

# Power of Forgiveness

**Person** What's up Clarence? You look a little angry.

**Clarence** Humph, I'm not very happy right now.

**Person** Well, tell me what happened to make you so unhappy.

**Clarence** Last night Billy came over to play with my new Playstation game. It was brand new and he scratched it all up and now it doesn't work anymore.

**Person** Well that does seem very unfortunate, but I'm sure Billy didn't mean it.

**Clarence** Well he did say it was an accident and he was sorry...but I can't forgive him, it was my favorite game, Frogger!

**Person** You know that reminds me of a story in the Bible.

**Clarence** Frogger reminds you of a story in the Bible?

**Person** No silly, the forgiving part.

**Clarence** Oh!

**Person** This story was about a young boy who was very special in his father's eyes.

**Clarence** Daniel was special.

**Person** True, but this is a story about Joseph, one of the 12 sons of Jacob. Jacob loved his son Joseph so much, he made him a very special coat of many colors.

**Clarence** I bet it was beautiful.

**Person** It was and Joseph loved his coat very much. But his eleven other brothers became very jealous. They didn't get a beautiful coat.

**Clarence** So, what did they do?

**Person** What they did was very cruel. First they put Joseph in a deep hole to die, but then decided to sell him instead to some merchants traveling to Egypt.

**Clarence** I bet Joseph was really angry.

**Person** He was at first, just like you are angry now, but he also loved God.

**Clarence** So what happened?

**Person** Joseph made his home in Egypt and soon became an important person there. One day God told him in a dream that there would be great famine in the land. Do you know what a famine is?

**Clarence** I think that is where there is nothing to eat.

**Person** That's right and this famine was going to last for seven years.

**Clarence** Wow! That's a long time, everyone would starve to death.

**Person** Yes, but Pharaoh was no dummy. He let Joseph get ready for the famine by storing large amounts of food to eat later. Finally, the famine came and Joseph's brothers ran out of food....

**Clarence** ...So they tried to get some food from Joseph?

**Person** Yes they did.

**Clarence** But he was still angry and wouldn't give them any. Get away he said, starve to death, go...

**Person** Hold on Clarence (*Hand over mouth*), that's not what happened. He forgave them and shared the food because he realized that God had planned the whole thing. Because of his brothers, Joseph went to Egypt and was able to save all of them from starving to death. You see God knows what is best for us even when we don't and when we learn to forgive others in our hearts, He can do great things for us.

**Clarence** I guess Joseph did the right thing by forgiving his brothers. I better forgive Billy too. Maybe then God will help me win at Frogger.

**Person** Well, that's not quite what I'm saying, but anyway, it's a good start to forgive Billy.

**Clarence** Yeah, he is my best friend.