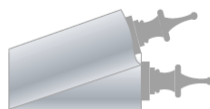




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

LESSON TITLE

Divine Revelation: Joseph's Dreams

UNIT 1 Heavenly Authority

GRADES 1-3

THE HOLY BIBLE

Genesis 37.5, "And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more."

THE BOOK OF MORMON

Moroni 10:5, "And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things."

OBJECTIVE

Students will:

- Through guided discussion, Recognize that God reveals His thoughts and uses His power through the Holy Ghost, Genesis 37:5-9, 1 Nephi 10:17-19. Moroni 10:5.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- By what means does God communicate to people?
- What are some ways that God may reveal His will to people?
- Why would we want to know God's thoughts?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and *The Book of Mormon*

Object Lesson: A paper or small electric fan. Small piece of tissue paper.

Illustrations: Print/Project pages 6 & 7.

Video: [Joseph's dream #1](#), 7:58 – 9:20 mins. [Joseph's dream #2](#), 11:28 – 12:20 min.

[Fulfillment of Joseph's dreams](#), 1:05:21 – 1:27:23 mins.

Task: [Joseph's Dreams](#). [Sample craft](#) Construction paper, yarn, scissors, glue, crayons, markers.

Coloring page: [Joseph coloring page](#), crayons/ markers

TEACHER NOTES

45-minute lesson

To prepare for this lesson, study the scriptural references listed in **OBJECTIVES**.

Q: Teacher asks question

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (3 minutes)

Engage students in a discussion about dreams.

Q: Can you remember a dream that you had?

Q: What did you learn from your dream?

Q: Do you know that God speaks to people through dreams? Can you think of an example?

Goal: Through guided discussion, recognize that God reveals His thoughts and uses His power through the Holy Ghost.

Lesson Development (35-40 minutes)

(See Teacher's Supplement for guidance with steps 1-2. Scripture Texts are located on page 5.)

1. Provide background information on the operations of the Holy Ghost.
2. Guide students to recognize how the Holy Ghost communicates God's plan to Joseph (Dreams, Interpretation of dreams, Wisdom). Use Story map/and or share clips from video (Links page 1).
3. Share a personal divine revelation (or a revelation had by someone else) so students recognize that revelation is as important in our lives today as it was in Joseph's time.
4. Discuss Essential Questions.
5. Task: Make a related craft or give students a coloring page (Links page 1).

Key words: heavenly authority, Holy Ghost, reveal, revelation, dream, Joseph, Spiritual Gifts

Teacher's Supplement

Lesson Development

1. Explaining the Holy Ghost.

Q: Who has heard of the Holy Ghost? What can you tell us about the Holy Ghost?

The Holy Ghost is the spirit of God. It is a good spirit. It communicates the thoughts of God, and reveals the power of God. God communicates to humans and demonstrates His power through the Holy Ghost.

Object Lesson: Compare the Holy Ghost to the wind.

Using a fan, blow air on students. Then blow air on a piece of tissue paper and make the paper move.

Q: Can you see the wind? How do you know the air is moving? Can you feel the air? Can you hear it? What is the air able to do to the tissue paper?

Explain, we can't see the wind, but we can feel it and we can see its effects. This is similar to how the Holy Ghost, God's Spirit, operates. We can't see it, but we can feel it, and we can see what it is able to do. We know God is real because the Holy Ghost reveals Him to us.

Example: Your mother sends you to your father to tell him to buy milk. You go to your father and tell him your mother wants him to buy milk. Your father goes to the store and buys milk because He believes you relayed a message from your mother.

In this example, pretend your mother is God and you are the Holy Ghost/Spirit. Your father listens to you and buys milk because he believes you spoke the truth. The Holy Ghost/Spirit always speaks the truth. Your father did not see your mother nor hear her voice. You were the messenger for your mother. The Holy Ghost is God's messenger.

God uses the Holy Spirit to: (Prior to class: Make a list of bullet points, bold text only, on the board.)

- **Reveal** His thoughts through dreams and visions and to understand dreams and vision.
- **Give understanding** of His word - wisdom and knowledge.
- **Develop** great faith in people.
- **Empower** people to:
 - **see** heavenly angels and messengers.
 - **speak** in different languages and to understand languages.
 - **tell** of what will happen in the future (prophecy)
 - **perform** mighty miracles, heal sickness/diseases, and bring the dead back to life.

2. Recognize that the Holy Ghost Communicates God's Plan to Joseph, Genesis 37- 47.

Q: Have you heard of a young boy named Joseph, the son of Jacob, in the Bible? What can you tell us about Joseph?

Story Map – The Holy Ghost Communicates To Joseph

*Joseph was the son of Rachel and Jacob. He had ten older brothers and a younger brother named Benjamin. God chose Joseph to do a great work for him - to rescue many people during a time of great famine. Famine means having very little food – not enough for everyone. The **Holy Ghost revealed to Joseph this great work in two dreams** when he was seventeen years old.*

(Picture 1) One night, **God gave Joseph a dream.** He dreamed that he and his brothers were working in a field, tying bundles of grain. Joseph's bundle of grain stood tall, and his brother's bundles bowed down to his bundle. **(Picture 2)** Another night, **God gave Joseph a dream.** Joseph dreamed of the sun, the moon, and eleven stars bowing down to him.

Joseph told the dreams to his brothers and father. His brothers did not like what they heard. His older brothers were already jealous of Joseph because he was their father's favorite son. To think that their younger brother would rule over them made them hate Joseph even more. Joseph's brothers had a mean thought. They decided to sell him to a group of travelers heading to the land of Egypt. Joseph was very sad to leave his family, but God was with Joseph, and his story has a happy ending.

Joseph lived in Egypt for many years. God took care of Joseph during good and bad times. One day the king of Egypt, who was called Pharaoh, needed help. God gave Pharaoh two dreams, which troubled him. He asked his wise men to interpret the dreams, but they could not. He heard that Joseph could interpret dreams, so he asked him to tell him what his dreams meant. Joseph told Pharaoh that he did not have power to interpret dreams, but that God would reveal their meaning. **The Holy Ghost revealed to Joseph the meaning of Pharaoh's dreams.**

The dreams showed what would happen in the near future. There would be seven years of plenteous corn followed by seven years of very little corn. **The Holy Ghost gave Joseph wisdom to plan to save people** from starvation. Joseph advised Pharaoh to gather and store corn during the years of plenty, and to take from the storehouse and sell corn during the years of famine. Pharaoh recognized the spirit of God in Joseph, which gave him wisdom, so he put Joseph in charge of his kingdom, second to himself.

One day, Joseph's family needed corn. Their father sent his ten eldest sons to Egypt to buy corn. They came to the man in charge of selling corn, and bowed down before him. It was Joseph, but they did not recognize him because Joseph was now 39 years old and he dressed and spoke like an Egyptian. Joseph recognized his brothers, but he treated them as strangers. He sold them corn and they returned home. Sometime later, Joseph's family needed corn again. All eleven brothers traveled to Egypt to buy corn. This time, Joseph revealed his identity to his brothers. His older brothers repented of their meanness, and Joseph forgave them. Joseph invited all of his family to come live in Egypt, where there was plenty of food, as the famine would last another five years. Joseph's brothers with their wives and children, and his father traveled to Egypt to live in the land where Joseph was governor. They were given land to live on and were well cared for.

Q: In the story of Joseph, how does God use the Holy Ghost to communicate to Joseph what will happen in the future?

Q: What did Joseph's dreams communicate about God's care?

(Display Picture 1) Joseph's first dream showed that God would place Joseph in a position of leadership, overseeing food distribution. His brothers would come to him, in a time of need, to seek food, and Joseph would be able to help them.

(Display Picture 2) Joseph's second dream showed that God would place Joseph in a position of leadership, second to Pharaoh. He would be able to provide land and food for his whole family during a time of need.

Genesis 37:5-9:

"And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told *it* his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For, behold, we *were* binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me."

Genesis 41:16, 25, 38-40,46

V 16. "And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, *It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.*"

V25. "And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh *is* one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he *is* about to do."

V 38-40. "And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find *such a one* as this *is*, a man in whom the Spirit of God *is*? And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, *there is* none so discreet and wise as thou *art*: Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou."

V 46. "Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt."

Genesis 42:6-9:

"And Joseph was the governor over the land, *and he it was* that sold to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him *with* their faces to the earth. And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food. And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him. And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, Ye *are* spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come."

Genesis 45:7-11:

"And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now *it was* not you *that* sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt. Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not: And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast: And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty."

1 Nephi 10:17-19:

"And it came to pass after I, Nephi, having heard all the words of my father, concerning the things which he saw in a vision, and also the things which he spake by the power of the Holy Ghost, which power he received by faith on the Son of God -- and the Son of God was the Messiah who should come -- I, Nephi, was desirous also that I might see, and hear, and know of these things, by the power of the Holy Ghost, which is the gift of God unto all those who diligently seek him, as well in times of old as in the time that he should manifest himself unto the children of men. For he is the same yesterday, to-day, and forever; and the way is prepared for all men from the foundation of the world, if it so be that they repent and come unto him. For he that diligently seeketh shall find; and the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto them, by the power of the Holy Ghost, as well in these times as in times of old, and as well in times of old as in times to come; wherefore, the course of the Lord is one eternal round."

Moroni 10:5:

"And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things."



Picture 1: <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-twelve/>



Picture 2: <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-twelve/>