God Speaks: Through DREAMS!

Today's lesson looks at how people through **DREAMS!** people receive prophetic guidance from God while at least 21 examples of this include: Jacob's dream of a 28:12), Joseph's dreams of 37:1-10), the cup-bearer and



God sometimes speaks to His All throughout the Bible, messages, warnings, and they sleep. In fact, there are in the Bible! Some stories ladder to heaven (Genesis wheat and stars (Genesis the baker's dreams (Genesis

40), God speaks to Solomon, offering him anything (1 Kings 3:5-15), Nebuchadnezzar's dreams (Daniel 2, 4), the many ways God spoke through dreams around the birth of Jesus—Joseph has several, the wise men are warned to return a different way (Matthew 1, 2), the wife of Pontius Pilate has a dream warning her husband not to harm Jesus (Matthew 27:19). At times the dreams were "symbolic" and at other times there were direct words of action. In all of these instances God communicated with people while they slept in order to get their attention and turn them in a different direction or provide them with a new understanding of what was going on.

Memory verse: Amos 3:7

"Surely the Lord does nothing before first revealing His plan to His servants the prophets."

Scripture lesson: Genesis 41: 1-40 The Story of Pharaoh's Dreams

Thinking about it:

In the story we considered today, Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, has had two upsetting dreams, one concerning cattle and the other wheat. He knows they are important dreams, but he cannot understand them. He enlists the help of Joseph, who was being held in Pharaoh's dungeon. When summoned, Joseph explains that only God can give Pharaoh an answer to the meaning of the dreams. With God's help, Joseph makes clear the importance of the symbols in Pharaoh's dreams: God warns him to prepare during the next seven years of plenty for seven subsequent years of famine. Joseph then goes on to provide more instruction on how to do this, and afterward Pharaoh is so impressed that he promotes Joseph to be in charge of organizing the storage process. So Joseph, using God's gift of dream interpretation, goes from being a prisoner to one of the top leaders in all of Egypt!

Many years prior to this, when Joseph was a young boy, he dreamed that one day he would rule over his many brothers. In fact, this dream was one of the very reasons his brothers sold

him into slavery and sent him to Egypt! Now, even that dream from his childhood came true, as he was in a position to eventually help his long-lost brothers when they came to Egypt seeking food. God spoke TO Joseph in dreams, and God spoke THROUGH Joseph in dreams. God used Joseph to save many people, both Israelites and Egyptians!

Video suggestion: Pharaoh's dream

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWiJ8VQXJzY

Craft suggestion:

This week in Kidz Club we will be making cards to send to our at-home members as we get closer to Easter! We will be using black scratch paper to create pictures on one side, and writing a special message on the other, to let them know we are thinking about them and hoping they will have a wonderful Easter and spring! If you would like to participate in this activity, please contact the church office to coordinate sending your card!

Questions to ponder:

- Why did Pharaoh send for Joseph?
- What did Joseph tell Pharaoh when asked if he would interpret the dreams?
- What did God lead Joseph to believe the dreams meant?
- What did Pharaoh do after he heard the interpretation of his dreams?
- How was Joseph honored after this interaction with Pharaoh?
- To whom did Joseph point to as the actual interpreter of Pharaoh's dreams?



Prayer:

Wonderful God, Thank You so much for all the ways that You speak to us! Thank You for the examples in the Bible of dreams being used to warn and direct Your people. Help us to pay attention to the ways You speak to us today. Direct our paths so that we might do Your will as we live our lives. In Jesus name, AMEN.