



## THE SABBATH CIRCLES HOME SCHOOL CURRICULUM

*Unit Theme: Exploring the Stories of the Old Testament*

*Today's story: Joseph & His Brothers (Genesis 37:1-8)*

*Key Verse: "Now Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than any of his other children, because he was the son of his old age."*  
Genesis 37:3a

*Questions to go deeper into the story:*

- The story of Joseph and his brothers is a long one, lasting for 14 chapters right up to the end of Genesis. Looking at just the verses in the text for today, what do you think might happen in this very long story?
- Did Jacob try to hide his feelings for Joseph? Why do you suppose this seemed appropriate to Jacob?
- Do you think Joseph was aware of being his father's favorite? Why or why not?
- Why do you think Joseph found it necessary to tell his brothers about his dream? Do you think he was surprised at their reaction? Or, did he do it to irritate them deliberately?
- Do you think Joseph knew his brothers hated him? If yes, do you think it bothered him? Why or why not?

*Activity possibilities:*

- Check out the coloring picture on the back of this insert.
- The coat Jacob gave to Joseph was so wonderful that it made his brothers furious! Find some recent advertising circulars with coats and cut out the ones you think might be as wonderful as Joseph's was. Get a piece of construction paper in your favorite color (Rev. Ruth has plenty!) and create a coat collage to help you imagine Joseph's spectacular coat.



Joseph's story is so rich and wonderful that it has been made into a Broadway stage show called *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Check out this link to watch one of the opening songs that deals with the part of the story from this text: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtpzoGj-1V8>

If you'd like, you can actually find the entire show on YouTube which you can watch on your computer to learn the whole story of Joseph. Or, you can read the whole story in the Bible. Or, you can even do both!! If you do, think about what your favorite part of the story is and why. Find someone – a friend or family member – and tell them all about Joseph!

How do you get along with your brothers and sisters, with your friends? Does Joseph's story remind you of your relationship with your siblings? In what ways?

Remember, Rev. Ruth is always available to answer your questions anytime! Call, text, or email her or stop by the Savoy any Thursday afternoon from 2-4pm!!