

YOUTH



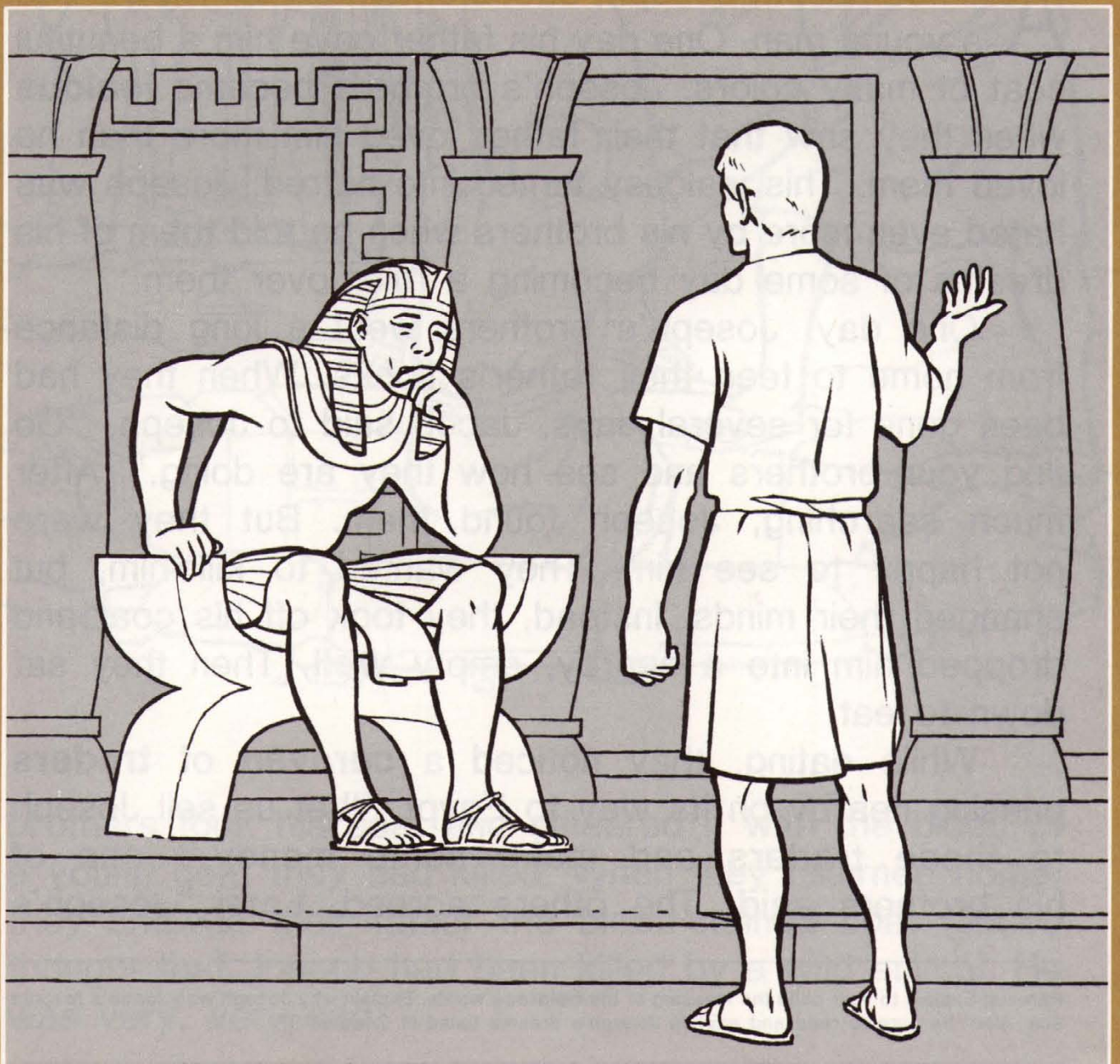
LEVEL 2

BIBLE

LESSONS



LESSON 9



Joseph's Adventures in Egypt

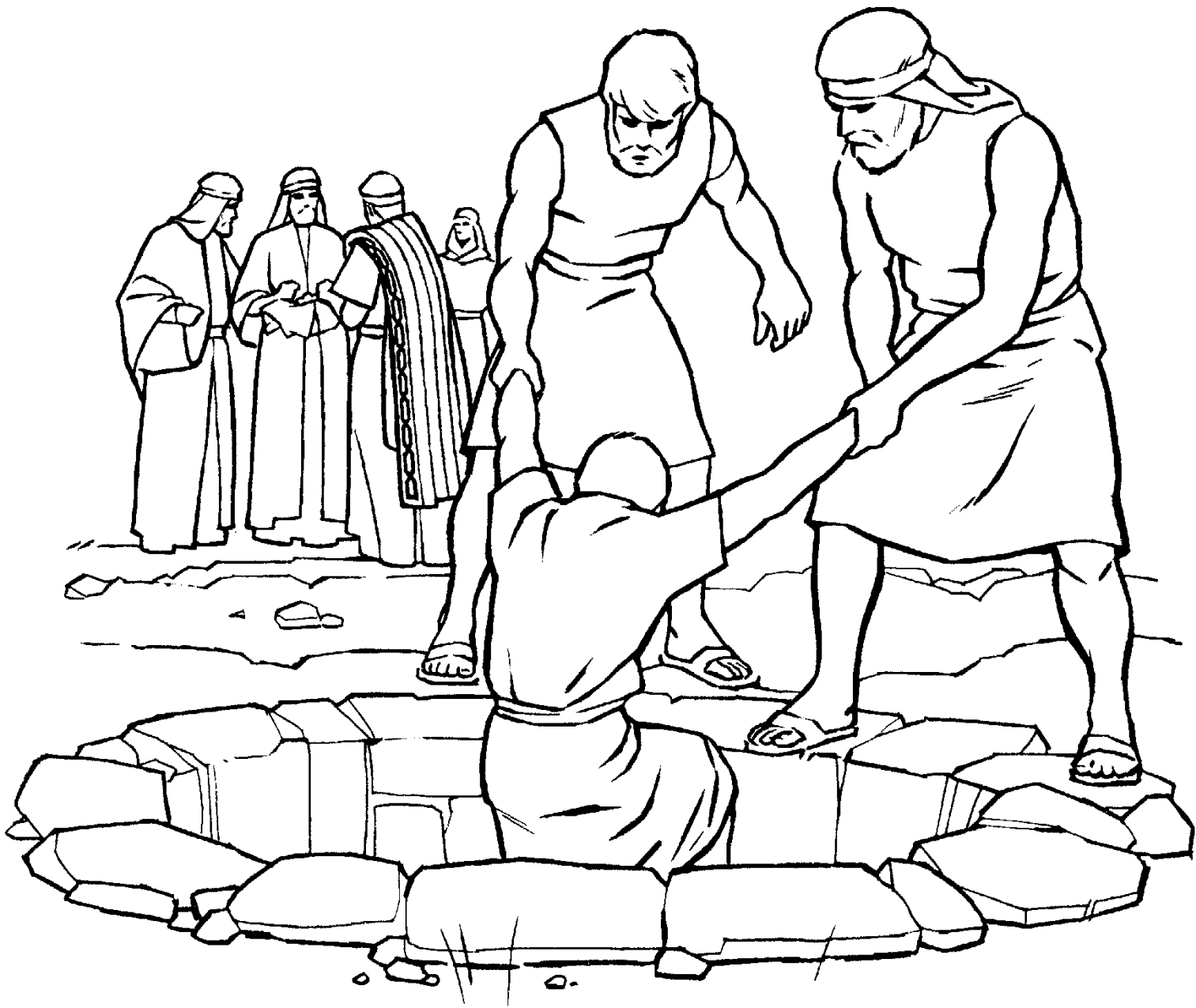
JOSEPH'S ADVENTURES IN EGYPT

As time passed, Joseph, Jacob's favorite son, grew into a young man. One day his father gave him a beautiful coat of many colors. Joseph's brothers became very jealous when they saw that their father loved him more than he loved them. This jealousy turned into hatred. Joseph was hated even more by his brothers when he told them of his dreams of some day becoming an important person.

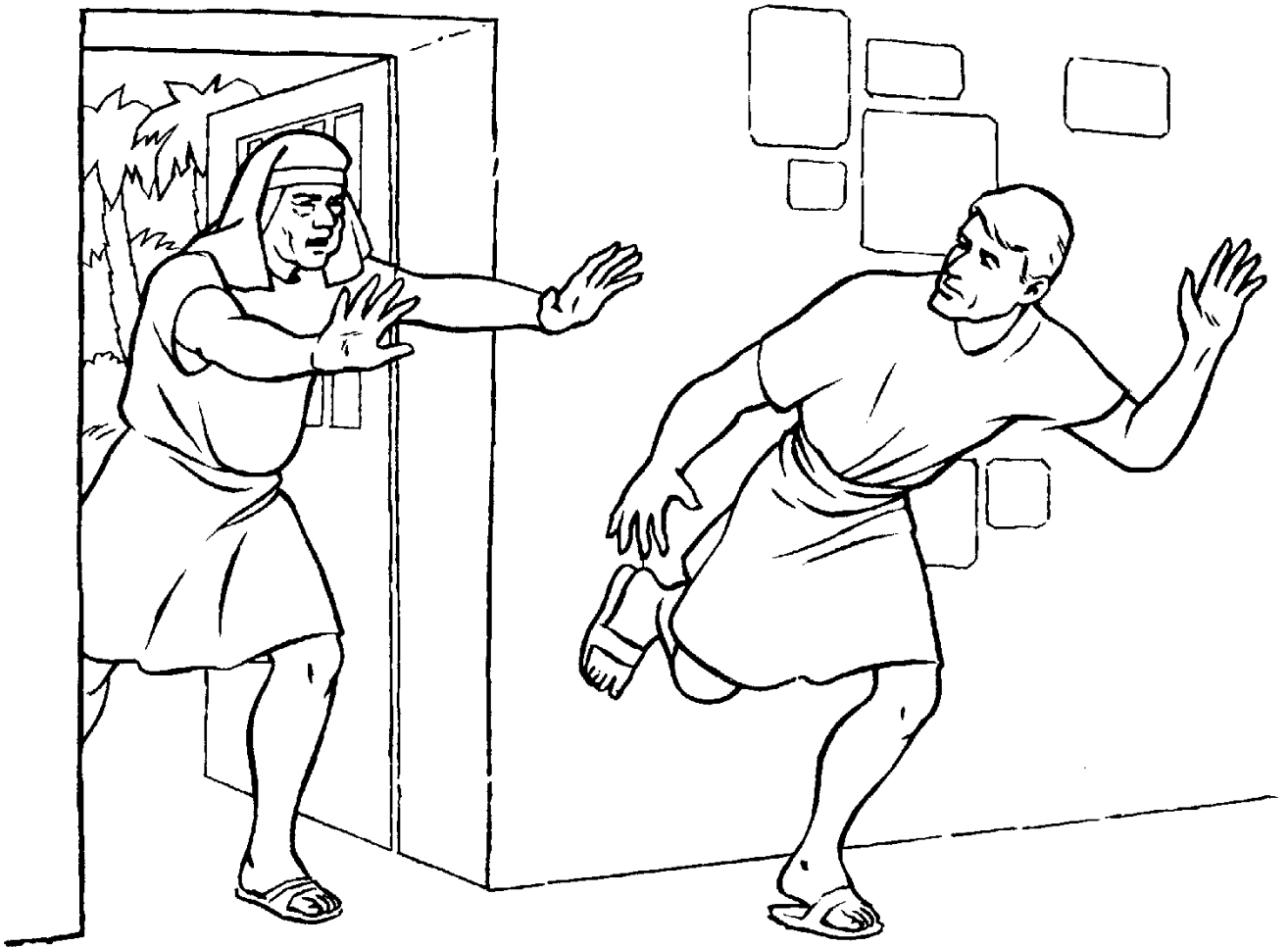
One day Joseph's brothers went a long distance from home to feed their father's flocks. When they had been gone for several days, Jacob said to Joseph, "Go find your brothers and see how they are doing." After much searching, Joseph finally found them. But they were not happy to see him. They wanted to kill him, but changed their minds. Instead, they took off his coat and dropped him into a nearby, empty **well**. Then they sat down to eat.

While eating, they noticed a **caravan** of traders passing nearby on its way to Egypt. "Let's sell Joseph to these traders and make some money," one of his brothers suggested. They agreed. Later, Joseph's brothers took his

Parents: Explain to your child the meaning of the **boldface** words. Explain why Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. Also, be sure to read and explain Joseph's dreams found in Genesis 37.



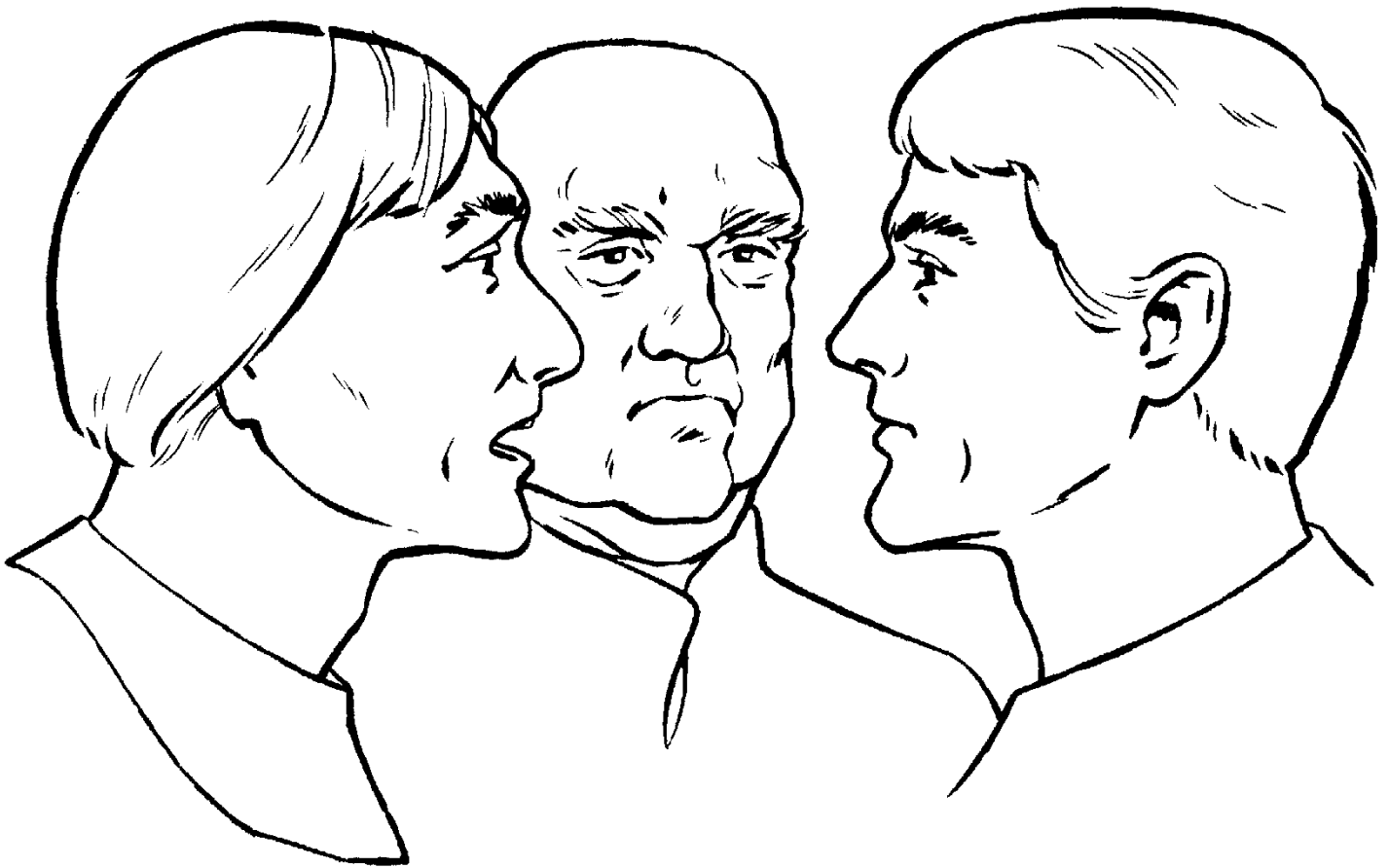
coat and smeared it with the blood of a young goat they had killed. When they returned home, they showed their father the blood-stained coat. Jacob concluded that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal. He was very, very sad.



When the traders arrived in Egypt, they sold Joseph to a man named Potiphar. He was an **officer** of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Potiphar soon learned that Joseph was a hard worker and could be trusted. So he put Joseph in charge of all the servants in his house. God was blessing Joseph in all that he did because he kept His commandments.

Joseph continued to serve his master well until Potiphar's wife **falsely accused** him of trying to harm her. Potiphar believed her lie and had Joseph put in prison. In time, the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners.

Parents: Explain to your child why the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners.



Later, Pharaoh's **butler** and **baker** were put in the prison. One night each of them had a dream. When they awoke the next morning, they were both very sad. Joseph noticed this and asked, "Why are you both so sad?" The butler and the baker then told him of their dreams.

God helped Joseph explain the meaning of their dreams. The dreams came to pass just as Joseph had said. The butler returned to work for Pharaoh and the baker was hanged. Joseph asked the butler to tell Pharaoh that he was unjustly put in prison. But the butler was so happy to be free, he forgot all about Joseph.

Parents: Tell your child about the dreams of the butler and baker. Also, mention that Joseph gave God the credit for interpreting the dreams.



Two years later, while Joseph was still in prison, Pharaoh had two dreams that worried him. None of his wise men could tell him the meaning of his dreams. Then the butler remembered how Joseph had told the meanings of his and the baker's dreams. So he told Pharaoh about Joseph.

“Have him brought before me at once!” ordered Pharaoh. Joseph was soon standing before the king of Egypt. With God's help, he told Pharaoh the meaning of his dreams. “There will be seven years of good crops followed by seven years of terrible **famine**,” he said.

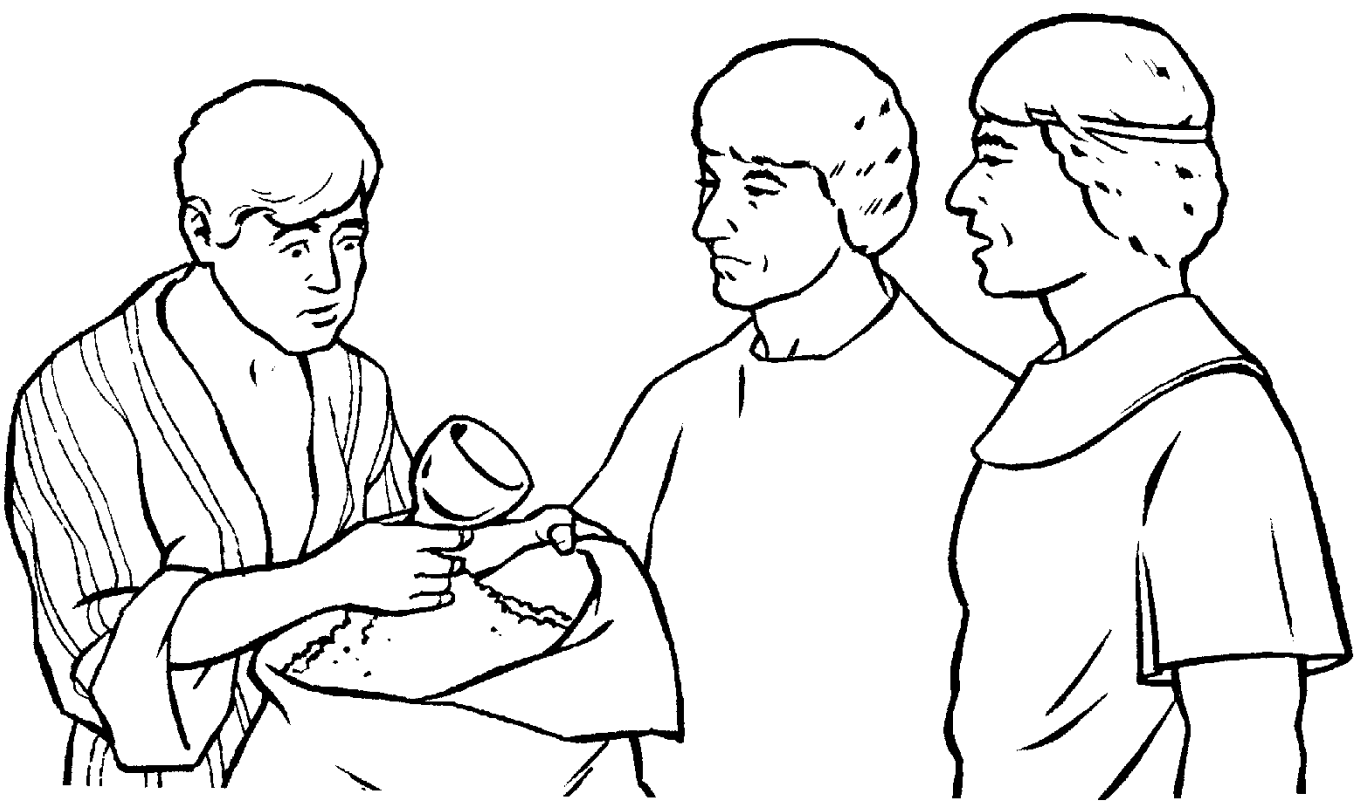
Pharaoh believed Joseph, and decided to put him in charge of storing grain for the coming famine. Pharaoh also made Joseph governor, or ruler, of all Egypt under him. God was greatly blessing Joseph because of his continued obedience.

Parents: Tell your child about Pharaoh's dreams. Remember that both dreams had the same meaning.



During the seven good years, much grain was stored. Then came the famine. When people ran out of food, they went to Joseph who sold them the grain they needed. The famine was very great in the land of Canaan. Being low on food, Jacob sent ten of his sons to Egypt to buy some grain. He kept his youngest son Benjamin at home for fear of losing him as he had Joseph several years earlier.

Joseph recognized his brothers when they came and bowed before him, but they did not recognize him. He wanted to welcome them, but decided to be harsh for a while to teach them a lesson. Joseph accused his brothers of being spies, and then had them put in prison. After three days, he freed the brothers, except for Simeon, and let them return home. Simeon would be kept in Egypt until the others returned with Benjamin.



Joseph's brothers returned home and told their father all that happened. "The Egyptian governor wants us to take Benjamin to Egypt so that he may see him," they said. But Jacob said he would not let Benjamin go. The famine grew worse and they needed more food. Jacob had no other choice but to send Benjamin along with his other sons to buy more grain.

When they arrived, Joseph invited his brothers to eat with him. But he still did not tell them who he was. The next day they received their grain and started home. Soon they were overtaken by men on horses. The leader was Joseph's chief servant. "Why have you stolen the governor's favorite silver cup?" he demanded.

"We are not thieves," they explained. But after a search was made, the cup was found in Benjamin's sack of grain. Earlier, Joseph had the silver cup placed in Benjamin's sack. Now the brothers would have to return to Egypt.



Looking at his fearful brothers, Joseph pointed at Benjamin and said, “You will stay here and be my servant. The rest of you may return home.” Then Judah, the brother responsible for Benjamin, pleaded, “Our father will die of sorrow if Benjamin does not return with us.”

Joseph was unable to hold back his true **identity** from his brothers any longer. With tears streaming down his face, he cried out, “I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold!” His brothers were surprised and frightened!

“Don’t be fearful,” said Joseph. “God has caused events to work out so that I would be here to help prepare for the famine. I want you to return to Canaan and bring your father, your families and all your **possessions** to Egypt.” When Jacob arrived in Egypt, there was a great celebration. He was very thankful to see Joseph alive and well.



Just before he died, Jacob adopted Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, as his own and blessed them. Jacob crossed his arms as he blessed his two grandsons, asking God to give the greater blessing to Ephraim, the younger brother. Jacob then blessed his own sons, after which he died at the age of 147. His body was taken back to Canaan where he was buried.

Joseph and all his brothers and their families continued to live in Egypt. There they grew great in number. Joseph continued to live a full and eventful life with God's blessing until his death at the age of 110.

Parents: Explain to your child who the modern-day descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh are. Also, explain why Jacob crossed his arms when blessing his grandsons.

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks below with the correct words. You may use the WORD BANK at the bottom of the page to help you spell the missing words.

1. Joseph's father, Jacob, gave him a _____ of many _____.
2. Potiphar had Joseph put in _____.
3. Pharaoh's dreams meant there would be _____ years of good crops followed by seven years of _____.
4. Joseph became ruler of _____ under Pharaoh.
5. God _____ Joseph because he kept His commandments.
6. Jacob and his _____ moved to Egypt where they grew great in number.

WORD BANK

PRISON	FAMINE	FAMILY	SEVEN
COLORS	BLESSED	COAT	EGYPT

PASTOR GENERAL: HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

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BIBLE MEMORY

12 Tribes
of Israel

Reuben
Simeon
Levi
Judah

Zebulun
Issachar
Dan
Gad

Asher
Naphtali
Joseph (Ephraim, Manasseh)
Benjamin

MATH PUZZLE

Solve the math problems below. Then match each number answer to the correct letter at the bottom of the page. Write the letters in the boxes. The letters will spell the name of one of Jacob's sons.

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