

WEEK 10

The New Governor

Big Idea: God is with me. He gives me everything I need.

Memory Verse
***"And my God shall supply all your need"* (Philippians 4:19).**

Word of the Week
"Supply" - Supply means to provide, or to give what is needed. When someone gives you lunch, they supply food. God gives us what we need because He loves us. God supplies us with many things, like rain, sunshine, fresh air, and the food we need to live.

This week's lesson
is based on **Genesis 41:53-42:38**; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 218, 219; and *The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, pp. 138-144.

Sunday

A New Job

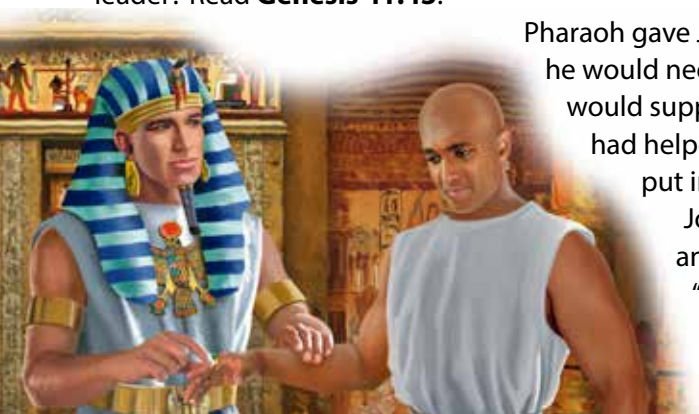
His frown was gone. His worries were gone too. Pharaoh stood tall and smiled at his new governor, Joseph. Joseph's God had told him the meaning of his strange dreams. And now this wise man and his wise God would help save his kingdom.

"Look! I have put you in charge of all the land of Egypt" the king said to Joseph (Genesis 41:41, ICB).

Pharaoh took off his royal ring and slid it onto Joseph's finger. This ring was like Pharaoh's signature. With this ring, Joseph could do anything the king would do!

With a clap of his hands, Pharaoh called for his servants. Quickly they ran to get everything he asked for. Then they dressed Joseph in fancy robes and put a shiny golden chain around his neck.

Joseph didn't look like a slave or a prisoner anymore. He had been given the power of a king, and now he looked like one too. What else did the king do so that all the people would know Joseph was an important leader? Read **Genesis 41:43**.



Pharaoh gave Joseph all the things he would need to be a leader. God would supply all the wisdom he would need to be a good leader. God had helped him when he'd been thrown in a pit, sold as a slave, and put in prison. He would help him now too.

Joseph looked at his chariots and horses, his army of helpers, and his smiling king. He knew the truth of our memory verse: "And my God shall supply all your need" (Philippians 4:19).

I Wonder

» Do you think Joseph would be a good leader? Why/why not?

Prayer Idea
Thank God for two things that He gives you each day.

Do
Pretend to be Governor Joseph and dress up. What things might you need to be a good leader? Find/make them. Thank God that He supplies all we really need.



Monday

More Than Enough

His list was long—he had a lot to do! He must prepare Egypt for a time when they couldn't grow any food.

With a quick bow to the king, Joseph left the palace right away. Then he "traveled through all the land of Egypt" (Genesis 41:46, ICB). He counted the fields of wheat and barley. He chose good leaders and strong helpers. Then he had bricks made and giant storehouses built in all the cities. What was Joseph doing? Read **Genesis 41:48**.

God had told Joseph that there would be seven good years with plenty of food. During this time, he would need to store lots and lots of food away. Then there would be enough food in the storehouses to feed everyone during the next seven bad years.

Like busy little ants, Joseph's helpers did whatever he asked. The builders built, the farmers planted and harvested, and the helpers carried the extra grain straight to the storehouses in each city.

One, two, three, four years passed. The storehouses were now half full. Then five, six, seven years went by. Joseph smiled as he saw the storehouses filled to the very top. God had supplied so much more than they needed! Joseph stored away as much grain "as the sand of the seashore. He stored so much grain that he could not measure it" (Genesis 41:49, ICB).

Joseph's heart filled with thanks to God. The Egyptians were now ready for the seven years of no rain or food that were about to come.

I Wonder

» What might the people of Egypt think of Joseph's God now?

Prayer Idea

Ask God to help you look after—and never waste—the good things He gives you.

Do

Go for a nature walk. Look for ways that God provides for plants and animals each day. If indoors look through some nature books for clues.

Mission Challenge

Give your Sabbath School craft to a friend and tell them what you learned in Sabbath School last week.

Memory Verse

Tuesday

Seven Years of Hunger

With a windy whoosh, the dust blew across Egypt's dry fields. Not a single green leaf could be seen. Not a tiny flower or fruit grew anywhere. The cows and sheep grew thin. The time of no rain and no food had begun—just as God had said it would!

Soon everyone was hungry! Their tummies grumbled. This was terrible! They came to Pharaoh and begged him for food. "Go to Joseph," he told them (Genesis 41:55, ICB).

As people lined up, Joseph swung open the doors to the storehouses. He began selling bags of grain to the hungry families. There was more than enough! God had supplied for all their need (Philippians 4:19).

In far-off Canaan people were hungry too. Joseph's family was very hungry! His brothers all still lived with Father Jacob, looking after their sheep. Their flocks were thin, and grass was hard to find, just as it was in Egypt. Everyone in the family was worried. They were so hungry they thought they might soon die.

But one day Jacob heard some exciting news. What did he tell his sons? Read **Genesis 42:1, 2**.

Maybe they would eat again! Packing some empty sacks for grain, the 10 brothers saddled their donkeys and waved goodbye to Father Jacob, Benjamin, and their families. Then they began the long, dusty ride to Egypt.

I Wonder

» Could God supply the food Joseph's brothers needed? Say your memory verse.

Prayer Idea

Thank God for giving us food.

Do

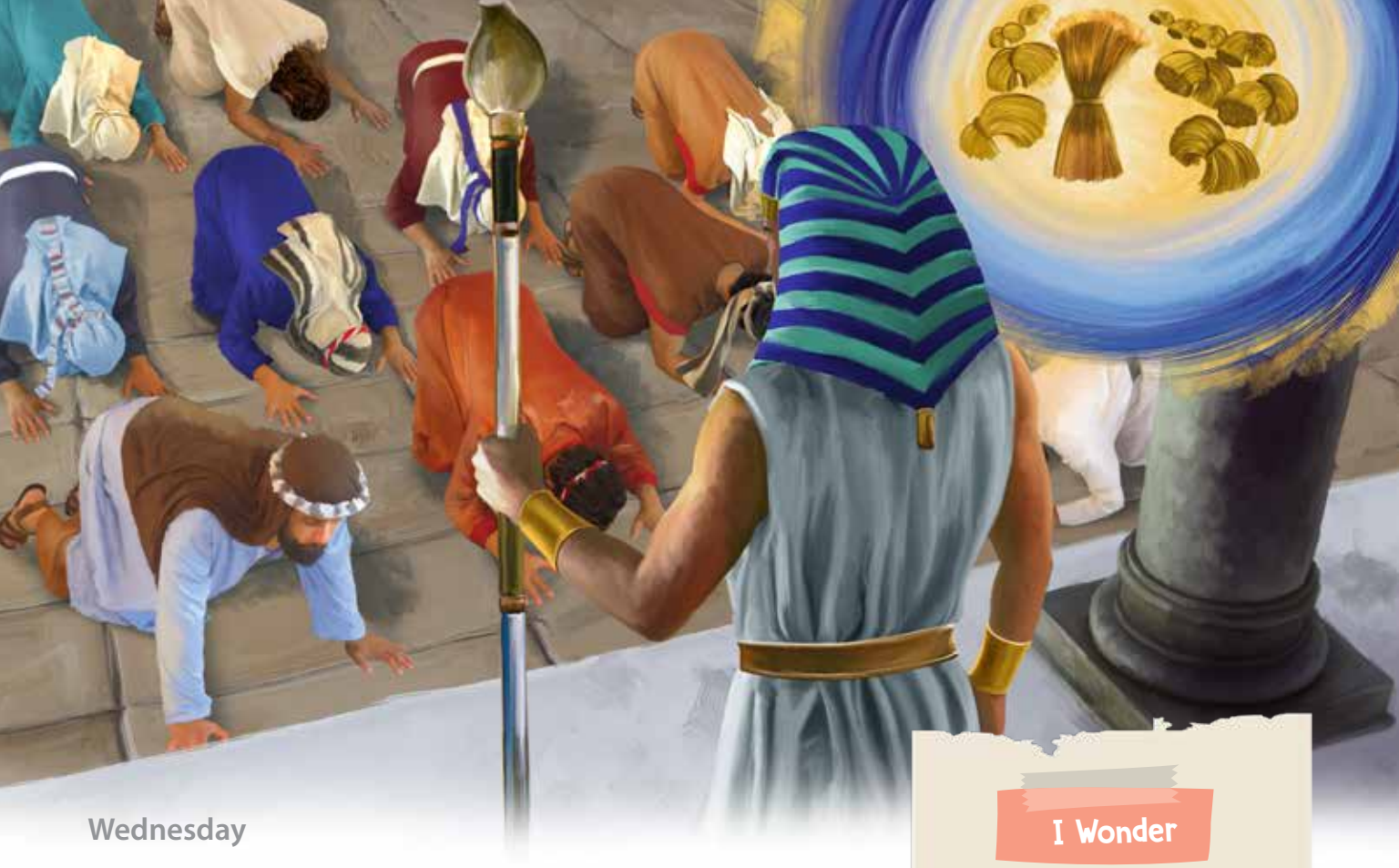
With a parent, look online for a kids' song version of Psalm 23 and sing along. Or make up your own song to this Psalm. Imagine singing the first part to Joseph's brothers.

Memory Verse

Parent Faith Talk

Tell of how God has helped you to plan ahead and be a good caretaker (steward), like Joseph. You might talk about food, clothing, saving, gardening, recycling, or reusing.





Wednesday

Dreams Come True!

Governor Joseph looked up from his work to see 10 shepherds walking toward him to buy grain. He bent his head and looked a little closer. Could it be . . . ?

Yes! It was his brothers! There was Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, and Zebulun.

Joseph quickly hid his surprise. His brothers didn't know it was him! Quietly he watched as "they bowed facedown on the ground before him" (Genesis 42:6, ICB).

Suddenly Joseph remembered the dreams he'd had as a boy! In his first dream his brothers' wheat had all bowed down to his. In the next dream the sun, moon, and 11 stars had bowed down to him. He remembered his brothers' angry words: "Do you truly think you will rule over us?" (Genesis 37:8, ICB).

Governor Joseph looked at his brothers carefully. *Were they still angry, jealous men?* He would test them and see.

Joseph frowned. Then he pretended to get very, very upset. He told his brothers he thought they were enemy spies. Had they come to cause trouble for Egypt?

What did the brothers say? Read **Genesis 42:13**.

Were they telling the truth? Yes! Maybe they had changed. Joseph still wasn't sure. He decided to give them another test to find out. He had them put in prison for three days. The brothers were so confused! But God was with them in prison, just like He had been with Joseph.

I Wonder

» Why do you think the brothers didn't recognize Joseph?

» Will it be a good or bad thing for Joseph to be a ruler over his brothers, just as in his dreams? Why?

Prayer Idea

Thank God that even when we are confused, we can trust that He loves us and cares for us.

Do

Can you find 12 things that are all alike? Perhaps 12 rocks, flowers, blocks, or . . . socks? God loved all the 12 sons of Jacob. He knew them by name. Do you? They could trust Him with all their needs.

Memory Verse

Thursday

A Surprise Gift

The soldier swung the prison door open with a creak and a clang. Then the 10 brothers were led outside. Quickly, they were marched back to see the Governor. Their hearts pounded. *What would happen to them now?*

Dressed in royal Egyptian clothes, Governor Joseph said to them, "Do this thing, and I will let you live: If you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here in prison. The rest of you go and carry grain back to feed your hungry families" (Genesis 42:18,19, ICB).

But Joseph wasn't finished. He really wanted to see his younger brother Benjamin. Joseph told the brothers they could go home if they promised to bring back Benjamin.

The brothers didn't like this idea one bit! They cared a lot for Benjamin and wanted to keep him safely at home with their father. But they had to agree. Brother Simeon would wait in prison until the other brothers returned with Benjamin.

Then their bags were filled with grain. But that's not all! With whispering words, Joseph told his servants to hide money in the bags of grain. What a kind and generous surprise.

What did the brothers do next? Read **Genesis 42:26**.

As they travelled home the brothers had no idea of the treasure Joseph had hidden inside their bags of grain. God was looking after Joseph's family, just as He looks after you. The Bible says, "And my God shall supply all your need" (Philippians 4:19).

I Wonder

» Why do you think Joseph put money in their bags with the grain?

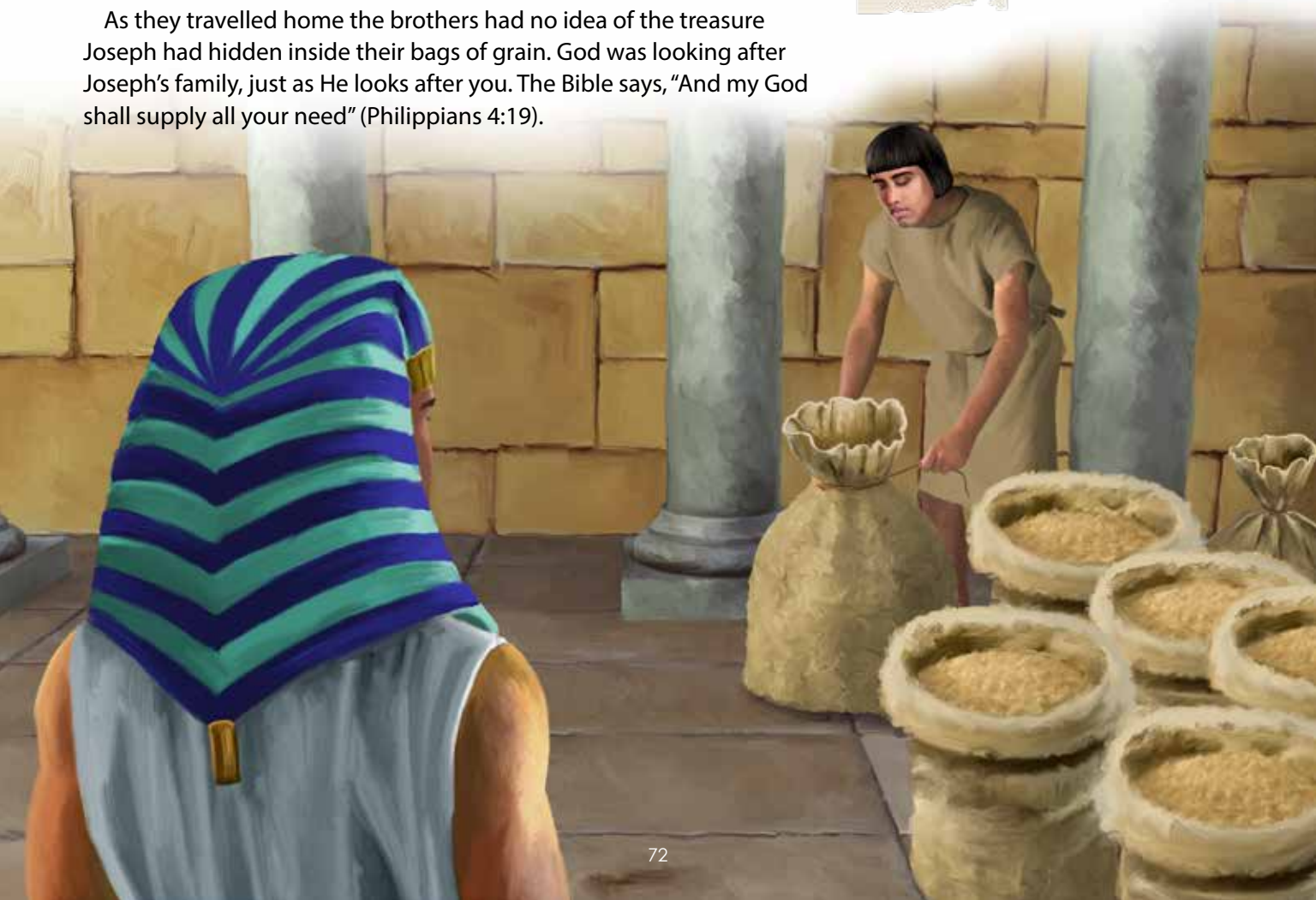
Prayer Idea

Thank God for always giving us what we need.

Do

Do a secret act of kindness for someone to show God's love. Maybe you could put some money in a mailbox or leave a food hamper at someone's door.

Memory Verse





Friday

Home Again

A shout echoed through the camp. The brothers had returned! With happy hearts and hungry tummies, all the families rushed to greet them. But wait—someone was missing! Where was Simeon?

Quickly, the brothers told their strange story. They had met the great Governor of Egypt and been given lots of grain. But he thought they were spies. They'd been thrown in prison! Simeon was still there, waiting for them to come back with Benjamin.

What a story! What trouble they were in!

Poor Father Jacob watched as the brothers then emptied the grain from their sacks. As it slid out so did their money! "When they and their father saw it, they were afraid" (Genesis 42:35, ICB). *Would the Governor think they'd stolen it? What would happen to them now?*

Big brother Reuben looked at his father bravely. He would take Benjamin back to Egypt and sort out all this confusion. "Trust him to my care. I will bring him back to you," he said (Genesis 42:37, ICB).

The other brothers nodded in agreement. They weren't mean brothers anymore. God had changed them into caring, loving brothers.

What did Father Jacob say? Read **Genesis 42:38**.

The brothers looked at each other sadly. What would they do now? They didn't know. But God did. They could trust Him to supply all their needs.

I Wonder

» Read your memory verse. How had God given Jacob's family what they needed?

Prayer Idea

Thank God that He gives us what we need to live, and live happily.

Memory Verse

Family Journal

Have each family member draw a picture of something God has given to them. Don't show the others in your family. Ask each other questions to try and guess what each person has drawn. Then glue them to your family journal.

For You, Parents

"He tells us that we must abide with Him and He with us. . . . Trust in Him continually, and doubt not His love. He knows all our weakness and that which we need. He will give us grace sufficient for our day" (Ellen G. White, *Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 191).

A Gift to Share



As Ellen unwrapped the gift, she gasped. It was a beautiful silk dress.

A very expensive dress!

Ellen White was a messenger for God. She didn't have much money, but all she had, she used to tell others about Jesus.

Ellen looked at the pretty gift that had come in the mail. It was lovely! She may have noticed pretty lace or ruffles. She may have smiled at a neat line of little buttons or a bow that sat perfectly in place. But Ellen didn't try it on. She knew that this gift was exactly what she needed to help someone else.

Only days before, she had received an urgent message from Brother John Andrews. He and his family were busily sharing the Bible in another country far away. Brother Andrews had told Ellen that they were running out of money. If they were to keep sharing the wonderful message of Jesus, they would need money sent to them as soon as possible. Ellen didn't have much money. She wondered how God would supply the missionaries with what they needed.

As Ellen looked at the silk dress, she knew what to do. Taking it up in her arms, she carried it to a local shopkeeper. She asked him to sell the dress for her, and he agreed. Someone came into the shop, saw the dress, and paid a lot of money for it. The shopkeeper returned the money to Ellen, who then mailed the money to Brother Andrews and his family far away.

Soon others heard about the silk dress and how Ellen had sold it to help the missionary family. They wanted to help missionaries too, so they gave Ellen even more money to share.

Who would have thought that God could use a dress to spread His love around the world?

Ellen trusted God with everything, and you can too. God promises to supply you with what you need, when you need it, because He loves you.



This story is adapted from *Manuscript Releases,* vol. 6, by Ellen G. White, copyright © 1990 Ellen G. White Estate. Used and adapted by permission.