

# MULTI-

# MAMA Drama

**STRAIGHT UP:** Family situations that urban teens face today can be a source of stress and pain. Only 55% of Hispanic kids, 26.6% black kids, and 60% of white kids\* live with both natural parents. Instead, homes often consist of a single mother with several children from two or more fathers. A live in boyfriend plus an extended family member, such as a Grandma raising a child until the parent is out of jail, are often common place. Add to the cramped quarters the clash of half siblings, teen daughters having their own babies, and more mouths to feed than you have foodstamps, and you got a recipe for stress. While teens might feel their home is a source of their struggles, they have a lot in common with Joseph. He was one of twelve brothers from four different mothers in one household. Remind teens that blended families often mean a blend of problems. But God is bigger than any drama happening on the home front.

\*Source 2002 National Survey of America's Families

**WORD!** *I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. John 14:18*

**KICK OFF ACTIVITY:** Bible Trivia  
**PREP TIME:** None  
**WHAT YOU NEED:** a poker face  
**HERE'S HOW IT GOES:** Ask your teens the following questions. See who knows what and who needs to know more.

1. Joan of Arc was Noah's wife (F)
2. Sodom and Gomorrah were a married couple in the Old Testament (F)
3. The temperature of hell is 4325 degrees Fahrenheit. (?)
4. If you keep all Ten Commandments, you get to go to heaven. (F)
5. God's first name is Harold, as said in the Lord's prayer, Harold be thy name. (F)
6. There are some sins that God can not forgive. (F)
7. It's possible to earn your way into heaven or at least charge it to your credit card. (F)
8. Moses committed a murder. (T)
9. David was one of the twelve disciples.(F)
10. If you are born again, you will need to get a new birth certificate. (F)

**HERE'S WHERE IT GOES:** Remind students the importance of knowing the Bible.

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## LESSON 3

# MULTI-MAMA

### YA KNOW WHAT I'M SAYIN?

Share with your teens this paraphrase of Joseph's story. GENESIS 29-42. Use it to kick start a discussion.

You think your family is twisted? Mine could be a shock TV series. Imagine twelve brothers from four different mothers all living in one household, with no indoor plumbing. Two of our moms are actually sisters. Now my mom—the prettiest one and my Dad's favorite--died when she had my little brother, Benny. That's why Benny and I were my Dad's favorites. We got to ride shotgun in my Dad's chariot. Dad even gave me a colorful jacket as a gift, and it wasn't even my birthday. My oldest brother was trouble. Dad caught him sleeping with one of his wives. Then there was the time our sister got raped and two of my brothers got revenge.

I used to have these crazy dreams how my older brothers would wait on me hand and foot. I think every little brother has that dream. But I made the mistake of telling them about it.

One day, they had enough. Some of my brothers wanted to kill me, but thanks to the oldest, Reuben, they sold me off to slavery instead. What a crazy way out of a crazy household.

But as much as I clashed with my half brothers, they were still family. I didn't follow their footsteps, but followed God's instead. Then the day came that I ran into my brothers again. They needed my help. The cool thing was, I was in a position to help them because I followed God's plan for my life.

The bottom line? Every family is twisted. Don't let those twists make you forget about God. Those twists could help you straighten out your life with God instead.

### JOSEPH'S FAMILY

MOTHER 1: Leah

Reuben  
Simeon  
Levi  
Judah  
Issachar  
Zebulun  
Dinah

MOTHER 2: Zilpah

(Leah's maid)  
  
Gad  
Asher

MOTHER 3: Rachel

(the Dad's favorite and the prettiest)  
  
Joseph  
Benjamin

MOTHER 4: Bilhah

(Rachel's maid. Slept with Reuben)  
  
Dan  
Naphtali

### JOSEPH'S REAL DEAL

Brothers sell him into slavery. Genesis Chapter 37

Potiphar's wife has the hots for Joseph. Genesis Chapter 39

Joseph ends up in a position to help his brothers. Genesis Chapter 42



# DRAMA

## **TALK IT..**

*Ask teens these open ended questions about family*

What is a family? What do you like about your family? What would you like to change?

What makes a family member hard to live with? Is it harder to be in a family where everyone lives in the same house or where the fathers, mothers and kids live in different houses? What's it like to live without your father or mother?

What do families fight about these days? How are relationships different between half brothers/sisters different and whole brothers and sisters? In what situations do you take second place to your half brothers and sisters? In what ways do you take first place?

Do you have more in common with Joseph--a favorite, Reuben--the oldest and leader, Dinah--the only daughter, or Simeon and Levi--who wanted to take revenge on those who raped their sister? Explain.

## **NOW WALK IT.**

Tonight's lesson was about family. Remind teens that God knows what it's like at home. Challenge teens to do the following: Give teens time to discuss last week's challenges as well.

**1. Be a help at home. Do your chores without complaining. Help out with something at home without being asked. Don't fight over the TV.**

**2. Family member. Find a prayer partner and pray for each other's family members during the week. Be specific about requests.**

