

Joseph: A Forgiving Savior

**BUILDING
BLOCKS**

SEARCHING FOR THE KING

“After two whole years” (Gen 41:1) in prison because he was falsely accused, Joseph is called for by Pharaoh himself. Pharaoh has had two disturbing dreams that no one could interpret (41:1-8):

- Why did seven thin _____ eat up seven healthy cows?
- Why did seven sick ears of _____ swallow up seven healthy ears of grain?



“The dreams of Pharaoh are one,” Joseph tells the king. “God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do” (41:25)—“seven years of great plenty...but after them...seven years of _____” (41:29-30).

Who does Pharaoh select to prepare Egypt for the devastating famine? **Joseph**. Who gets sent multiple times by their father to Egypt when the famine becomes “severe over all the earth”? **Joseph’s brothers** (Gen 42-44). Whose help do they need in order to survive? **Joseph’s**. Who has the power to do with them whatever he wants in their most desperate moment of need? **Joseph**. When he reveals his true identity to them, “they were dismayed at his presence” (45:3). But notice how kind Joseph was to his brothers:

“...do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for _____ sent me before you to preserve life... it was not you who sent me here, but God.” (45:5-8)

Years later, when Joseph’s brothers are afraid that he will finally take revenge on them after their father’s death, Joseph clearly chooses forgiveness (50:15-21).

What does this have to do with our search for our King? From his own cross, the Savior of the world prayed, “Father, _____ them, for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). Joseph saved his family from a famine; Jesus is willing and able to save anyone from sin, and it was all according to the amazing plan of God (Acts 3:12-15, 17-20).

