



Bible Science: Bubbling Over

Do Other See Jesus From You?
Genesis 37 – Jacob's Love for Joseph

NOTES: This can be messy so it works well do complete outside. This way, clean up is easy! Just dump out mixture into the grass. (I did this indoors and it worked just fine though.)

Supplies

- 3 oz disposable cup
- Food coloring (optional)
- 1 ½ oz vinegar
- 2 Tbsp baking soda
- Dish soap
- Large Styrofoam bowl or plate (optional if outdoors since this is to catch the spillover)

EXPERIMENT

- STEP 1: If indoors, place large Styrofoam bowl or plate on table and set small disposable cup in the center.
- STEP 2: Pour vinegar into cup
- STEP 3: Squirt several drops of dish soap into mixture
- STEP 4: Mix 1-2 drops of food coloring into vinegar
- STEP 5: Dump baking soda into cup all at once and watch reaction

What just happened? The baking soda reacts with the vinegar and it quickly bubbles over. The food coloring just made it pretty!

BIBLE LESSON

What do you love the most in this whole world? (Allow answers) Today we are going to read a story from the Old Testament book of Genesis, the very first book in the whole bible. It's about a man who loved his son so much that he gave him a special gift. Everyone knew he loved this person the most.

² Joseph was about seventeen years old and helped out his brothers in herding the flocks. These were his half brothers actually and Joseph brought his father bad reports on them. **What do you think of tattle tales? (Allow answers). It sounds like this is what Joseph was doing, telling on his brothers.**

³⁻⁴ Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons because he was the child of his old age. And he made him an elaborately embroidered coat. **What did he make Joseph? A beautiful coat, a coat of many colors.** When his brothers realized that their father loved him more than them, they grew to hate him—they wouldn't even speak to him. **How**

would you feel if you knew your dad loved your brother or sister more than you? This is how Joseph's brothers were probably feeling.

⁵⁻⁷ Joseph had a dream. When he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. In his dream, his brothers would bow down to him. ⁸ His brothers said, "So! You're going to rule us? You're going to boss us around?" **What would you say if someone, especially someone you didn't like, told you that they dreamed you'd bow down to them one day?**

⁹ He had another dream and told this one also to his brothers about it. It was the same thing, they'd bow down to him. **Boy were his brothers mad now!**

¹²⁻¹³ His brothers had gone off to Shechem where they were pasturing their father's flocks. Jacob told Joseph to go get his brothers.

¹⁸⁻²⁰ His brothers spotted him off in the distance. By the time he got to them they had cooked up a plot to kill him. The brothers were saying, "Here comes that dreamer. Let's kill him and throw him into one of these old wells; we can say that a vicious animal ate him up. We'll see what his dreams amount to." **What were they planning to do to Joseph? Kill him.**

²¹⁻²² Reuben heard the brothers talking and intervened to save him, "We're not going to *kill* him. No murder. Go ahead and throw him in this well out here in the wild, but don't hurt him." Reuben planned to go back later and get him out and take him back to his father. **Which brother was going to go back for Joseph? Reuben. He was the oldest.**

²³⁻²⁴ When Joseph reached his brothers, they ripped off the fancy coat he was wearing, grabbed him, and threw him into a well. It was dry; there wasn't any water in it. ²⁵⁻²⁷ Then they sat down to eat their supper when some men came by. Judah said, "Brothers, what are we going to get out of killing our brother and concealing the evidence? Let's sell him to these people, but let's not kill him—he is, after all, our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed. **What did they do? They sold him! Now Joseph is a slave.**

²⁹⁻³⁰ Later Reuben came back and went to the well—no Joseph! He was so upset! He went to his brothers. "The boy's gone! What am I going to do!" ³¹⁻³² They took Joseph's coat, butchered a goat, and dipped the coat in the blood. They took the fancy coat back to their father and said, "We found this. Look it over—do you think this is your son's coat?" **What did their dad think happened? A wild animal ate Joseph.**

Who did Jacob love the most? Joseph.

He loved Joseph so much that everyone could see it.

What did he give Joseph? A coat of many colors

He couldn't contain his love for Joseph. He loved him so much he was giving him special gifts.

Now, how much do *you* love God? Do other see that you love god so much you can't stop talking about Him and serving Him?

What are some ways you can show others how much you love God? Discuss.

BIBLE APPLICATION

In our experiment, the foam bubbled over. It could not be contained in the little cup. Just like Jacob loved Joseph so much, his love could not be contained in that little cup. Can your love for God be contained in that little cup or does it spill over so others see your love for God spilling over?

GAME SUGGESTION: Wall ball pass.

- Have kids line up against a wall laying down. Their legs should be up the wall, backs on the ground and hands by their side or under their heads.
- Give the first person a bouncy ball to hold with their feet only. When you say go, kids pass the ball down the line and back up only touching it with their feet (and they may use the wall).
- If ball drops, grab it for them and start over, start from the other end, or place it back on that persons feet to try again.
- After a practice run, time the kids to see how quickly they can get the ball down the line and back when working together.