

# JOSEPH'S BROTHERS SELL HIM

## *Genesis 37:2-36*

### Genesis 37

<sup>2</sup>This is the account of Jacob.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

<sup>3</sup>Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made a richly ornamented robe for him. <sup>4</sup>When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

<sup>5</sup>Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: <sup>7</sup>We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."

<sup>8</sup>His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

<sup>9</sup>Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."

<sup>10</sup>When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" <sup>11</sup>His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

<sup>12</sup>Now his brothers had gone to graze their father's flocks near Shechem, <sup>13</sup>and Israel said to Joseph, "As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them."

"Very well," he replied.

<sup>14</sup>So he said to him, "Go and see if all is well with your brothers and with the flocks, and bring word back to me." Then he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron.

When Joseph arrived at Shechem, <sup>15</sup>a man found him wandering around in the fields and asked him, "What are you looking for?"

<sup>16</sup>He replied, "I'm looking for my brothers. Can you tell me where they are grazing their flocks?"

<sup>17</sup>"They have moved on from here," the man answered. "I heard them say, 'Let's go to Dothan.'"

So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. <sup>18</sup>But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

<sup>19</sup>"Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other.

<sup>20</sup>"Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams."

<sup>21</sup>When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. "Let's not take his life," he said. <sup>22</sup>"Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the desert, but don't lay a hand on him." Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father.

<sup>23</sup>So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the richly ornamented robe he was wearing—<sup>24</sup>and they took him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

<sup>25</sup>As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt.

<sup>26</sup>Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? <sup>27</sup>Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.

<sup>28</sup>So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

<sup>29</sup>When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes. <sup>30</sup>He went back to his brothers and said, "The boy isn't there! Where can I turn now?"

<sup>31</sup>Then they got Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. <sup>32</sup>They took the ornamented robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe."

<sup>33</sup>He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces."

<sup>34</sup>Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days. <sup>35</sup>All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said, "in mourning will I go down to the grave to my son." So his father wept for him.

<sup>36</sup>Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

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*Genesis 37:2-36*

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did Jacob give Joseph? Why?
5		2.) How did Joseph's brothers feel about him?
5		3.) What did Joseph's brother do to him?
5		4.) Why do you think Joseph's brothers hated him?

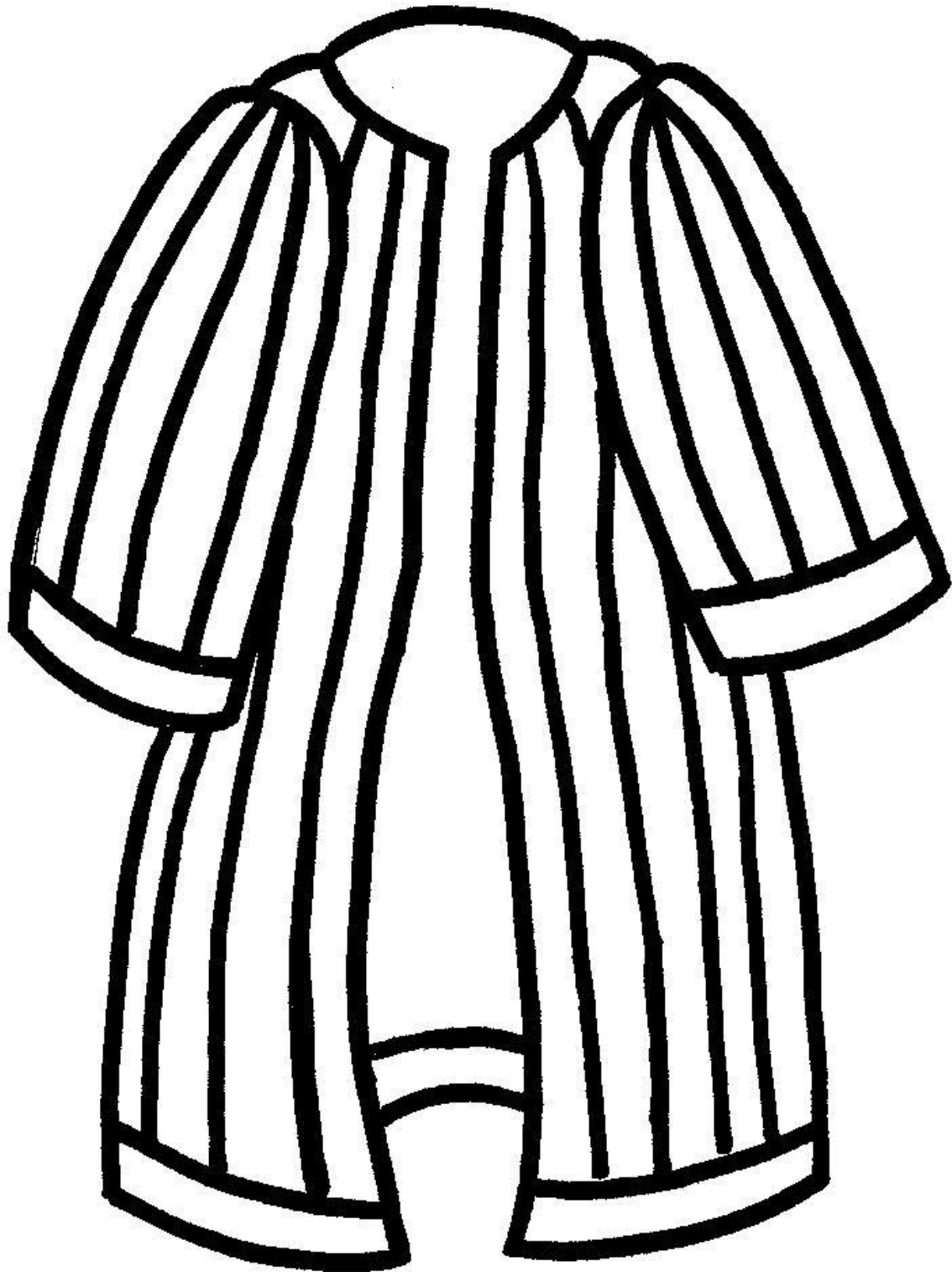
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		"Do not hate your brother in your heart..." Leviticus 19:17

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ____/____/____

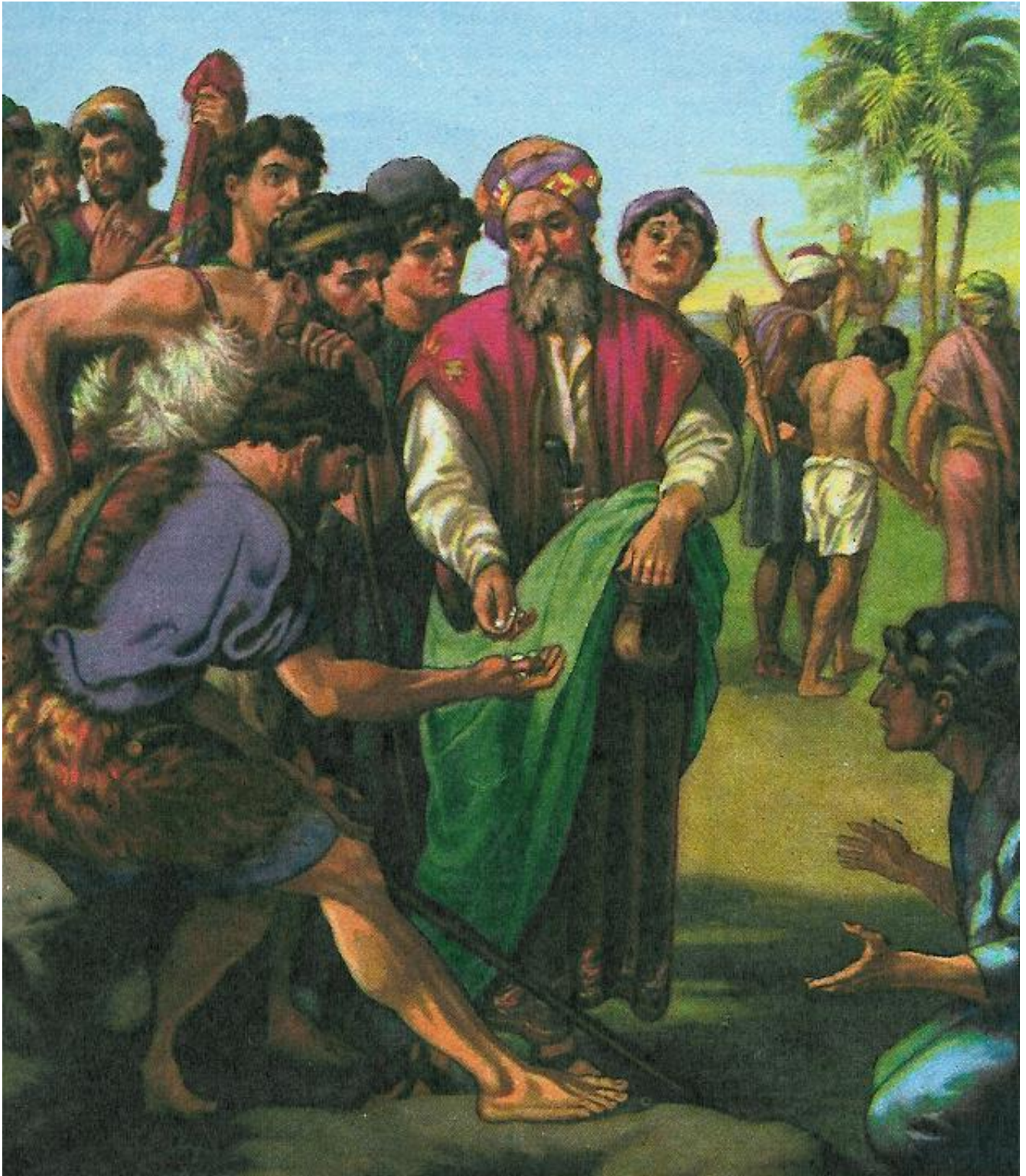
# JOSEPH'S BROTHERS SELL HIM

*Genesis 37:2-36*



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*Genesis 37:2-36*



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

# JOSEPH'S BROTHERS SELL HIM

*Genesis 37:2-36*



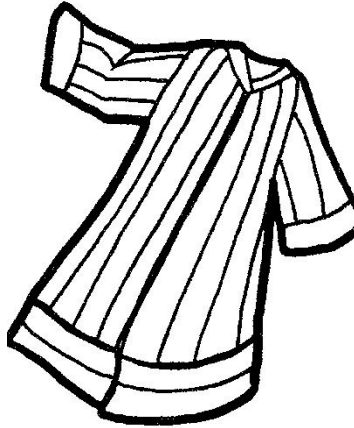
*Joseph's brothers throw him into a pit and wait to sell him as a slave*



# JOSEPH'S BROTHERS SELL HIM

*Genesis 37:2-36*

## PRESCHOOL BIBLE STORY RHYME



**Joseph's brothers big and bad,**  
*(Hold up both arms and flex)*

**Took away the coat he had.**  
*(Grab your shirt near your heart and pull)*

**Sold him to a passerby,**  
*(Hold out hand and rub thumb, pointer finger, and middle finger together)*

**Told his dad a big fat lie.**  
*(Hold fingers together near your mouth as if you were eating and then pull your fingers away from your mouth)*

# JOSEPH'S BROTHERS SELL HIM

*Genesis 37:2-36*

.....

Spell the names of Joseph and his eleven brothers by crossing out the letters you use in the big box below. When you finish, rearrange the letters that are *not* crossed out to discover the name of Joseph's only sister.

.....

**Joseph's brothers**  
  
Reuben  
Simeon  
Levi  
Judah  
Dan  
Naphtali  
Gad  
Asher  
Issachar  
Zebulun  
Joseph  
Benjamin

Joseph's only sister was \_\_\_\_\_.

## Ideas For Home:

Today your child learned how Joseph was sold by his brothers because they hated him.

1. Have your child finish coloring this book.
2. Help your child learn the *Memory Verse*.
3. Practice the *Bible Story Rhyme*.
4. Read and discuss the bible story with your child.
5. Take pieces of fabric and glue them together on a piece of paper to make a coat of many colors.

### Bible Story Mini Book

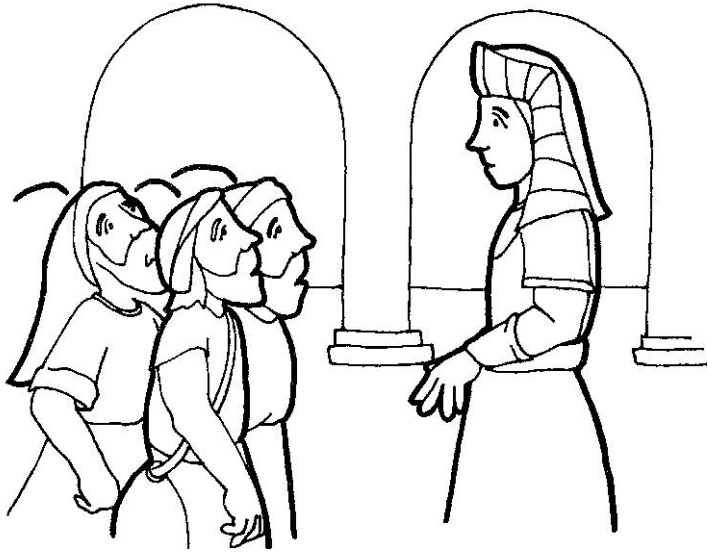
## Joseph's Brothers Sell Him



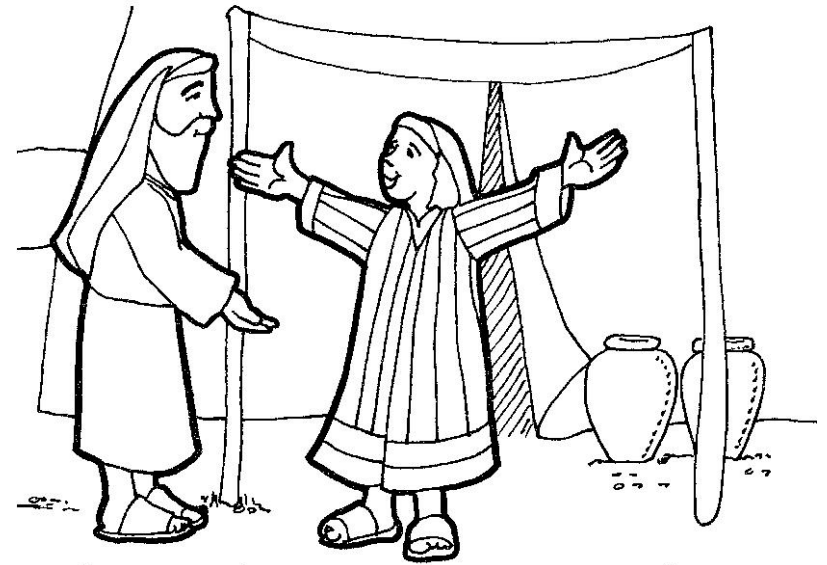
*Genesis 37:2-36*

Colored by: \_\_\_\_\_





Years later, Joseph's brothers came to see him in Egypt. Joseph gave them food.



Joseph's father gave him a special coat. This made his brothers jealous of him.

## Memory Verse

“Do not hate your brother....”  
Leviticus 19:17

## Bible Story Rhyme

**Joseph’s brothers big and bad,**  
*(Hold up both arms and flex)*

**Took away the coat he had.**  
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*(Hold out hand and rub thumb, pointer  
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**Told his dad a big fat lie.**  
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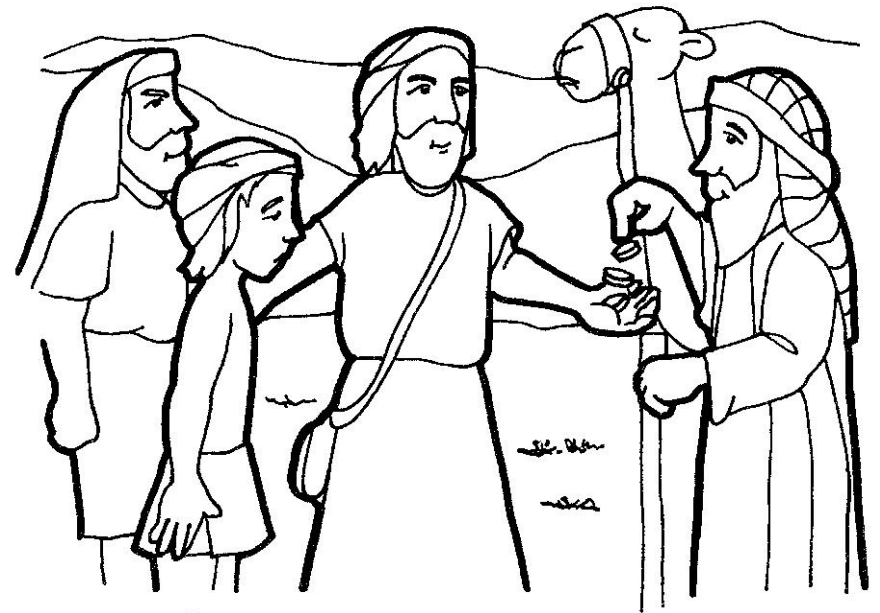
At night, Joseph dreamed  
that he was greater than  
his brothers.

## Have You Ever Sinned?

The Bible teaches that we have *all* sinned and do not measure up to God's glory. It also teaches that the price for sin is death which separates us from God. But even though we are sinners, Christ died for us and paid the price for our sin. We just need to ask him to forgive us and receive his free gift of salvation. Just pray this prayer, with a sincere heart, and Jesus will forgive you of your sins. You will become a child of God and live with Him in heaven.

***“Dear Jesus,***

***Please forgive me for the bad things that I have done. Please come into my heart and be my Lord and savior. In your name I pray, Amen.”***



Joseph's brothers were angry with him and sold him. He was taken to Egypt.

# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON GENESIS 37:2-36

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Jacob loved his 17 year old son Joseph more than any of his other sons. Jacob made a special decorated robe for Joseph. Joseph's brothers hated him because their father loved him the most.

Joseph had a dream and he told his brothers about it. In his dream his family was bowing down to him. This made his family really angry.

One day Joseph's brothers were in the field taking care of their father's animals. Jacob sent Joseph to check on them. Joseph's brothers saw him at a distance. They began to talk about how they would kill him!

Joseph's brothers wanted to kill him and throw him into a big hole. Reuben, the oldest brother, said to just throw him into the hole without killing him. Reuben was going to secretly take Joseph safely back to their father.

When Joseph came near, they took off his robe and threw him into the hole.

Soon some men were walking by on their way to Egypt. The brothers decided to sell Joseph to the men for some silver.

Next, the brothers dipped Joseph's robe into some blood to trick their father. Jacob began to cry when he saw the bloody robe. He thought Joseph had been killed by a wild animal.

Jacob didn't know that God had a special plan for Joseph's life in Egypt.

For more details, please read Genesis 37:2-36 in your Bible.

## QUESTIONS

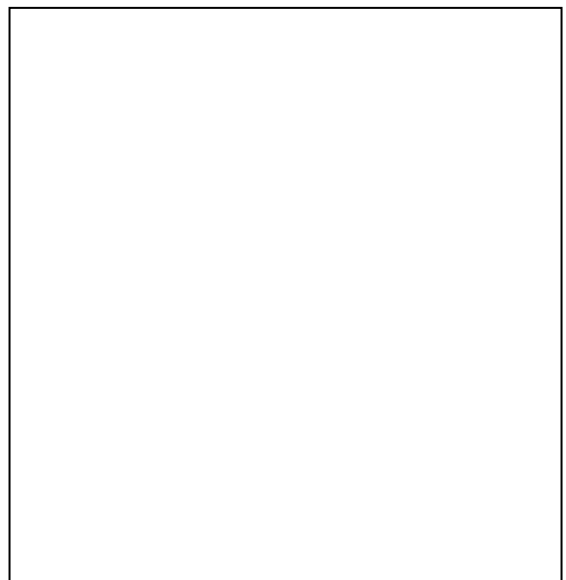
1. Which son did Jacob love the most?
2. What was Joseph given by his father?
3. What happened to Joseph?
4. Why do you think Joseph's brothers wanted to kill him?

## MEMORY VERSE

"Do not hate your brother in your heart..."

Leviticus 19:17

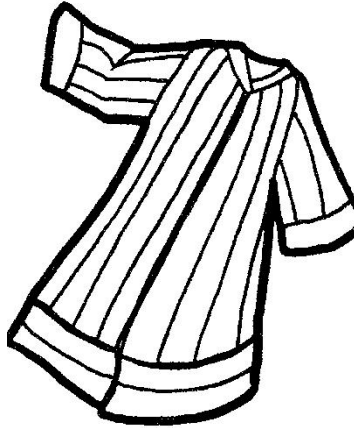
## DRAW A PICTURE OF JOSEPH IN A HOLE



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