

**To print a copy of the  
Silos Josephine pamphlet:**

- 1. Print pages 4 and 5 back-to-back.**
- 2. Trim fairly close on both left and right edges (leaving a margin that is roughly 1/8" on either side)**
- 3. Fold in half so panels #5 and #6 are on the inside.**
- 4. Print pages 2 and 3 back-to-back.**
- 5. Place that sheet with page 2 (including the cover panel) facing down.**
- 6. Place the insert from step three on top of panel #8, with panel #4 facing up.**
- 7. Fold panel #8 over panel #3, enclosing the insert inside.**
- 8. Then fold panel #2 over panel #9. This should bring the title page to the front.**



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easiest—and most helpful to yourself and others—if you are saving up to refill it in the meantime as prices and availability years into the future are impossible to predict (though there are indicators that prices will keep rising and foods may become more difficult to obtain).

### **Is there a place where I could just give some money toward this project?**

No, but thank you for your heart to help. Silos Josephine is not a 501(c)(3) and is not soliciting donations. What is needed, however, is an "all-hands-on-deck" attitude—each one doing what he can to prepare for an uncertain future both for his own family and, as the Lord provides, for his extended family, church community, and neighbors for the potentially difficult days to come. If you want to build a mini silo but physically cannot, enlist the help of a friend. There may be someone else who would love to put one together but does not have the means even though he has time and health.

### **How can I tell others about Silos Josephine?**

Others can read this same explanation on the sidebar at the homepage of roots-by-the-river.com (along with *The Liberty Letter* and *A Prayer for the Nation*). You can also send friends directly to roots-by-the-river.com/silos-josephine. Thank you so much for spreading the word.

*And the seven years of plenteousness, that was in the land of Egypt, were ended. And the seven years of dearth began to come, according as Joseph had said: and the dearth was in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. Genesis 41:53-54*

\* Note: More important than the five-gallon bucket is the idea behind the silo itself. If you only have a box, use a box. Just be careful that whatever you pack in it will be protected from water damage, insects, etc. in a way that is also food-safe long term.

### **Recommended Reading:**

*The Holy Bible*

*Live Not By Lies* by Rod Dreher

*The Benedict Option* by Rod Dreher

*The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom

*Father ten Boom: God's Man* by Corrie ten Boom

*The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan

*Christiana's Journey* by John Bunyan

### **Recommended Listening:**

*Sir Knight of the Splendid Way* by Lamplighter

### **Recommended Watching:**

*How Should We Then Live?* Classic ten-part series by Francis Schaeffer (available on the L'Abri website). Or read Schaeffer's book of the same title.

*Prepare to Stand*, Andrew Brunson's eight-part series at Family Research Council [www.frc.org/preparetostand](http://www.frc.org/preparetostand)

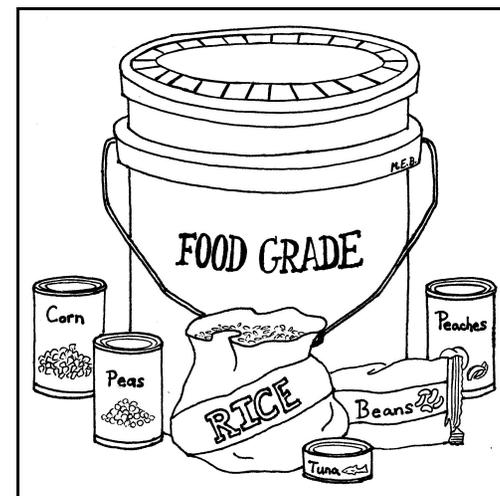


To print additional copies of this pamphlet to share with friends, visit:

[roots-by-the-river.com/silos-josephine](http://roots-by-the-river.com/silos-josephine)

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# Silos Josephine



**Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt: And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land; And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous. Gen. 41:29-31**



**A hands-on project for those concerned about their neighbors and the future.**  
written by **Lisa E. Beal**

Hello! You're probably wondering why you've been given a pail of non-perishable food and what exactly you're supposed to do with it. Let us explain:

For a while now, we've been trying to figure out how to store up some food ahead for extended family, friends, church community, and neighbors on a limited budget and in a limited space. We've been particularly struck by the story of Joseph in Genesis—how he was given merciful warning by God that seven lean years were coming after seven years of plenty—and we, too, have wanted to find a way to gather up for the lean years. Of course, we don't know if we have seven years of "plenty" left here in our country, but our nation also has been given serious warning that judgment is coming. In fact, our family believes that judgment has already begun. Take time to seriously reflect on various recent events in America, and you will likely come to the same conclusion yourself.

When Joseph was saving up for the morrow, he had the full backing of the Pharaoh and the Egyptian government. He could raise up large stores of corn and other grains to provide for hungry people in the future. We, as modern-day Christians, are not in the same position that Joseph was, nor are we to place our trust in earthly powers, but we do still have the responsibility to do what we can to prepare for an uncertain future. Consider the following:

*A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished. Proverbs 22:3*

*There is treasure to be desired and oil in the* 2

*dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man spendeth it up. Proverbs 21:20*

*Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Proverbs 6:6-9*

How to effectively prepare for others, however, is something that has really frustrated me for some time, and I have been thinking about it a lot over the past months. God has shown so many of us that there's apt to be tremendous future need, but what is any one family able to do about it?

I think God may have revealed one workable answer: **Distributed Resources**. The mini silo idea came to me suddenly several weeks ago as I was sitting in church, and I was excited to share it with the family after service. My husband immediately pointed out that there's a similar idea in IT which goes by the name above. Rather than packing large centrally-located silos full of goods as Joseph did, we can all pack small "silos" (for example, five-gallon food-grade buckets) with long-lasting, nutritious foods and distribute them throughout our community. This is different from prepping, which is also advisable, but this is primarily saving up for others rather than for ourselves.

So we have begun packing little silos. You are receiving one of the first. It is our hope to do more as the Lord allows and provides. Our personal intent is to spread them first among Christians [per Galatians 6:10] because our hope is that a Christian family who has been 3

neglect caring for others.

**If I can only fill one or two buckets, is this really going to matter in the end?**

"Little is much when God is in it." The boy who only had his own lunch to offer Jesus—but who gave it willingly—saw it multiplied to the point that five thousand were fed and twelve baskets remained. Our job is only to obey as the Lord leads us individually. We can confidently leave the results to God.

**What do I do someday when the contents of the silo are about to expire?**

When someone prepares a silo, he should make sure that all the included foods are dated out for as far as possible from the date he is giving it. Write the month and year of the *earliest* items to expire on the cover of the bucket. If you have a bucket that has reached its date, use the included contents when you feel it is appropriate and still safe to do so (which may differ by product). According to the USDA, many low-acid, shelf-stable foods will last well beyond the "sell-by" date if kept in a cool, dry place.

If using items before they are truly needed but because they are requiring rotation, we would encourage you to use them for hospitality and outreach. Refill the bucket as you use from it and before it is empty of its original contents if at all possible (not needing to match contents but still aiming for a variety of grains, vegetables, fruits, and proteins if available). Cross out the old date and replace it with the new. Now it's good to go for another couple years (depending on what you have put in it, of course). This will be 8

roots-by-the-river.com/silos-josephine and include it. It would also be helpful to provide a list of included foods with their month/year expiration dates as well. Two other things you might wish to enclose are a card with a word of Scripture/prayer/encouragement for the future and a small surprise to bring a smile someday when the bucket is opened (a few specialty tea bags or a pack of gum, etc.).

### **To whom do I give the silo when it's done?**

That is entirely up to you. Ask the Lord to show you where He would have it to go—and let it go there with no strings attached. If you have packed it for others, it is no longer yours. However, know that there is a biblical principle of scattering provision that we believe the Lord will honor in the days to come:

*Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days. Ecclesiastes 11:1*

You don't need to keep record of or report how many buckets you make or where you are able to distribute them. This project is not about tracking people or things. It's about practically showing brotherly love and encouraging the sharing of the Gospel in a tangible way.

### **Why should I pack a silo for others when my own family may someday be in need?**

Giving helps us not to fear what the future may bring. There's just something about sharing out of our blessings that says, "Father God, I trust you. Thank you for what you have provided for me today. Thank you that I don't need to be afraid about what may happen tomorrow." Of course we must provide for our own families to the best of our ability, but we must not

entrusted with a bucket or two will recognize it as God's special provision and not be afraid to both use and share out of it when the day comes that it is needed. What an opportunity to encourage a brother or sister in the Lord or to share the Gospel with hungry neighbors as you have them to your table and explain where your Help comes from. (And if we are on the threshold of The Great Tribulation and are raptured away before we ever need to open a silo—Hallelujah! But even then it would be a useful thing to have stashed away because when found it could be a welcome help to those who have awakened to the disturbing reality that Jesus has come and they've been left behind.)

Remember, no matter how much any of us could hope to save and distribute, there would never be "enough." Always there will come a day when our hand runs short. Do not fear in that day. THE LORD IS MIGHTY TO SAVE. Think of those who have gone before for whom He has provided: the Israelites who were given manna in the wilderness, Elijah at the brook Cherith, the widow with two sons whose oil did not run dry, the feeding of the five thousand, the sending of Squanto to the Pilgrims to teach them to successfully grow food on a strange shore, the endless bottle of vitamins for Corrie ten Boom. . . We must be faithful to do what He shows us to do. He will be faithful to do the rest. Rejoice and be thankful for the provision He has promised:

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
Psalm 23:1*

*I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. Psalm 37:25*

*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Matthew 6:26*

So please, receive this bucket as from the Lord. Put it in a safe place where you can save it for future need. And if the Lord puts it on your heart to make a bucket or two . . . or a hundred or more . . . and distribute them to your extended family, friends, neighbors, and community members, then **thank you**. And if you do not have the resources to put together a mini silo, but you can take time to diligently pray for your fellow Christians and community members as they prepare against the storm to come, then **thank you too**. Everyone has a part. Seek God to see what it is He would lead you to do, *but please do something*.

### Questions and Answers:

#### Why is this project called Silos Josephine?

Because it relates to the account of Joseph in Scripture and to the meaning of the middle name of one of our adult daughters—Josephine—that is to say, "God multiplies." It is our hope that God will take our initial bucket and multiply it over and over and over through the hands of His people for the future provision of His people as well as for those who don't know Him yet, not only in our own community but far beyond.

#### How do I make a mini silo?

Purchase a five-gallon food-safe bucket.\* Fill it with a variety of nutritious, shelf-stable foods. Include such items as proteins, vegetables, fruits, and grains, depending on what is

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available to you. For example, the original buckets we put together contain packages of vacuum-sealed rice and oats, canned meats and beans, and various cans of vegetables and fruits. The idea is to give a household something to eat for as long as possible, depending on how many people in the family, on whom they might be called to share with, and on what else might be available to them in that day to stretch it for as many meals as they can.

Make sure any canned items you buy are undented and show no signs of rusting, leaking, or bulging, and make sure dry goods items are well protected. Some long-lasting foods you might wish to consider packing include:

flour	honey
sugar	salt/pepper/spices
rice	powdered milk
oats	whole kernel popcorn
pasta	tomato sauce
pickles	maple syrup
vinegar	coconut oil
molasses	coffee and tea
cocoa	biscuit/pancake mix
jam/jelly	peanut butter
dried herbs	canned meats and fish
	dried legumes and lentils
	canned soups or soup mixes
	dehydrated or canned fruits/vegetables

Remember, these are only suggestions to get you started. Each family is free to pack their silo(s) as the Lord leads and as He provides.

You can explain the project to your neighbor when you give him a silo or—if possible—print a copy of this pamphlet from the sidebar of the homepage at [roots-by-the-river.com](http://roots-by-the-river.com) or

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