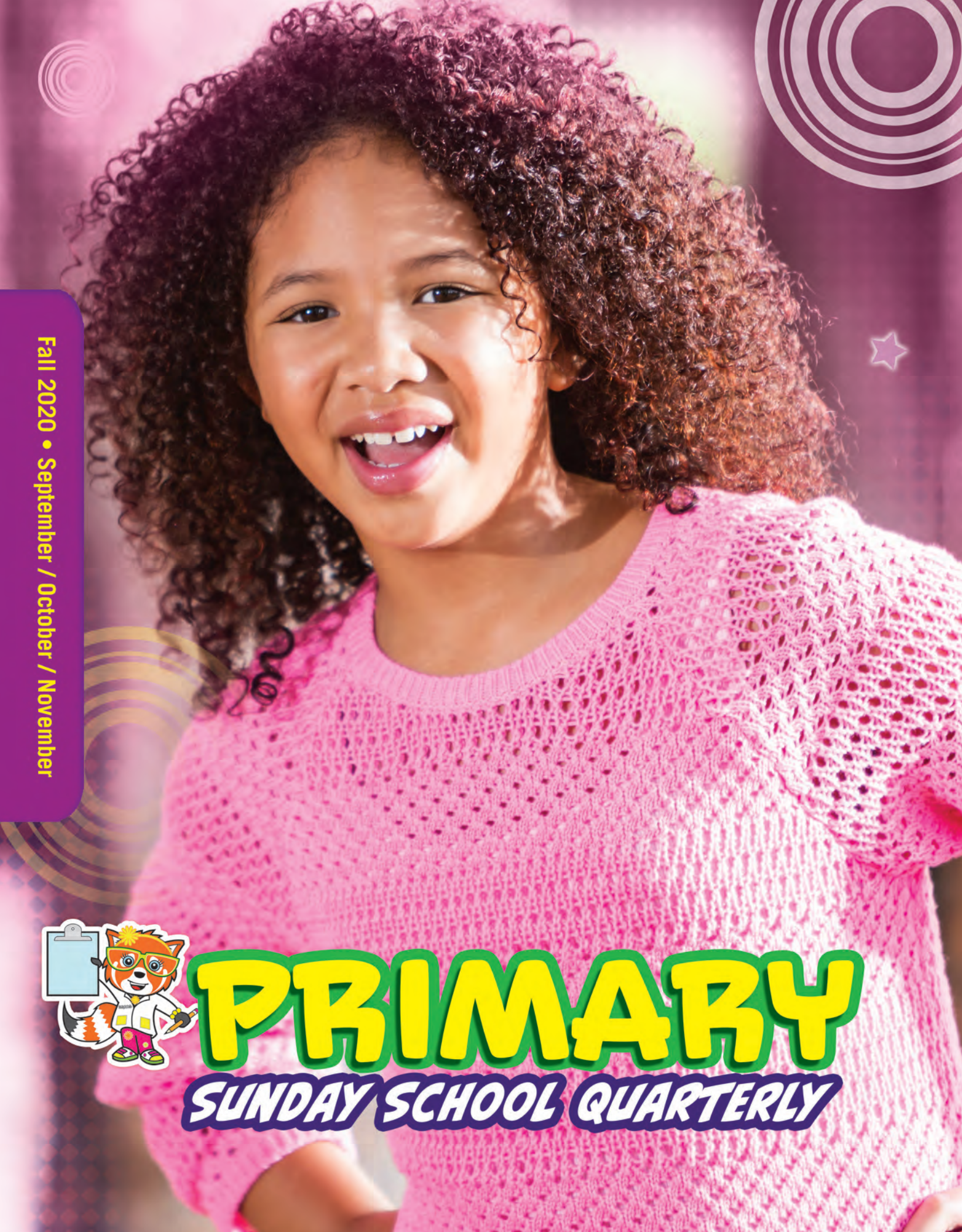


Fall 2020 • September / October / November

# PRIMARY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY

Fall Quarter: September • October • November 2020

# PRIMARY

SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY Vol. 57 • No. 4

## CONTENTS


| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Letter to the Parents | 2 |
| Lesson 1 | Jealousy Hurts | 3 |
| Lesson 2 | Stepping Up with Help from Above | 7 |
| Lesson 3 | Love Should Not Hurt | 11 |
| Lesson 4 | Keeping Hope Alive | 15 |
| Lesson 5 | Stand by Me | 19 |
| Lesson 6 | Loving Those Who Do Not Love Back | 23 |
| Lesson 7 | Loving Others with Our Whole Selves | 27 |
| Lesson 8 | Unlimited Love | 31 |
| Lesson 9 | Showing Love Gets Messy | 35 |
| Lesson 10 | Bearing Fruit by Loving Others | 39 |
| Lesson 11 | The Power of Love | 43 |
| Lesson 12 | Sharing Love | 47 |
| Lesson 13 | Considering How Others Feel | 51 |
| | Extra Activities | 55 |


**PRIMARY Sunday School Quarterly (USPS 444-280)**, Vol. 57, No. 4, September, October, November 2020, is published quarterly for $15.56 per year by AMEC Sunday School Union, 1722 Scovel Street, Nashville, TN 37208. Periodicals Postage Paid at Nashville, Tennessee.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PRIMARY Sunday School Quarterly, 1722 Scovel Street, Nashville, TN 37208.

Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.®. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Primary Sunday School Quarterly, Volume 57, No. 4, September, October, November 2020—Lessons based on the International Sunday School Lessons, The International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching. Copyright © 2019 by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

All rights reserved. Used by permission. © 2020 SSPB.

For permission to reproduce any material in this publication, call (615) 256-5882 or write the Rights and Permissions Department, the AMEC Sunday School Union, 1722 Scovel Street, Nashville, TN 37208.

**Entered as Periodicals Postage Paid Matter, March 20, 1942, at the Post Office at Nashville, Tennessee, under the Act of March 3, 1879.**

Rev. Roderick D. Belin, President and Publisher
Rev. Garland F. Pierce, Executive Director, Department of Christian Education
Mr. André Wright, Chief of Operations

# For the Parents

Dear Parents,

I feel really blessed to have the opportunity to work with your child this quarter. We will explore God's Word together through these thirteen lessons. My prayer is that your child will learn a lot and that the learning will result in his or her having a closer relationship with God.

God commands us to love one another as God loves us.

Unit I, "Struggles with Love," has four lessons from the book of Genesis, revealing aspects of love. Themes in this unit range from jealousy and destruction to commitment, forgiveness, hope, and reconciliation.

Unit II, "What Is Love?" has four lessons that center on love for the stranger, the poor, and enemies, as well as divine love reflected in human life. The lessons are studies from the books of 1 Samuel, Luke, and 1 Corinthians.

Unit III, "Loving God's Way," contains five lessons. John elaborates on how believers love by serving and portrays Jesus' explanation of the intertwining love of God for Jesus and for those who abide in Christ. The book of 1 John clarifies the abiding love of God through the Holy Spirit, which makes it possible for us to love one another. Acts reveals the expression of the love of God in the formation of the early Christian community by the workings of the Holy Spirit. James tells of the love of neighbor as the fulfillment of the law of God.

You can have a discussion with your child about giving his or her life to God with help from the *ABCs of Salvation*, listed below.

A. Say, "Admit you have sinned (see Psalm 32:5), or done wrong." Go through just a few of the Ten Commandments—stealing or lying and so forth. Tell how our sins separate us from God (see Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 3:23).
B. Say, "Believe Jesus is God's Son. He took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross (see Romans 5:8). We must believe that Jesus is God's Son and that God raised Him from the dead."
C. Say, "Call on God to forgive you (see Acts 2:21). When we are sorry for our sins and want to stop doing wrong, we can ask God to forgive us (see Acts 16:31)."

I look forward to helping your child understand what it means to have faith in Jesus Christ. Thank you for the opportunity to help shape your child's spiritual life.

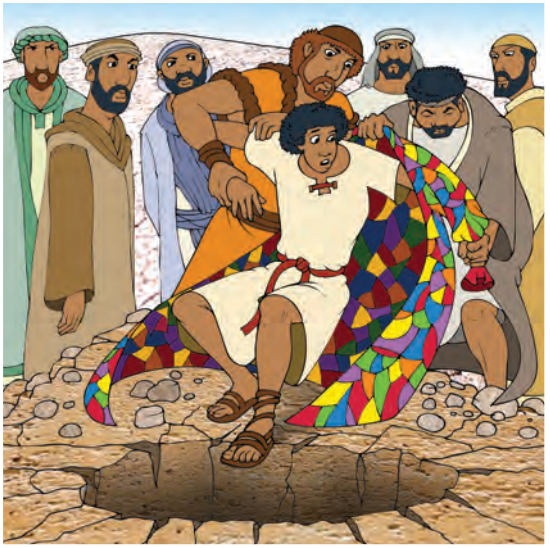
_____

Your Child's Teacher

LESSON 1

September 6, 2020

**Lesson Scripture:**
Genesis 37:2-11, 23-24a, 28



# Jealousy Hurts

**Key Verse:** [Joseph's] brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind. (Genesis 37:11)

Joseph tended his father's flocks with his half-brothers, the sons of Jacob's first two wives. Joseph had been born when Jacob was an old man. Joseph was his father's favorite. Joseph's father had given Joseph a special coat and his brothers were jealous.

One day, Joseph had a dream that they were all cutting grain and all the other bundles of grain bowed to Joseph's bundle of grain. When he told his brothers about the dream, they hated him more because they felt that he thought that he would rule over them.

Joseph also dreamed that the sun, the moon, and eleven stars bowed to him. When he told his father, Jacob asked if he thought that his family would bow to Joseph. Jacob wondered what Joseph's dreams meant.

One day, Jacob sent Joseph out to meet his brothers, who were working in another area. They saw Joseph coming and they recognized his coat. When Joseph arrived, they took his coat and threw him into a deep pit. A group of traders riding camels approached, so the brothers sold Joseph for twenty pieces of silver. The traders took Joseph to Egypt.

# The Sad Sister

Leah and Rhonda are twins. They are always together at home and at school. They do some of the same things during and after the school day. But Rhonda was sad. It always felt like Leah was just a little bit better than her at everything. Their family always praised Leah for her good grades but made Rhonda feel like she needed to try harder. When Leah won a reading award at school, Rhonda was upset and felt like getting angry.

But when the family went to the awards day and Rhonda saw Leah bounce up to the stage to get her prize, she could not be mad anymore. She was happy for her sister and knew that Leah worked hard and read every day to win that award. After the celebration, Rhonda gave her sister a big hug.

"I'm so happy for you, Leah," she said.

"Thank you, Rhonda," Leah replied. "I got a twenty-dollar gift card. Do you want to go get some ice cream?"

"Yes! Thank you!" Rhonda replied, feeling good about not letting her jealousy get the better of her and hurt her relationship with Leah.

## Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a great lesson about jealousy. Do you know what *jealousy* is? Have you ever been jealous of others because of what they have or the special attention they are receiving?

Sometimes, it's hard not to be jealous, even when it seems that someone gets better treatment than you. But, if you really think about it, everyone has their chance to be special. We all have birthdays that we celebrate. We all have special accomplishments for which we are honored. We have to remember that it can't always be about us and what we want.

# Match the Sentence Parts

Match the first part of the sentence in Column A to the second part in Column B by drawing a line between the two to complete sentences from today's lesson.

| Column A | Column B |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Joseph's brothers were | a. given to him by his father. |
| 2. Joseph wore a special coat | b. the dream that Joseph had. |
| 3. Joseph's brothers took his coat | c. twenty pieces of silver. |
| 4. Jacob wondered about | d. jealous of him. |
| 5. Joseph's brothers sold him for | e. and threw him into a deep pit. |

# Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the missing words from today's Key Verse. (Challenge: See if you can complete the activity without looking back to the Key Verse at the beginning of the lesson.)

[_____]

_____ were

_____ of him, but

his _____ kept the

_____ in

_____.

(Genesis 37:11)

September 13, 2020

**Lesson Scripture:** Genesis 41:25-33, 37-40, 50-52

# Stepping Up with Help from Above

**Key Verses:** Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, . . . . You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders." (Genesis 41:39, 40a)

Pharaoh had several troubling dreams. When he heard that Joseph could *interpret* (figure out) dreams, he sent for Joseph. Joseph told Pharaoh that only God could tell what the dreams meant.

Pharaoh described his dreams to Joseph. Joseph told Pharaoh that both dreams meant the same thing. Joseph told him that the seven fat cows and the seven plump grains stood for seven years of abundance. The seven thin cows and the seven withered grains stood for seven years of famine. God was showing Pharaoh that the next seven years would be years of abundance and success throughout Egypt. They would be followed by seven years of famine that would destroy the land—and people would die.

Joseph told Pharaoh to find the wisest man in Egypt to collect one-fifth of Egypt's crops during the seven good years. The crops must be put into storehouses. This food and grain would be used to feed the people during the seven years of famine.

Pharaoh liked Joseph's suggestions so much that he put Joseph in charge. Pharaoh gave Joseph his ring to wear as a symbol of his authority. Everything happened just as Joseph had said.

# Weathering the Storm

A bad thunderstorm rolled through Raul's neighborhood one night. It was good that his family was safe, but the storm messed up their house. To make matters worse, they were already taking care of his sick grandfather, Felix. It felt like his parents were always running here and there to make sure everything was taken care of. Raul never noticed how hard they worked to keep everything together. Raul just knew that he had to do something to help.

"Mama, how can I help?" he asked. "I want to do something too."

"Thank you, Raul! We could use your help with Grandpa Felix," his mother responded. "We have to feed him his lunch, but we're running behind. He's going to wonder where we are with his lunch. Can you get his lunch to him for me?"

"Yes, ma'am!" Raul answered. He always watched his older brother, Martin, help with Grandpa Felix before he went away to school. His parents were not sure that he knew what to do, but they trusted him to do it.

Raul felt proud that he could help his family with such an important task.

## Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Wow, Raul really stepped up when his family needed him! Would you be able to do the same thing, or would you think that there was nothing you could do to help?

When there is a situation like Raul's family was going through, every hand is needed to make sure everything works smoothly. What do you think would have happened if Raul had not helped out with his Grandpa Felix? Can you imagine how relieved his parents were when he asked to help out? Would you help out during a similar family situation? We all need to lend a hand!

# True or False?

Read each sentence below (related to today's lesson) and circle **T** if the statement is true, or **F** if the statement is *false* (not true).

T OR F 1. All of Pharaoh's advisors knew what the dreams meant.

T OR F 2. Joseph told Pharaoh that God was showing him that the dreams meant the same thing.

T OR F 3. Someone told Pharaoh that Joseph could interpret dreams.

T OR F 4. Joseph told Pharaoh that his dreams did not have any meaning.

T OR F 5. There would be seven years of abundance followed by seven years of severe famine.

# Searching for Words

Find the listed words related to today's lesson in the word search below.

**Abundance • Cows • Dreams • Grain**
**Pharaoh • Plump • Seven • Withered**

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | W | L | S | D | F | R | Z | P | F | E | R |
| G | D | A | D | G | H | J | K | L | H | W | N |
| H | C | O | W | S | J | K | L | U | D | I | M |
| J | C | F | G | D | R | G | J | M | E | T | K |
| K | E | R | G | R | A | I | N | P | S | H | L |
| P | F | F | G | E | H | J | K | L | Z | E | P |
| W | H | P | H | A | R | A | O | H | C | R | W |
| Q | J | W | A | M | K | P | G | R | Q | E | E |
| Z | Y | N | K | S | E | V | E | N | Z | D | F |
| E | A | B | U | N | D | A | N | C | E | Y | Z |