**Joseph: The Child**

**Introduction**

The Joseph story is considered to be one of the most popular Biblical stories. Joseph's relationship to his brothers and father is more explicit in scripture than the other Genesis stories. No characters here are saints. They are all very human. They are constantly striving. They have the potential to grow.

**Procedure**

A. Read the Biblical text carefully. Decide what stories from Joseph you want to read.

B. For both younger and older students, have them discuss the following questions before they become aware that the Joseph story will be studied. Perhaps they can do it privately on paper. There is a prototype in our kit.

1) What do my brothers and sisters think about me?

2) What do I think about them?

3) Do my parents seem to sometimes favor one child over another?

4) Are my brothers and sisters better at certain things than I am?

5) Am I better at certain things?

6) Sometimes only one in a family can be a leader. How does a family make such a decision?

C. After discussing these questions open the text and begin to read the text, lines 1-11, or tell the story to that point. Then ask the following questions:

1) How do you feel about the story?

2) How do you feel about Jacob?

3) How do you feel about Joseph?

4) How do you feel about the brothers?

5) What lines in the story tell us about Joseph's character?

6) What lines tell us about Jacob?

7) What kind of man do you suppose Joseph will become?