

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

JOSEPH BECOMES A RULER

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GENESIS 41:1–52

Psalm 105:20–22; Acts 7:9–10

JOSEPH BECOMES A RULER

File no. 22

One night Pharaoh had two dreams.
He did not know what they meant.
He told his wise men.
They did not know
what the dreams meant.

Then the butler remembered Joseph
who had explained his dream.

He said,
'Joseph can explain dreams.'



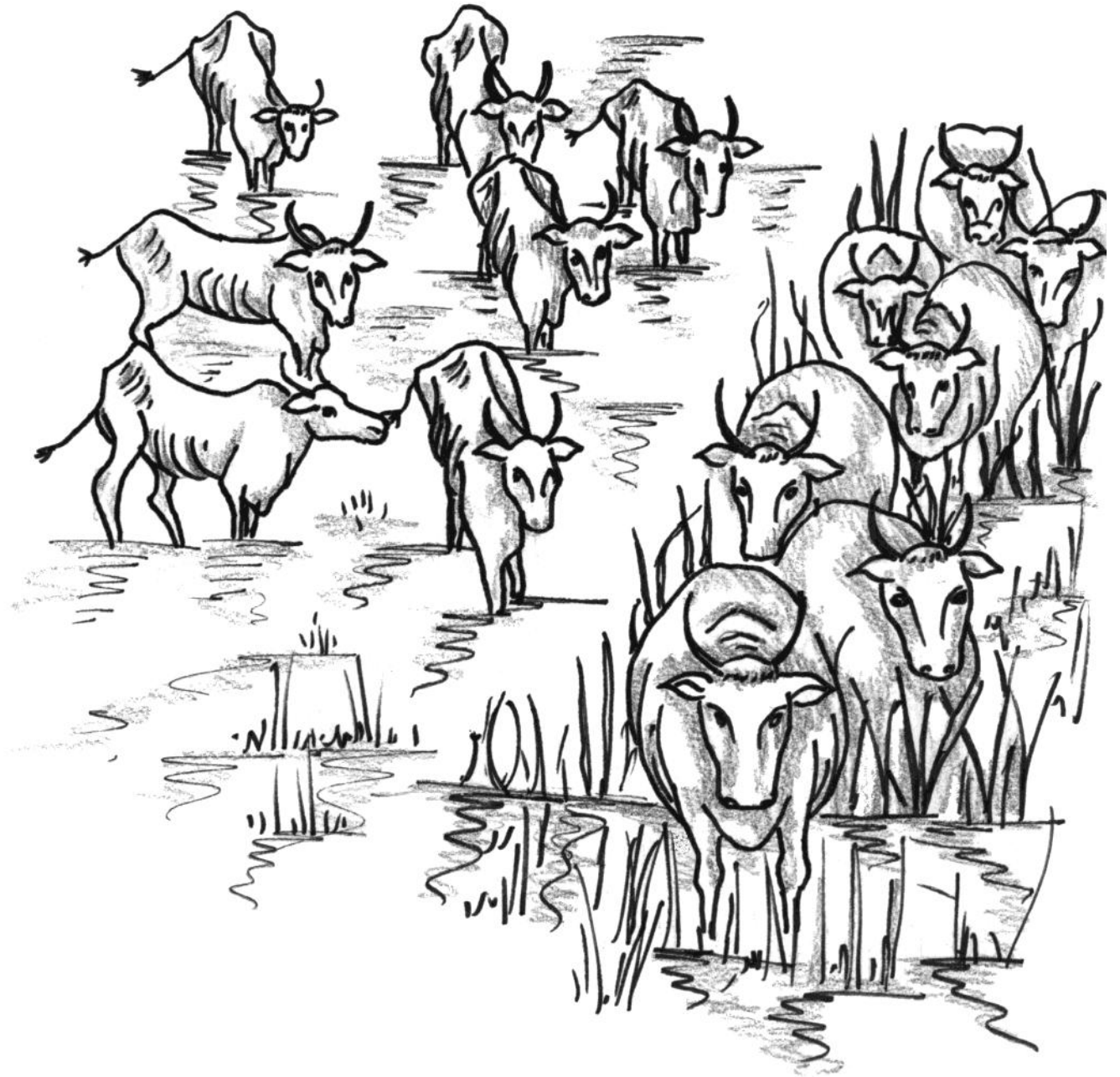
Joseph was brought before the king.

**The king said,
'I have heard
that you can tell
the meaning of dreams.'**

**'I can't,' said Joseph,
'but God will tell you.
Tell me your dreams.'**

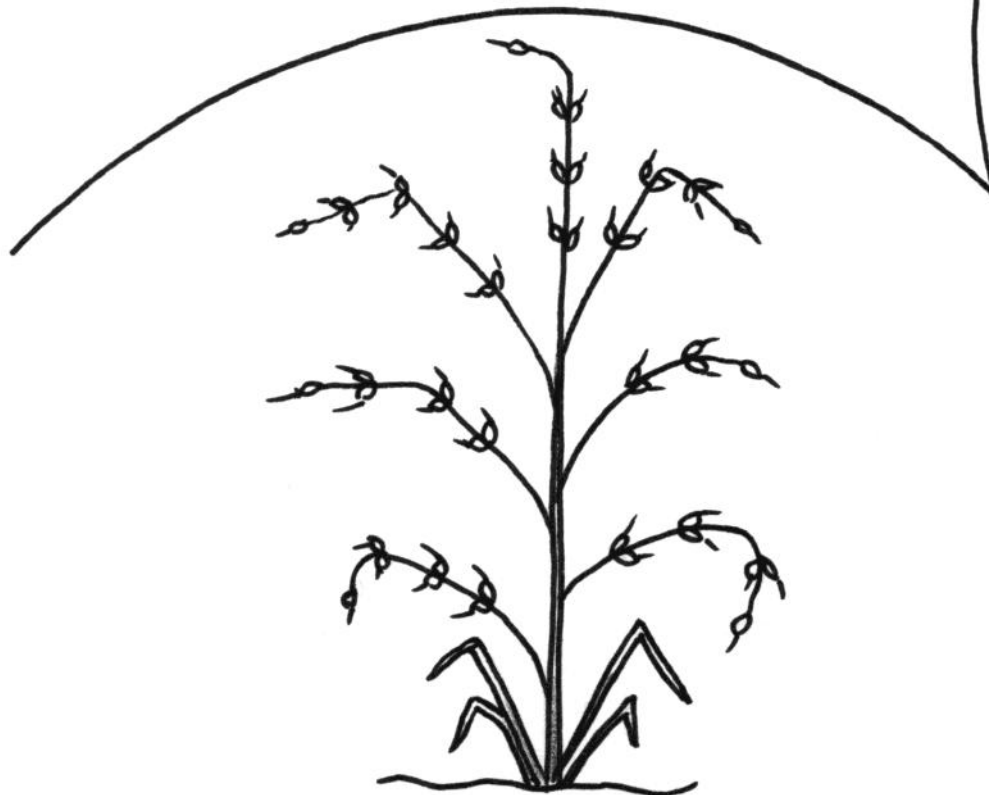


**'In my dream
I was standing by the river,'
said Pharaoh.
'Seven fat cows came up
out of the water.
They ate the grass.
Then seven thin cows came
out of the water.
They were very thin.
The thin cows
ate the fat cows,
but they stayed thin.
Then I woke up.**

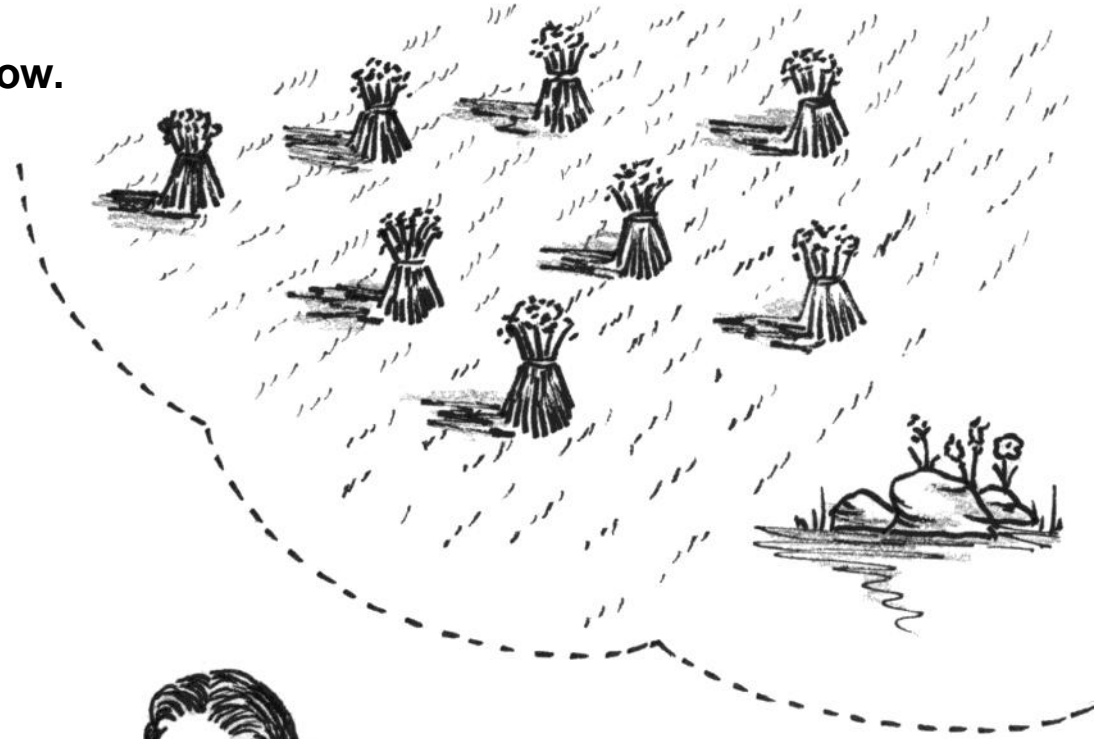


**'I went to sleep again.
This time I saw seven big heads of grain
growing on one stalk.
On another stalk I saw seven dried up heads
of grain.
The dried up grain then ate the good grain.'**

**Joseph said to Pharaoh,
'God is showing the king what He is going to do.'**



**‘For the next seven years the crops will grow.
After that there will be seven years
when nothing will grow.
Everyone will be hungry.
Let the king choose a wise man.
Let him collect and store the grain
that grows in the good years.
Then in the bad years
there will be plenty of food.’**



**Pharaoh liked what Joseph said.
He put his ring on Joseph's finger,
a gold chain round his neck
and dressed him in fine clothes.
He made Joseph a ruler in Egypt.
Everybody had to obey him.**

**Joseph collected grain
from the farmers
and stored it in the cities.
They were ready for the famine.**

**Joseph knew that
God had saved him.
He knew God would make him
a blessing to others.**

