

# TORAH TIME

www.emetministries.com

## PARASHA

Vayigash

- Genesis 44:18 – 47:27
- Ezekiel 37:15-28
- Luke 6:12-16

## TORAH TIME

Judah approaches Joseph to plead for the release of Benjamin, offering himself as a slave to the Egyptian ruler in Benjamin's place. Upon witnessing his brothers' loyalty to one another, Joseph reveals his identity to them. He cries out, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?"

The brothers are overcome by shame and remorse, but Joseph comforts them. "It was not you who sent me here," he says to them, "but YHWH. It has all been ordained from Above to save us, and the entire region, from famine."

The brothers rush back to Canaan with the news. Jacob comes to Egypt with his sons and their families –seventy souls in all -- and is reunited with his beloved son after 22 years. On his way to Egypt he receives the Divine promise. YHWH says to Him, "Fear not to go down to Egypt; for I will there make of you a great nation. I will go down with you into Egypt, and I will also surely bring you up again."

Joseph gathers the wealth of Egypt by selling food and seed during the famine. Pharaoh gives Jacob's family the fertile county of Goshen to settle, and the children of Israel prosper in their Egyptian exile.

(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

Romans 8:28, "All things work together for the good of those who love YHWH."

## LEARNING ACTIVITY

The story of Yosef teaches us how good and bad things happen to everyone. The Torah and the Newer Testament both tell us about Yosef. The book of Acts says, "Because the patriarchs were jealous of Joseph, they sold him as a slave into Egypt. But YHWH was with him and rescued him from all his troubles. He gave Joseph wisdom and enabled him to gain the goodwill of Pharaoh King of Egypt. So Pharaoh made him ruler over Egypt and his entire palace. Then a famine struck all Egypt and Canaan, bringing great suffering, and our ancestors could not find food. When Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent our forefathers on their first visit. On their second visit, Joseph told his brothers who he was, and Pharaoh learned about Joseph's family. After this, Joseph sent for his father Jacob and his whole family, seventy-five in all. Then Jacob went down to Egypt, where he and our ancestors died. Their bodies were brought back to Shechem and placed in the tomb that Abraham had bought from the sons of Hamor at Shechem for a certain sum of money," Acts 7:9-16.

Do you remember how Yosef was the favorite son of his father? This made his brothers very jealous. They captured Yosef, sold him as a slave, and then told their father that he had died. Years later a drought hit the land. A drought is when there is no water or rain and this makes crops die. The people could not farm any food and were very hungry. Through an odd turn of events Yosef was actually in Egypt and had helped Pharaoh and the Egyptians to save food for seven years before the drought. Because of the wisdom of Yosef people from all over the world came to Egypt for food. They traded gold and silver for the food of Egypt. One day, the brothers of Yosef came begging for food. Their father, Ya'acov, had sent them to Egypt but he didn't know that Yosef was alive or in charge of the food. When the brothers come to Yosef they didn't even recognize him. Yosef forgave them for mistreating him and then said something really amazing. Now read from Genesis / B'reisheet 45:4-8.

"Yosef said to his brothers, "do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that YHWH sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will not be plowing and reaping. But YHWH sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but YHWH," Genesis / B'reisheet 45:4-8.

Yosef praised YHWH for the bad things in his life. Have you ever had something bad to you happen? Maybe your pet died or a loved one passed away. Maybe someone in your family lost their job or was in a car accident. Bad things happen in life to everyone but YHWH can

turn the bad into good. This doesn't mean it was good that someone you love died or got sick but that YHWH can bring blessings out of it. Clearly, it wasn't good that Yosef was betrayed by his brothers, sold as a slave, or forgotten in prison but YHWH used it for His good. This is the promise of Romans 8:28, which is the memory verse today. Romans 8:28, "All things work together for the good of those who love YHWH."

When you love YHWH and walk after Him then even the tragedies will result in good. Y'shua has promised that He will never leave you. So, when you experience hard times you can rest in the fact that Y'shua is with you at all times. YHWH can bring about blessings from the most horrible times if you trust Him and lean not on your own understanding. He doesn't leave you when you need Him the most. He is right there turning the horrible into a blessing.

## WALK THE TALK

Learning about forgiveness in the Torah is one thing. Giving forgiveness is something very difficult. Surely there have been people in your life that have hurt your feelings or caused you pain. Through YHWH's love you can move past the pain. You can forgive. Make a book about forgiveness. Fold paper in half to create a booklet and let them fill the pages with pictures, magazine clippings or drawings of happy and sad faces. Write the memory verse throughout the book to remind you that all things work together.

## TORAH TALK

What does the name of this portion mean?

Why is this portion special?

What is the main subject of this portion?

How can you live this portion?

What commandments are in this portion?

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

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

What did you learn from the Torah?

## HEBREW LESSON



### MEET THE KAF:

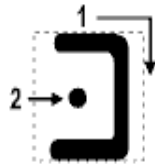
KAF=PALM    Kippah=head covering

KARASET=PARSLEY

KELEV=DOG    Kavohd=Honor

Kahdoor=Ball

# WRITE THE LETTER



A single stroke, like a backwards "c" is used to form this letter.

---

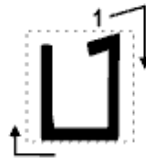
---

---

---

---

# REVIEW THE LETTERS



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

---

---

---

---

---

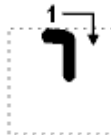
---

---

---

---

---



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

---

---

---

---

---

# Activity Ideas



This Torah portion talks about Joseph's brothers not originally recognizing him as well as his family coming to Egypt and stating they were shepherds. The Hebrew brothers did not recognize Yosef. This could be because Yosef was dressed like an Egyptian. During ancient times Egyptians would wear special jewelry and often shave their heads bald. To remember the Egyptian garments make yourself an Egyptian collar. Cut out about a 4 1/2 inch circle at the top of the paper plate, one inch from the top. Color with markers to decorate.

Use the internet to look up the journey of Yosef and his family from Canaan to Egypt.

Play the memory matching game with pictures of donkeys, sheep, goats, cows, bulls or other animals the Hebrews would have been shepherd over.

Find a movie that illustrates the story of Yosef. Watch it and then compare how the movie is similar to and different than the Biblical story.

Look for ways to share this week's memory verse with family or friends. Write it to them in a card, state it from memory, or ask them to read it to you. This is a special passage that is full of meaning.

# What Would Yosef Do?

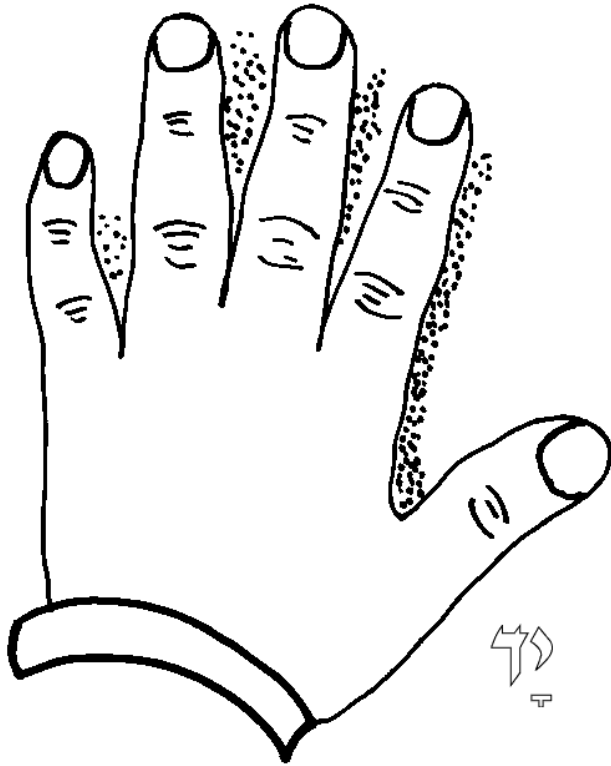
Review this page and decide if Yosef would or would not do these things...

Action	Joseph would do this	Joseph would not do this
Forgive others quickly when they hurt you.		
Don't tell the truth because you might get in trouble.		
Get upset if your friend gets a prize and you don't.		
Ask for forgiveness when you hurt someone.		
Tell the truth even if you will get in trouble.		
Play only with other kids who are like you.		
Talk while your teacher is talking.		
Refuse to play if you can't be the leader.		
Grumble and complain when you are asked to do chores.		
If you find something that does not belong to you, you don't try to find the owner.		
If someone is making fun of another child, you defend them.		
You do what is right even if no one is looking.		
You do what is right only when someone is watching you.		

"All things  
work together  
for the good  
of those who  
love YHWH,"

Romans 8:28

Can you identify the Hebrew words?



ילד

Boy in Hebrew is \_\_\_\_\_

Cook in Hebrew is \_\_\_\_\_

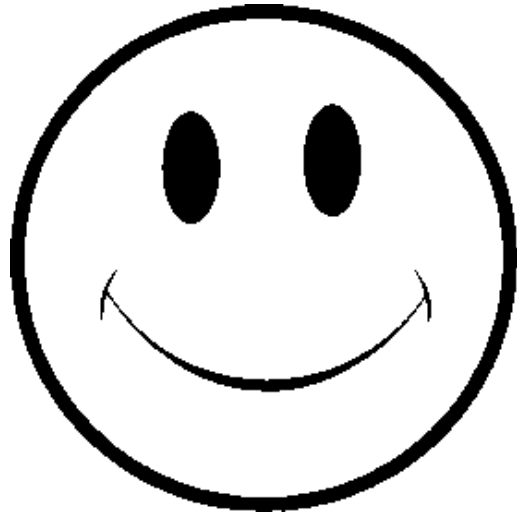
Hand in Hebrew is \_\_\_\_\_



Can you identify the Hebrew words?



ילדה



טוב



כלב

Girl in Hebrew is \_\_\_\_\_

Good in Hebrew is \_\_\_\_\_

Dog in Hebrew is \_\_\_\_\_