

# OVERCOMER

The Life of Joseph

## God Wants Me To Forgive

**Level of Biblical Learning:**

People can learn to love others as God loves them.

Genesis 45:1-15

### Parent Helps:

- Remind your kids about Joseph's journey thus far.
- Read Genesis 45:1-15. Explain that Joseph chose to forgive his brothers.
- Explain that forgiveness is "choosing not to punish someone who has hurt you or done wrong things to you."
- Acknowledge that forgiveness can be a hard thing to give, but God can help kids do hard things!
- Mention that we can forgive others because God has forgiven us. God sent His Son, Jesus, to provide forgiveness for our sins.

### Discussion Questions:

#### Younger Kids:

1. Do you think it was easy for Joseph to forgive his brothers for what they had done?
2. What would you have done if this had happened to you?
3. Why do you think God wants you to forgive others?

#### Older Kids:

1. Do you think it is easier to forgive or be forgiven?
2. Why do you think Joseph chose to forgive his brothers instead of take revenge?
3. Is there someone you need to forgive? Is there someone you need to ask to forgive you?

### Apply:

- Jesus taught that believers should forgive others as God forgives them. (Ephesians 4:32)
- All people sin and need God's forgiveness. (1 John 1:9)
- Forgiveness is a choice. (1 Peter 3:8-12)

### Activity:

Gather a cup and 5 coins. Set the cup on the floor. Challenge your child to hold a coin under his chin and try to drop it into the cup. It is more difficult than it seems! Keep trying until he drops all of the coins into the cup. Talk about how he sometimes missed the cup completely. Explain that the word sin means "to miss the mark." Our aim is to always obey God, but sometimes we mess up; We miss the target. God will forgive those who trust in Jesus and ask for forgiveness. Because God forgives us, we should be quick to forgive others.

### Pray Together:

- Thank God for providing a way for us to be forgiven of our sins.
- Seek God's forgiveness for sins you have committed.
- Ask God to help you forgive other people.