. Then find that similar offense in chapter 37 and record the reference.**

- a. Genesis 4:5-8 b. Genesis 25:28 c. Genesis 27:12-24 d. Genesis 29:30

Event	Genesis 37
___ 3. Favoritism displayed	
___ 4. A brother desires to kill a brother	
___ 5. A goat used for deception	

We often judge others who commit murder or other grievous sins, but a word of caution comes to us in Scripture.

6. Read Matthew 5:21-22 and record your thoughts.

7. Read Colossians 1:20 and write down how sinful man is reconciled to God.

8. Name the toledoth's forefathers from this unit's Journey through Genesis passages.

- a. Genesis 5:1
- b. Genesis 6:9



NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 4

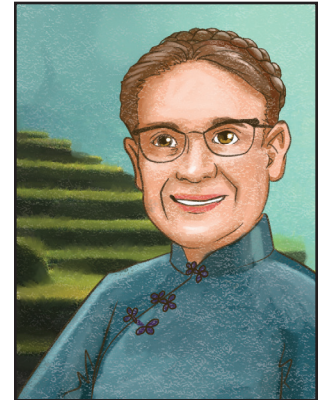
Apply | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Genesis 37:26–28 | Journey Passage: Genesis 8–9

Accounts of missionaries encourage our hearts to trust God. Examples of their faith and confidence in God can inspire us to “press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:14).

IN GOD WE TRUST • God’s Protection: Gladys May Aylward

February 24, 1902 (London, England)–January 3, 1970 (Taiwan)

Born into poverty, Gladys Aylward dropped out of school at the age of fourteen because studies were too difficult for her. She went to work as a maid for a wealthy family and had the opportunity to read about China in books from her employer’s library. At the age of eighteen, Aylward became a believer and longed to go to China as a missionary. She was rejected as a missionary candidate for Christ because she had no experience in missions and the Chinese language would be difficult to learn at her age. Aylward worked to save her own money and was invited by an elderly missionary, Jeannie Lawson, to go to China. Because she did not have enough money for the ship fare, Aylward traveled to China on a train in the middle of winter during wartime. When she arrived, she had to walk alone and carry her baggage in the snow. Known as “the Little Woman” because she was only 4 feet 10 inches tall, Aylward needed God’s help and was surrounded by His protection. She was protected by God



- when helping bring peace to rioting prisoners,
- during China’s war with Japan when a reward was offered for her capture, and
- while walking twelve days with one hundred orphans in a war-torn country.

Promise of God: God Is Our Protector, 2 Thessalonians 3:3

The Word of God is a powerful tool that reminds you that God is faithful to protect you in times of betrayal or when in danger. The God of Gladys Aylward is “the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Heb. 13:8 NKJV).

1. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:3, and write out this promise of our God who surrounds us with His protection.

2. Recite the key verses, Genesis 37:27–28, and record a time when you needed God’s protection.





EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Luke 6:27-31 | Journey Passage: Genesis 8-9

The theme of this study is trust because God and His Word are trustworthy. A subtheme is forgiving others through God's power. What does Jesus have to say about forgiveness when you are hated as Joseph was hated by his brothers? Jesus taught what the attitude of our heart should be toward those who hate us.

Teaching of Jesus: Forgive When Hated, Luke 6:27-37

Read Luke 6:27-37. Even though Jesus uses many imperative verb forms in these verses, His focus is on the attitude of our hearts rather than on making these commands a list of dos and don'ts.

1. How do people exhibit hatred toward others?
2. How should we treat our enemies? (hint: the imperative verbs)
3. Which verse reminds you of the Golden Rule?
4. Which verse admonishes us to be like the Father?

Circle two of the imperative verbs that are more difficult for you. We need God's help.

KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Take time to reflect on God's Word and personalize it. Look for Bible verses that will encourage you to forgive as Christ forgave you.

5. After reflection, complete the Personal Action Plan below.

When was I hated or mistreated?	
How did I respond?	How should I respond?

Prayer of Forgiveness: Matthew 5:44

Remind yourself of the commands that you circled in Luke 6:27-37. Ask God to help you bless your enemies and forgive them just as Christ commanded us in Matthew 5:44.

6. Write out your own prayer of forgiveness.



NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Genesis 37:26-28 | Journey Passage: Genesis 1-9

Complete the following word jumbles, word studies, name meanings, and definitions as a review for this unit. Solve each word jumble below using the corresponding clue. Then unscramble the circled letters in those answers to solve question 10.

1. Bought Joseph from brothers

ILHTSASIEEM → _____ ○ _____

2. Literary technique used in narrative of Joseph

SSHUACMI → ○ _____

3. Attribute of God shown in 2 Thessalonians 3:3

TOCTREPOR → _____ ○ _____

4. Where Joseph found his brothers

ADHONT → _____ ○ _____

5. Last name of missionary to China

YARLWDA → _____ ○ _____

6. Where a man gave Joseph directions

MSECHHE → _____ ○ _____

7. One of Leah's sons

ASRICSAH → _____ ○ _____

8. What Joseph's and Jesus' fathers gave them

ELVO → _____ ○ _____

9. Has a plan for redemption

ODG → _____ ○ _____

10. Favorite son's clothing

WORD STUDIES

plotted/conspired

(Genesis 37:18)

Strong's #

Hebrew word:

Meaning:

NAME MEANINGS

Jacob

Israel

DEFINITIONS

chiasmus



EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: Genesis 37 | Memory Passage: Luke 6:27-31 | Journey Passage: Genesis 1-9

Complete the following information, word studies, and definitions.

1. Background Study: Summarize the information.

2. God's Plan of Redemption

- a. Summarize what you learned in Psalm 105:17.
- b. Summarize what you learned in Acts 7:9.
- c. How did God use the merchants in Joseph's life to save the nation of Israel?

3. Parallels between Joseph and Jesus

- a. What is similar between Joseph and Jesus?
- b. Write the references.

4. In God We Trust

- a. Name of missionary
- b. Country of missionary service

5. Promise of God

- a. Characteristic of God
- b. Reference

6. Teaching of Jesus

- a. What is the lesson on forgiveness?
- b. Reference

7. List the men in the Bible to whom God spoke through dreams and visions.

8. Which son of Jacob is in the genealogy of Jesus Christ?

9. List the sinful behaviors the brothers had toward Joseph.

WORD STUDIES

kept/observed (Genesis 37:11)

Strong's #

Hebrew word:

Meaning:

DEFINITIONS

theme