

# Minster Bethel Congregational Church (MBCC)

---

01/11/2020 - Genesis 37

## Happiness Right Here



Next week is Remembrance Sunday & Church Parade. We will be holding a service on zoom at 10:55.

The details to join are below:

Topic: Church Parade - Remembrance

Time: Nov 8, 2020 10:55 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76731744666?pwd=TWpza1lkdk0yaGRQa1VYckJ3OUxvVQT09>

Meeting ID: 767 3174 4666

Passcode: 1stMinster

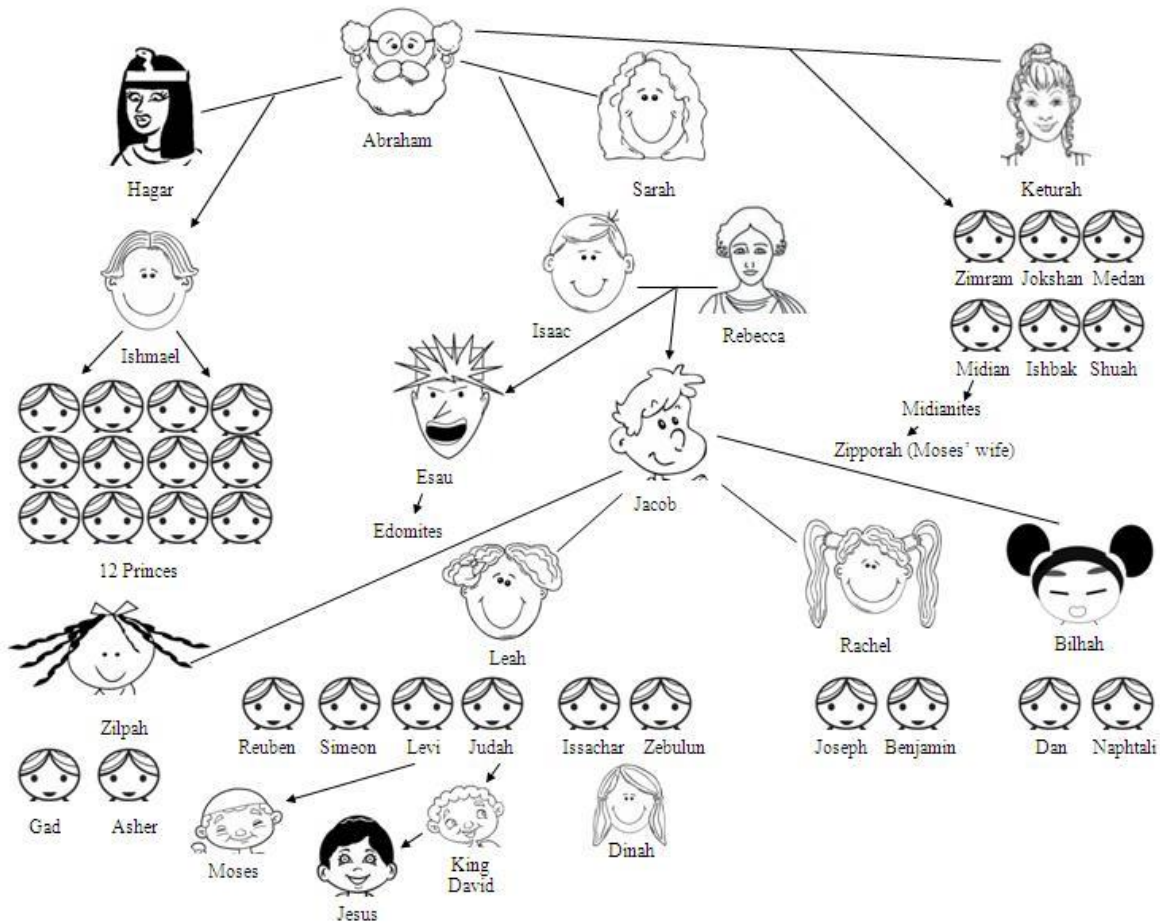
All lockdown services can be found at: [www.mbccs.co.uk](http://www.mbccs.co.uk)

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

**Philippians 4:11**

**Good morning and welcome to this week's message.**

The last few weeks we have been introduced to Jacob. We know he is a man who was a chancer, tricking his brother in to giving up his birthright. We know that he experienced God after tricking his father Isaac into giving his blessing to him. What we learn today, is he would be the father and ancestor to many of the bible greats as part of God's promise to Abraham  
*(Genesis 15:5) He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars —if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring[d] be."*



We all have a family tree and today we are going to think about Jacobs sons

**Our reading today is Genesis 37:** <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+37&version=NIV>

We have arrived at that time of year when the weather is getting colder. Some of us are wearing jumpers and coats to stay warm and dry. Some people let the weather not only decide what they will wear but also decide what their day will be like. If it is sunny, they are happy and cheerful. If it is rainy and cold, they are gloomy and miserable. Other people, you might say, carry their own sunshine with them. No matter what the weather is like outside, they choose to be happy anyway. No matter what circumstances life brings them, they trust in Jesus and go along with persistence. The Bible mentions that in the following verse:

*Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. – Philippians 4:11*

This reminds me of the story of Joseph. He grew up to be like that. He was not perfect. His mother, Rachel, died when he was 15 years old. Two years later, his father gave him the authority to be shepherd over the flocks, even though he had several older brothers. He was a tell-tale when his brothers did bad things. He would get them into trouble which they were not happy about that! To make matters worse, Joseph's father gave him special treatment and the icing on the cake was when Jacob gave Joseph a multi-colored coat.

*Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him. – Genesis 37:3,4*

Then one day Joseph had a dream. He told his brothers that he dreamed that a day would come when they would bow down to him and be his servants. Then he had another dream. He told his father and brothers that one day all of them would bow down to him. Even his father resented hearing this and told him so. His brothers envied him even more.

There is a saying *Never attempt to teach a pig to sing; it wastes your time and annoys the pig.*

The context was the difficulty and pointlessness of communicating a lesson that an individual is unwilling or unready to learn.

Jesus said *neither cast your pearls before swine (Matthew 7:6).*

Joseph's dreams were from God to comfort Joseph and strengthen him for the hard times he would face later. Joseph unwisely got very prideful about these dreams. He had to learn the hard way that all we have comes from God, so we should be humble and thankful.

Well, that coat of many colours that showed he was the favoured son got Joseph into trouble with his jealous brothers. Joseph spent many years in the house of Potiphar as a slave. He was wrongfully accused of a crime and put in prison for thirteen years. Eventually, after these humble years, he was exalted to a position of honour with the ruler. Through all of these bad and good times, Joseph learned to be happy where he was and be the best person he could be with what God gave him. He learned to trust God no matter what his circumstances were.

Joseph learned the hard way to be happy with what we have and where we are, let us remember this very important lesson. It's not the weather, or the situation that brings us happiness it is the contentment we find when we put our trust in God.



Today our hymn is:  
“I’ve got the J-O-Y Joy down in my Heart”  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z29h7HUcJus>

I'VE GOT JOY, JOY, JOY, JOY DOWN IN MY HEART

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart to stay

I've got the peace that passes understanding  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart  
I've got the peace that passes understanding  
Down in my heart (where?)  
Down in my heart to stay

I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer  
Way down in the depths of my heart (where?)  
Down in the depths of my heart (where?)  
Down in the depths of my heart  
I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer  
Way down in the depths of my heart (where?)  
Down in the depths of my heart to stay

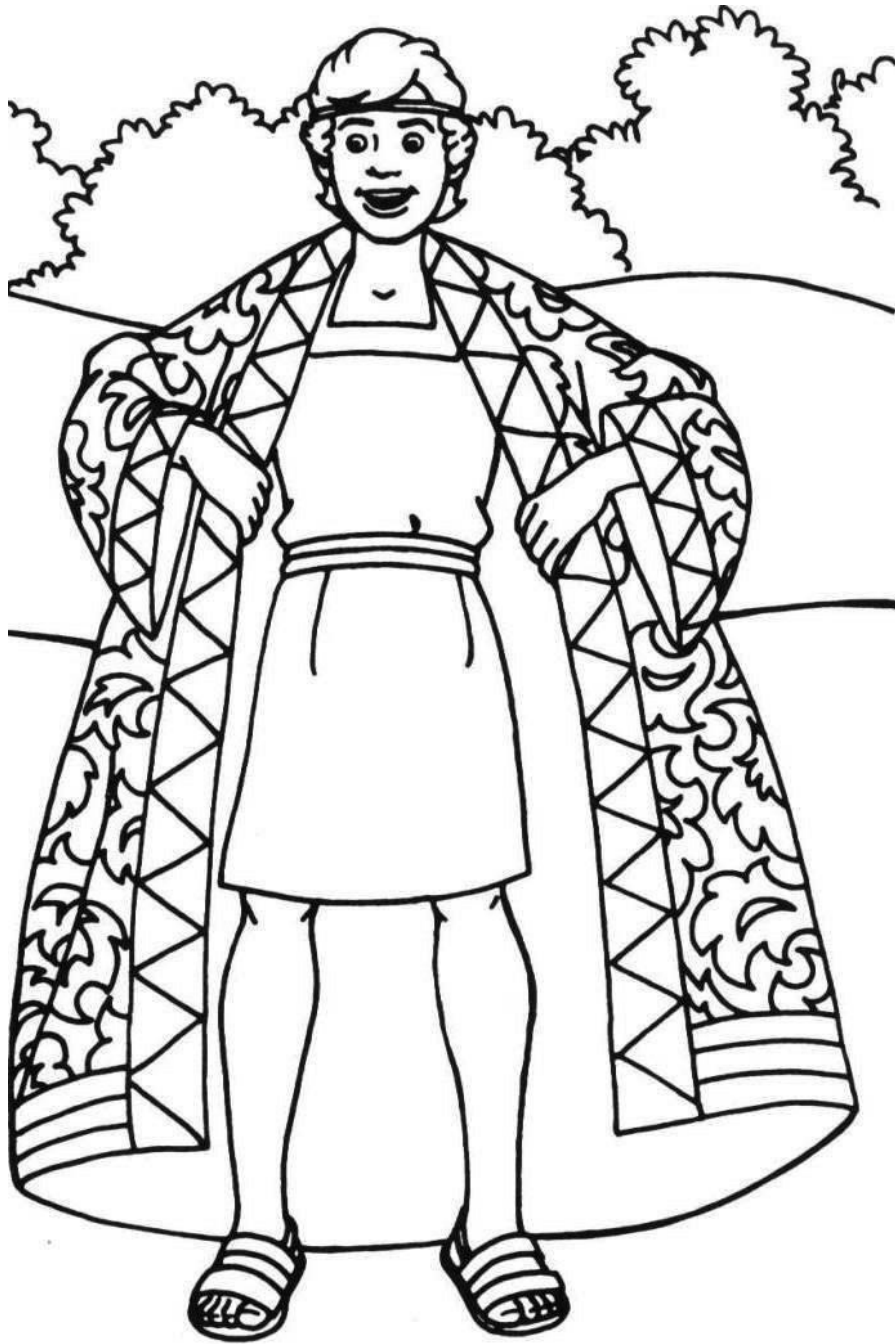
You shall love the Lord your God  
With all your heart and soul and strength  
Heart and soul and strength  
Heart and soul and strength  
You shall love the Lord your God  
With all your heart and soul and strength  
Heart and soul and strength always



**Let's pray.**

Dear God,

Thank you for loving each of us. Help us to guard against feelings of jealousy that might come into our heart. Help us to be happy as we know you are with us at all times. Amen.



May Gods blessing surround you each day

As you trust Him and walk in His way;

May His presence within

Guard and keep you from sin.

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!