TEEN LESSON: THE DREAM FULFILLED; Theme: LESSONS FROM JOSEPH

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 37:9; For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the Lord, they will inherit the land.

GENESIS chapters 42-50;
Next door to Egypt in the land of Canaan lived Joseph’s father and his brothers. They were affected by the famine as well. They were nomads, shepherds. They lived in tents and did not store food.

Jacob (Israel) sent his sons to Egypt to buy food. The brothers now met Joseph once again. They did not recognize him but Joseph knew them. How will Joseph react?
Will he forget about his brothers and family and embrace his new career?
Will he take revenge on his brothers who treated him so unfairly?
Joseph tested them. He wanted to find out if they were still cruel and jealous. He treated them as spies. He asked about their family and he put them into prison. When he let them go with the food they purchased, he kept one back in prison to ensure that they would return. On the second trip of the brothers to buy food, Joseph revealed himself as Joseph whom they had sold. Joseph was satisfied that they had changed. His brothers were now afraid of him because of how they had treated him but Joseph explained that all was part of God’s plan to preserve their family. Joseph had his whole family brought to Egypt so they would survive the famine. They settled in the best land of Egypt. Because of Joseph’s position in Egypt, his family was treated with great respect and favor.

Remember Joseph’s first dreams?
Did Joseph’s brothers bow down to him? Did his father bow down to him?

As second in command in the land of Egypt, Joseph’s whole family was obliged to acknowledge his authority over them. They had to bow down to him so Joseph’s dreams were fulfilled.

Joseph did not always understand what was happening to him and he suffered under mistreatment but he learned a truth that we must learn as well.
Genesis 50 :20, Joseph says, “And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.”
Compare this verse to Romans 8:28, where it says “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

You are called to a specific purpose, you are not here by accident. God has a plan for you!
If you will love God and continue to trust Him even when things are difficult, He will work out His plan for you!