

# TORAH TIME

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## PARASHA

Miketz

- Genesis 41:1-44:17
- 1 Kings 3:15-4:1
- Matthew 27:15-46

## TORAH TIME

Yosef's imprisonment finally ends when he interprets the dreams of the Egyptian leader Pharaoh. He dreams of seven fat cows that are swallowed up by seven lean cows. Pharaoh also dreams of seven fat ears of grain swallowed by seven lean ears. Yosef interprets the dreams. YHWH gives him the meaning of the dreams. They mean that seven years of plenty will be followed by seven years of hunger. Yosef advises Pharaoh to store grain during the plentiful years. Pharaoh appoints Yosef governor of Egypt. Yosef then marries daughter of Potiphar. They have two sons named Manasseh and Ephraim.

Famine spreads throughout the region, and food can be obtained only in Egypt. Ten of Yosef's brothers come to Egypt to purchase grain. The youngest, Benjamin, stays home, for father Jacob fears for his safety. Yosef recognizes his brothers, but they do not recognize him. Yosef accuses them of being spies, insists that they bring Benjamin to prove that they are who they say they are. He even imprisons his brother Simeon as a hostage. Later, they discover that the money they paid for their provisions has been mysteriously returned to them.

Jacob agrees to send Benjamin only after Judah assumes personal responsibility for him. This time Yosef receives them kindly and releases Simeon. Yosef even invites them to an eventful dinner at his home. But then Yosef puts his silver goblet in Benjamin's sack. When the brothers set out for home the next morning they are searched and arrested when the goblet is discovered. Yosef offers to set them free and retain only Benjamin as his slave.

(This is an easy explanation of the Torah portion taken from the book "The Open Bible" available at [www.emetministries.com](http://www.emetministries.com))

## MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 4:32, "Forgive one another just as YHWH through Messiah forgave you."

## LEARNING ACTIVITY

Yosef interprets dreams for the Pharaoh and is placed second in command of the entire nation of Egypt. How did he know the meaning of Pharaoh's dreams? Yosef had "chochmah" or "wisdom." The Hebrew word "chochmah" is used all throughout the Bible in reference to wise knowledge and understanding. Chochmah is a special trait and a special word. While in prison, Yosef showed supernatural wisdom when He prophesied of the future about the cup bearer and the baker. He knew in advance that one of them would be killed while the other would be given their job back. Yosef also understood the weird dreams of cows and stalks of wheat. You can have chochmah too. How do you get chochmah?

The Bible says in James 1:5, "if anyone lacks chochmah / wisdom, then he should just ask and it will be given to him." YHWH wants to share His wisdom with us. Today, we get chochmah through reading and studying YHWH's word. He also gives us wisdom through other people like parents and teachers. Chochmah means to "know and do correctly." Chochmah is knowing YHWH's will and doing YHWH's will. It is knowledge put to action. "Whosoever finds wisdom finds life, and shall obtains favor from YHWH," Proverbs 8:35.

There are many times when we know the right thing to do but refuse to do it. Do you obey your parents the first time? Do you ever argue or complain? Do you treat your friends with respect? To show chochmah is to know and do the right thing. Yosef had wisdom and always seemed to be blessed. His chochmah helped him in the prison and in the palace. How can you learn about chochmah this week?

One way to become wise is to listen to wise people. No doubt there are some very wise people in your life. Often people with chochmah don't mind sharing their wisdom! All you may need to do is ask. Take some time this week to ask some adults you know about wisdom. What are some wise words of wisdom they would like to share with you? Write down their comments on the page provided. Then think on these wise statements.

You can learn a lot about chochmah if you read the book of Proverbs. One easy way to read through Proverbs, and become wise, is to read one chapter of Proverbs a day. On the first of the month simply read the first chapter of Proverbs. On the tenth day of the month, read the tenth Proverb. In 31 days you would have read through the entire book of Proverbs.

## WALK THE TALK

Have you ever heard that statement that “sticks and stones will break my bones but words will never hurt me?” Do you think that is true? If we are honest we will know that words do indeed hurt. The mean and harmful things that we say can really do damage. And the negative ugly words that others say to us can hurt our feelings. Sticks, stones, and words hurt. Now, what hurts worse... a mean word spoken by a stranger or a mean word that has been said by someone in your family? You can probably remember a time when your feelings or even your body was hurt by someone. Have you forgiven them for hurting you?

Forgiveness is letting go of your desire to hurt someone for hurting you. This is a pretty hard thing to do but we must forgive. The Bible tells us the story of Yosef who had plenty of reasons to be mad and mean to his brothers. Many years ago Yosef and his brothers lived with their father Jacob. Yosef was favored by Jacob and given a beautiful coat. He also interpreted dreams. This made Yosef's brothers mad. They were so mad that one day they grabbed him, beat him up, threw him into a pit, and then sold him as a slave to a bunch of strangers. They lied to their father and told him that Yosef died. Their jealousy led to anger and eventually harm to Yosef. The slave traders took him to Egypt where Yosef had some good and some bad things happen to him. Yosef worked in the house of Potiphar and was placed over all of Potiphar's wealth. Potiphar's wife told some terrible lies about Yosef to her husband. Then, because of his wife's lies, Potiphar had Yosef thrown into jail.

The head jailer took a liking to Yosef and placed him in charge of all the other prisoners. Yosef used his YHWH-given gift to interpret the dreams of the other prisoners. Yosef was stuck in jail for more than two years. Pharaoh heard that Yosef had the ability to understand dreams. Pharaoh released Yosef from jail to explain his dreams. Pharaoh believed what Yosef told him and put him in charge of the entire land of Egypt.

Pharaoh had a very special dream and asked Yosef to interpret it. The dream Pharaoh was having meant that there would be seven years when the harvest would be great and there would be plenty of food. Then there would be seven years when there would be nothing. YHWH was telling Pharaoh to set aside grain during the good years so that there would be plenty of food during the bad years. That is exactly what Pharaoh did. When the bad years came, there was plenty grain in Egypt, but all the countries around them were starving.

People came from all the surrounding countries to buy grain from Yosef, because the whole world was in need of food. Some of those people were Yosef's very own brothers. When his brothers came, Yosef recognized them, but they did not know who he was. After all, it had

been many years since they had seen him, and they probably didn't expect to see him in such a position of power.

Yosef met with his brothers several times without telling them who he was. Finally, he could keep it to himself no longer. He told his brothers, "I am Yosef! Is my father alive?" But his brothers were speechless because they were afraid. But Yosef said, "Come closer. I am your brother, the one you sold! Don't worry, and don't be angry at yourselves for selling me into slavery. You see, it wasn't you who sent me here. YHWH has put me here to save people from starving."

Isn't that a neat story? Good and bad things in the life of Yosef led to him coming face to face with his brothers. The very same brothers who had beat him up and thrown him away were now begging him for food. What did Yosef do? Did he hold a grudge against them and withhold food? Did Yosef forgive them and bless them?

Yosef chose to forgive. He had pity on his brothers. He could have hurt them for hurting him but he chose not to. Instead of being mean, Yosef was kind and tenderhearted.

Many years after Yosef forgave his brothers we read of how YHWH forgave us for all of our sins. Sin is when we disobey YHWH's will. The penalty or result of sin is death. Though we are sinners and should face the death penalty, someone took our place. That someone is Y'shua.

Messiah Y'shua gave his life for our so that the penalty of sin would be paid and we could be forgiven before YHWH. Our Heavenly Father has forgiven us just like Yosef forgave His brothers. Now we must choose to show that same forgiveness to other people when they hurt us. The next time sticks, stones, words, or actions hurt you just remember how your sins hurt Y'shua. Then offer forgiveness. Our memory verse is Ephesians 4:32. Say this passage with me and think about how Yosef forgave his brothers and how YHWH has forgiven us. Ephesians 4:32, "Forgive one another just as YHWH through Messiah forgave you."

## TORAH TALK

What does the name of this portion mean?

What is the main subject of this portion?

What commandments are in this portion?

How did YHWH show His love to man in this portion?

Why is this portion special?

How can you live this portion?

Did you read about the Messiah in this portion? Where?

What did you learn from the Torah?

## HEBREW LESSON



**MEET THE YOD:**

YISRAEL=ISRAEL

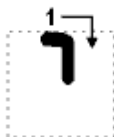
YELED=BOY

Yahweh

Yalda=Girl

Y'SHUA

## WRITE THE LETTER



Note that the stroke descends only about halfway toward the baseline.

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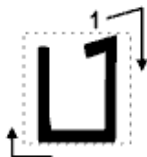
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## REVIEW THE LETTERS



Note that the initial horizontal stroke slightly ascends from the left to right before descending.

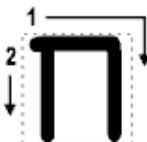
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Note that the first stroke "overhangs" the vertical second stroke.

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**Ephesians 4:32, “Forgive one another just as YHWH through Messiah forgave you.”**

**Joseph forgives his brothers.**

Genesis 42:1—45:28





# Proverbs Reading Guide

*Draw a smiley face in each block after you have read the chapter of Proverbs for that day.*

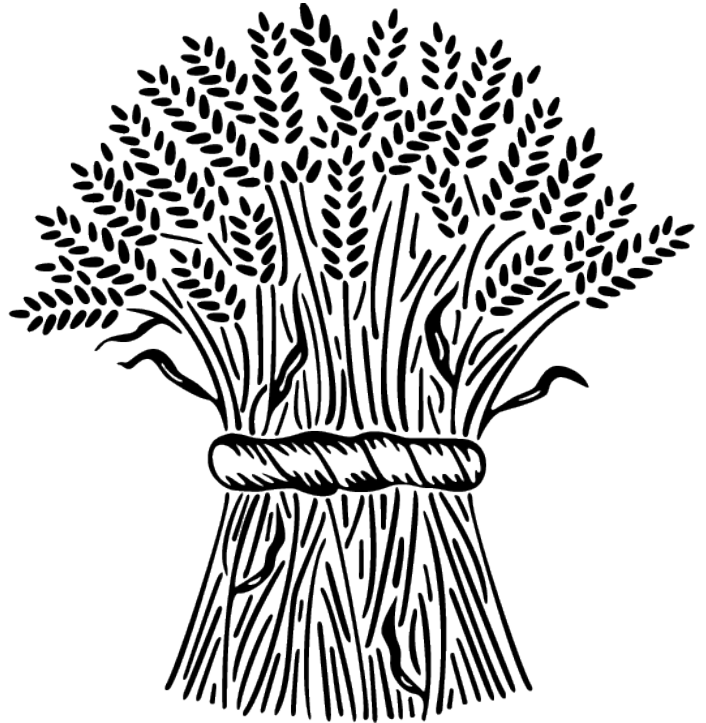
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

James 1:5, “if anyone lacks chochmah / wisdom, then he should just ask and it will be given to him.”



# Activity Ideas

To learn about the Torah and science, purchase grain from a local grocery store. Look at how it is like a berry and not a flower. Then get some flat rocks and mill the grain into flour. To mill the grain put it in a bowl and press a flat rock against it. The wheat will be ready to be used for bread or baking soon! Grain has to be “cracked open” to be used. This allowed the grain to be stored for long periods of time in Egypt without being wasted. Use this grain to bake some fresh bread!



In Genesis 44:1-17 we read of where Yosef had a goblet placed in Benjamin's sack. Draw an outline of a goblet on cardboard or cardstock. Cut out the outline and then cover it with aluminum foil. Decorate the goblet with rhinestones, gems, sequins and or pretty flowers.



If you have a group you could play the “Goblet Game. Use a goblet or a cup as your object. One child plays Yosef and sits in a chair with his/her back towards the class. The rest of the children are the brothers. The goblet or cup is placed under the chair. While "Yosef" is not looking, someone sneaks up and takes the cup and all the children put their hands behind their backs. Everyone then would sing Yosef, Yosef, where's your cup? Somebody stole it from your home. Guess who, it might be you. Then "Yosef" has three chances to guess who took it. Sometimes the cup can be left under his/her chair. If "Yosef" guessed right then he/she gets to do it again. If he/she guesses wrong, the person who had the cup got a turn as "Yosef". (This is like the game called "doggy, doggy, where's your bone?" )