Do an experiment. Pose a forgiveness situation and see how many people can and can’t forgive. Tally your results.

The sound of weeping was heard many times in this story. Listen for the sounds of weeping this week.

Learn about what causes famines and how we can prevent them.

Pantomime how you and others act when afraid or sad.

Collect pictures of people who are sad or hurt. Look at each picture as you pray for them.

Fill in the blanks by using the words you chose on the previous page. Read your story aloud to others.

Joseph ________________________ so loudly that the Egyptians could hear him. “I am your ________________________ , Joseph. You shall ________________________ in the land of Goshen. I will ________________________ for you since there will be ________________________ more years of_____________________. Go ________________________ and bring my ________________________ here to live in this place.”

Genesis 45:1-15; 50:15-21

Sam stared out the bus window on his way home from camp. He knew his brother, Will, would be waiting with Dad. What should I say to Will? It took him three days to really forget how mad he was when Will decided at the last minute not to go. It was hard going to a new camp alone.

Sam spotted Will before the bus came to a full stop. He hopped from foot to foot, and was talking non-stop to Dad. Did he get in trouble when Dad found out he lied about wanting to go? Dad had his hand on Will’s shoulders and pointed him toward the bus. He was trapped.

Dad stepped around Will to hug Sam. “Welcome home, Sport.” Dad pounded his hands on his back. Will stood still. He looked like a criminal awaiting his sentence.

Sam leaned toward Will and slugged him on the shoulder. “You missed out.” Then Will slugged him back, but not very hard. The two of them smiled, and they all turned to go home.

I wonder…

• Why they all cried so loudly.
• How Joseph’s brothers felt when Joseph forgave them.
• If I could forgive someone who really hurt me.

God always works for good.
Joseph’s brothers are coming to see him tomorrow. You are Dara, an advice columnist. Answer Joseph’s letter and help him know what to do.

Dear Joseph:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Sincerely,
Joseph

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Dear Dara:

My brothers sold me as a slave many years ago and I ended up here in Egypt. I've done well and have held great power. They are now coming tomorrow asking for food. They do not know it is their brother they will be coming to see. What should I say to them?

Sincerely,
Joseph

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Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.

Genesis 50:20

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Fun Facts

A famine is a drastic and widespread shortage of food.

Goshen was located in the fertile Nile Delta and was near Egypt’s capital.

Goshen was about 900 square miles (1450 square kilometers) in size.

The Egyptians ate bread, onions, other vegetables, and dried fish.

The Egyptians grew mainly wheat and barley and used these grains to make bread, soup, and porridge.

Archaeologists have found seeds that show that Egyptians grew watermelons.

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Create a Story

Try this create-a-story! Write the words in the blanks. Then put them onto the next page to tell another version of the story.

1. Verb ending in -ed _________________________________
2. Singular noun _________________________________
3. Verb _________________________________
4. Verb _________________________________
5. Number _________________________________
6. Noun _________________________________
7. Adverb _________________________________
8. Plural noun _________________________________