

**Reader Script/JOSEPH, BIBLE AS LITERATURE**

- 1/NARRATOR:** Jacob was a man who had found favor with God. He prospered and had twelve sons, but he did not treat all his sons equally. He had a great love for Joseph, first son of his beloved Rachel. The other brothers were aware of Jacob's favoritism.
- 2/JACOB (lovingly):** My dear son, I am glad to see you home from tending the sheep with your brothers. What do you have to report?
- 3/JOSEPH:  
(whispering)** Well, even though I am only seventeen, I know that my brothers are not doing the right things. Here are some of the evil things they have been doing.
- 1/NARRATOR:** The brothers could tell that their father loved Joseph more than the rest of them and that made them angry.
- 5/JUDAH (angrily):** Joseph has told our father bad things about us. Look at him! He is always close to our father's side! We work hard for our father, and our father ignores us. He only thinks of his precious *Joseph*.
- 2/JACOB (proudly):** Joseph, come and see the gift I have for you.
- 3/JOSEPH (excitedly):** Father, it's beautiful. No one has ever had such a wonderful robe. It has SLEEVES, marvelous decorations, and beautiful colors. How did you get the dyes for such a spectacular garment?
- 6/ASHER (baffled):** Why does Joseph get such a beautiful robe?

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- 7/DAN:**  
**(disappointedly)** We work hard every day, yet *Joseph, Joseph, Joseph*—that's all we hear. He is the favorite.
- 3/JOSEPH (eagerly):** Listen. I had a dream last night. We were all binding sheaves in the field and MY sheaf stood up. Then all YOUR sheaves stood up and gathered around mine. Next—and this is the best part—YOUR sheaves all bowed down to the ground in front of my sheaf.
- 4/REUBEN:**  
**(indignantly)** Are you to reign over us?
- 5/JUDAH (furiously):** Do you believe in your dream? Do you think you will rule us? You want to be our king? I don't think so!
- 7/ASHER (to 6/DAN):** I am beginning to hate that Joseph!
- 6/DAN (to 7/ASHER):** He makes me mad! Reign over us? HA!
- 1/NARRATOR:** Joseph's brothers were aware of Jacob's love for Joseph. They hated Joseph because Jacob gave Joseph gifts as well as love. They hated Joseph's dreams of being superior to the rest of them. Joseph didn't seem to notice how his brothers felt, and soon he told them of another dream.
- 3/JOSEPH (proudly):** Gather round. I've had another dream. It was better than the first one. In this dream, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.