

# Bismillah al rahman al rahim

## BIS Weekend School

### 4th Grade Study Guide

#### Story of Yusuf (A)

- Know the lineage of Yusuf (A). Ibraheem → Ishaq → Ya'qub → Yusuf
- Who was Bin Yamin (Pg. 5)
- Yusuf's dream: the eleven stars and the sun and the moon—who do they represent? (Pg. 7)
- The Brothers' plan... and why did their father not trust them? (Pg. 8)
- Keep in mind the role of the shirt that we discussed in class.
- Yusuf was put in the deepest well the brothers could find. \*Extra credit: The name of the well was Jub... This is a special kind of well, deeper and darker than a normal well.\*
  - Yusuf's father's grief led to his blindness.
  - Yusuf is found by a caravan and taken to a city\*\* (Know city name for extra credit!) in Egypt, where he is made a slave. Consider the psychological effects of slavery. Think about the humiliation factor, as we discussed in class.
    - Yusuf's stature was what made the Aziz notice him and take him under his wing. Yusuf had outer beauty, but what was greater was the noble way Yusuf carried himself. Think about what it takes for a person to behave the way he did, with such patience and consideration. Yusuf was a prophet, but he was also a teenager at the time. Yusuf (A) knew that Allah was his constant companion, and just as a person doesn't like to do something in the company of their friend that he/she knows they wouldn't like, Yusuf didn't do things that he knew Allah wouldn't like.
      - Yusuf's bond with Allah helped him when the Aziz's wife tried to seduce him.
      - Why did Yusuf choose to go to prison over living a life of luxury in the house of the Aziz? (Pg. 18)
      - Two prisoners came to Yusuf with a dream (Pg. 19); how did this dream lead to Yusuf's eventual freedom? (Pg. 22- 23)
      - The King's dream. How did Yusuf's interpretation of it save Egypt? What did the king appoint Yusuf to do? (Pg. 26 – 27)
      - Although Yusuf forgave his brothers, he didn't let them get off easy. He sent them back and forth between Egypt and Palestine. Know why he did this the first time (Pg. 31) and then again (Pg. 31-32) \*The second time had to do with the King's golden cup.\* They were made to leave Bin Yamin and go back to their father—why? (Pg. 40 -41). They went back to Egypt and found out Yusuf's true identity. And then again a third time, they left Egypt to go get their father and bring him to Yusuf.
        - The role of the shirt again! (Pg. 44)
        - When Yusuf's father came to him in Egypt, Yusuf went out to the city gates to approach his father, instead of his father coming to him. How did this gesture show respect for his father?
        - Yusuf's dream comes true (Pg. 47)

Pick one of the themes from the story of Yusuf and think about how it can help you face some of the tests and hard decisions you face as a teenager in this society.

1. Patience—Yusuf (A) was test every step of the way. As a little boy, he dealt with his brothers' jealousy, but he was patient and still trusted them. As a slave, he didn't lash out and again trusted Allah to do what is best for him. As a teenager, he fought temptation. In prison, he waited patiently to fulfill his destiny.
2. The will to look for opportunities—Each test became an opportunity for Yusuf to experience something new and learn from it. He left his hometown Palestine and looked forward to his experience in a new city and country. He was made into a slave, but because of his noble behavior he was noticed and given the opportunity to live comfortably. He made the most of his time in jail by interpreting dreams and teaching people about Allah. He didn't let anything bring him down and instead made each experience something he could grow from.
3. Relationship with Allah. Yusuf (A) knew that with Allah on his side, only the best was in store for him. He also knew that to have Allah on his side, he had to act as if Allah was his constant companion, that even though he couldn't see Allah, Allah could see his every move. This is the point of iman (faith) where you don't just fear Allah, but you loved Him so much that doing anything bad is even worse than humiliating yourself in front of your best friend.

We divided up the story of Yusuf into four parts, and each part represented a certain phase from Yusuf's life. Know roughly what happened in each phase.

1. Family/Home
2. Palace
3. Prison
4. Reunion

### **The Story of Shu'aib (A)**

- He was from the tribe of Madyan, which was in Hijaz. This is also where Prophet Ibrahim was from.
- What is his connection to Musa (A)?
- Shu'aib was sent, as most Prophet's are, to guide their people. When the people rejected him, they were punished by Allah with an earthquake.

*\*\* I want you all to concentrate on the story of Yusuf (A) this semester, and since we did not finish covering the story of Musa, I will not include it in this test. Most of the information on Yusuf is in the book, but there are some things we talked about in class that are equally important and will appear on the test.*