



ask your children questions!

for Mums & Dads

## Summary of the פְּרָשָׁה, by עֲלוֹת

**פְּתוּחַ** pleaded with יוֹסֵף not to keep בְּנֵימִין behind. He explained everything that had happened, and that יַעֲקֹב could not bear to see the brothers return without בְּנֵימִין, particularly since he has already lost one son. .

**לֵוִי** told יוֹסֵף that he had taken responsibility for בְּנֵימִין and pleaded that he should be held, himself, rather than בְּנֵימִין. Then, בְּנֵימִין would be able to return with his brothers to יַעֲקֹב.

Now יוֹסֵף could not restrain himself. He ordered that everyone except his brothers should leave, then he cried out loud and revealed his identity. He asked whether his father was still alive, but his brothers could not answer him because they were so confused. He asked his brothers to come near to him, then told them not to be angry at themselves, for everything had been ה' plan.

**שְׁלִישִׁי** יוֹסֵף told his brothers to return and tell their father to come back with them, and with all of his family and belongings, to live in גֶּשֶׁן . יוֹסֵף would look after them and help them to survive the remaining five years of famine. יוֹסֵף and בְּנֵימִין wept and embraced each other. יוֹסֵף then kissed all of his brothers and wept on them. Then all the brothers talked with יוֹסֵף.

The news spread that יוֹסֵף's brothers had arrived. פְּרַעֲה said that the brothers should go and bring יַעֲקֹב and their families. The best of the land would be given to them.

**רְבִיעִי** יוֹסֵף gave his brothers wagons, provisions for the journey and changes of clothing. To בְּנֵימִין he gave 300 pieces of silver and five changes of clothing. **חז"ל** - **הַכַּמְיִנוּ זְכָרָנָם לְבִרְכָה** (our Rabbis, of blessed memory) teach us that this was a hint to the future success of בְּנֵימִין's descendant, מְרֹדֵךְ, who was to be dressed in five royal garments. He sent twenty donkeys, laden with gifts and food, to his father. When the brothers told their father that יוֹסֵף was still alive he did not believe it, at first. When they told him what יוֹסֵף had said, and when he saw the wagons, וַתְּחִי רוּחַ יַעֲקֹב אֲבִיהֶם - "the spirit of their father, יַעֲקֹב, was revived."

**חֲמִישִׁי** - "וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל רַב עוֹד יוֹסֵף בְּנֵי חַי אֱלֹכָה וְאֶרְאֶנּוּ בְּטָרָם אָמוּתִי:" "And יִשְׂרָאֵל said: 'How great! My son יוֹסֵף still lives! I shall go and see him before I die.'" יִשְׂרָאֵל set out with all that he had. In בָּאָר שֶׁבַע he offered sacrifices to ה'. ה' appeared to him in the night and told him not to worry about going down to מִצְרַיִם, for ה' would look after him, he would become a great nation, and ה' would bring them out. יַעֲקֹב went down to מִצְרַיִם with all of his family - seventy people in total.

**שֵׁשִׁי** יַעֲקֹב sent יְהוּדָה ahead, to יוֹסֵף, to prepare for their arrival in גֶּשֶׁן. (גֶּשֶׁן brings a מִדְרָשׁ which teaches us that יְהוּדָה's mission was to go ahead to גֶּשֶׁן to build a יִשְׁבָּה there. This would make sure there would be a place to study תּוֹרָה there when everyone arrived.) יוֹסֵף went to meet his father in גֶּשֶׁן, and wept on his neck, very much, when they met. יוֹסֵף introduced his brothers to פְּרַעֲה, and פְּרַעֲה gave them permission to live in גֶּשֶׁן. יוֹסֵף introduced יַעֲקֹב to פְּרַעֲה, and יַעֲקֹב blessed פְּרַעֲה.

### סֵפֶר בְּרֵאשִׁית

- בְּרֵאשִׁית
- נח
- לֵךְ-לֵךְ
- וַיֵּרָא
- חַיֵּי שָׂרָה
- תּוֹלְדוֹת
- וַיֵּצֵא
- וַיִּשְׁלַח
- וַיִּשָּׁב
- מִקֶּץ
- וַיִּגַּשׁ
- וַיַּחֲיוּ

**שְׁבִיעֵי** People came from all around to buy food from יוסף during the famine. When their money ran out they paid with livestock - horses, sheep, cattle, donkeys. Then they had to sell their land, and all the land became פְּרָעָה's. Everyone had to give a fifth of their produce to פְּרָעָה. Only כֹּהֲנִים (idol-worshipping priests) did not have to give the fifth, because only their land did not become פְּרָעָה's.  
 גִּשְׁן וְיִשְׂרָאֵל settled in the land of גִּשְׁן; they acquired property in it and they were fruitful and multiplied greatly.”

Bereishit: Perek 45 Pesukim 7-8

7. “ה' has sent me ahead of you to ensure your survival in the land and to look after you until a great deliverance.”

8. “And now, it was not you who sent me here, but ה', He has made me father to פְּרָעָה, master of his entire household, and ruler throughout the entire land of Egypt.

**מ"ה: ז-ה**

ז וַיִּשְׁלַחנִי אֱלֹהִים לְפָנֶיכֶם לְשׁוּם לָכֶם שְׂאֲרֵית בְּאֶרֶץ וּלְהַחֲיוֹת לָכֶם לְפָלִיטָה אֲדֹלָה:

וז ועתה לא-אתם שְׁלַחְתֶּם אֹתִי הִנֵּה כִּי הָאֱלֹהִים וַיִּשְׁיִמְנֵי לְאָב לְפָרְעָה וּלְאֲדוֹן לְכָל-בֵּיתוֹ וּמִשְׁלַל בְּכָל-אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:

In your own words, write down what יוסף is trying to tell his brothers in these פְּסוּקִים.

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Can you explain the meaning of the phrase:

**? גַּם זֹו לְטוֹבָה**

questions

1. Why do you think it was יהודה who felt he was the right person to plead for בנימין?
2. According to חז"ל, why did יוסף give בנימין five changes of clothing?
3. What was יעקב's first reaction to the news that יוסף was still alive?
4. What did ה' tell יעקב when He appeared to him in the night?
5. Why did all the land of Egypt become פְּרָעָה's property?

questions

Pirkei Avot - Chapter : 4 Mishnah 1

“Who is rich? He who is happy with his lot.”  
 (he who is happy with what he has)

*Are you happy with your lot?*

פְּרָקֵי אֲבוֹת ד' : א

אִיזוֹהוּ עֲשִׂיר הַשְּׂמִיחַ בְּחֻלְקוֹ

שְׂפָת שְׁלוֹם!