

1. Joseph the favourite son (chapter 37)

1. Joseph is hated (1-11)
 - His conduct: (2) creates tension
 - His father: (3a) loves him
 - His robe: (3b) shows it
 - His dreams: (7 + 9) annoy everyone
 - The fire gets hotter & spreads
2. Joseph is sold (12-28)
 - (12) "Shechem": Joseph is ready.
 - The brothers: (18) see Joseph
 - Reuben: (21-22) plays for time. What would be right?
 - Judah: (26) has a beneficial idea

An important topic of the Bible

3. Joseph is missed (29-36)
 - The brothers: (31) fabricate false evidence. "A man reaps what he sows." (Galatians 6:7)
 - Jacob mourns (34-35)
 - The family God wanted to use: torn apart
4. Chapter 38: Tamar. Judah. God.

Examples for irresponsibility and wrong values:

Favouritism – cowardice – callous profit-maximizing.

Does it pay to lead a life without virtue?

*Actions have consequences. – (Family) relationships
Don't wait!*

Ready for responsibility?

How does God lead Joseph? Dreams and School

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QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

1. Think of your family now. What has shaped you? What has damaged you?
2. Think of your troubles now. Could this be God's training programme for you? Do you see God at work in your life? Can you trust him? Do you want to enrol in God's school? What could make you hesitate?

Talk to the Lord about these things.