

Sold As a Slave!

Jacob's older sons had been gone for several days. They had taken the sheep and gone to a faraway place to find good grass for them to eat. One day Jacob asked Joseph to go and find his brothers. He said, "See how your brothers are doing. Ask them if everything is going well with the sheep. Then hurry home because I am anxious to hear about them." So Joseph started out.

Joseph's brothers saw him coming while he was still far down the road. They knew it was Joseph because of the coat of many colors that he was wearing. That reminded them of the

dreams he had told them about.

"Look, the dreamer is coming!" they said. They hated Joseph and wanted to put an end to him and his dreams once and for all. One of the brothers even said they should kill Joseph!

Reuben, the oldest brother, said, "Oh, no! Let's not kill him. Let's just throw him into this deep hole."

Joseph finally came to the place where his brothers were. Instead of receiving a friendly greeting, his brothers tore off his beautiful coat. Then they threw him into the hole!

After that the brothers sat down to eat their lunch. As they ate they

looked up and saw a group of men coming with camels. They were merchants who were taking spices and other things to sell in Egypt.

One of the brothers said, "I know what we should do! Let's sell Joseph to those men. That way we won't be guilty of killing our brother, and we will still be rid of him."

The men bought Joseph for twenty pieces of silver. Then they took Joseph with them to Egypt where, later, they would sell him as a slave.

After Joseph was gone, the brothers thought about their father. They knew he would be waiting at home for Joseph's return. What were they going to tell him? They were afraid to tell him the truth, so they thought of a plan. They killed a young goat and put

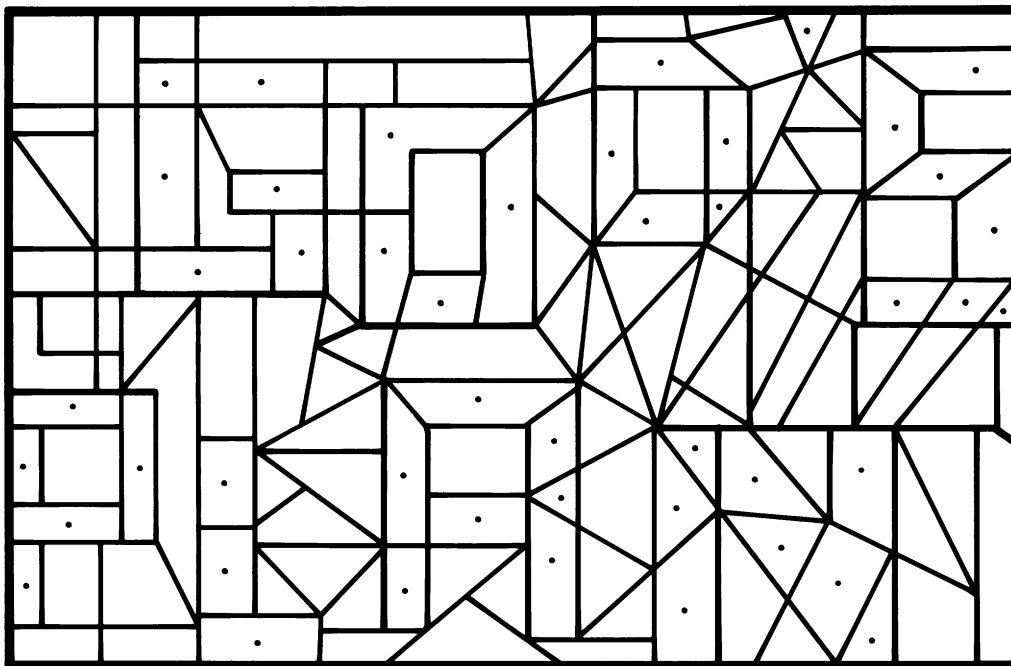
its blood all over Joseph's beautiful coat. Then they took the coat home to their father.

When Jacob saw the coat he said, "That is Joseph's coat. A wild animal must have killed him." Oh, Jacob was so sad. He cried and cried for his son. He thought Joseph was dead and he would never see him again.

The brothers had not only sold Joseph, but they had lied to their father! They were sure Jacob would never know the truth about their wicked deed. They thought they were rid of their brother forever. They were sure that would be the last they heard of Joseph's dreams. But they didn't know that God was watching over Joseph. This was all a part of God's plan for him.

Color the Dots

Color all the spaces that have a dot in them. Find out why Joseph was sold by his brothers.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

In this lesson, your child will see that some difficult places came into Joseph's life. He was sold by his brothers and taken to Egypt as a slave. It is important to emphasize to your child that God had a plan in all of this.

On several sheets of colored construction paper draw circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles of various sizes. Let your child cut these out. The shapes can then be arranged in many ways to represent scenes from the lesson text.

Reminder: Help your child read the story in each of his Primary Pals handouts, as it reviews the actual Bible story, or presents a current story reinforcing the main thought.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Genesis 39:21

MONDAY: Psalm 56:1

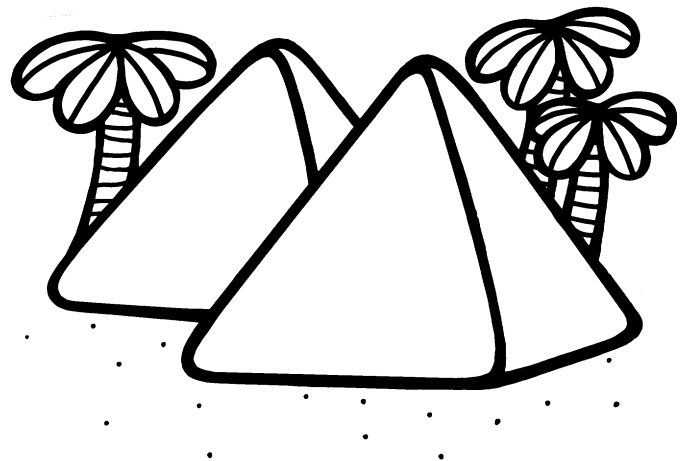
TUESDAY: Psalm 30:10

WEDNESDAY: Deuteronomy 4:31

THURSDAY: Acts 7:9,10

FRIDAY: Isaiah 41:10

SATURDAY: Proverbs 3:5,6



Bible Text

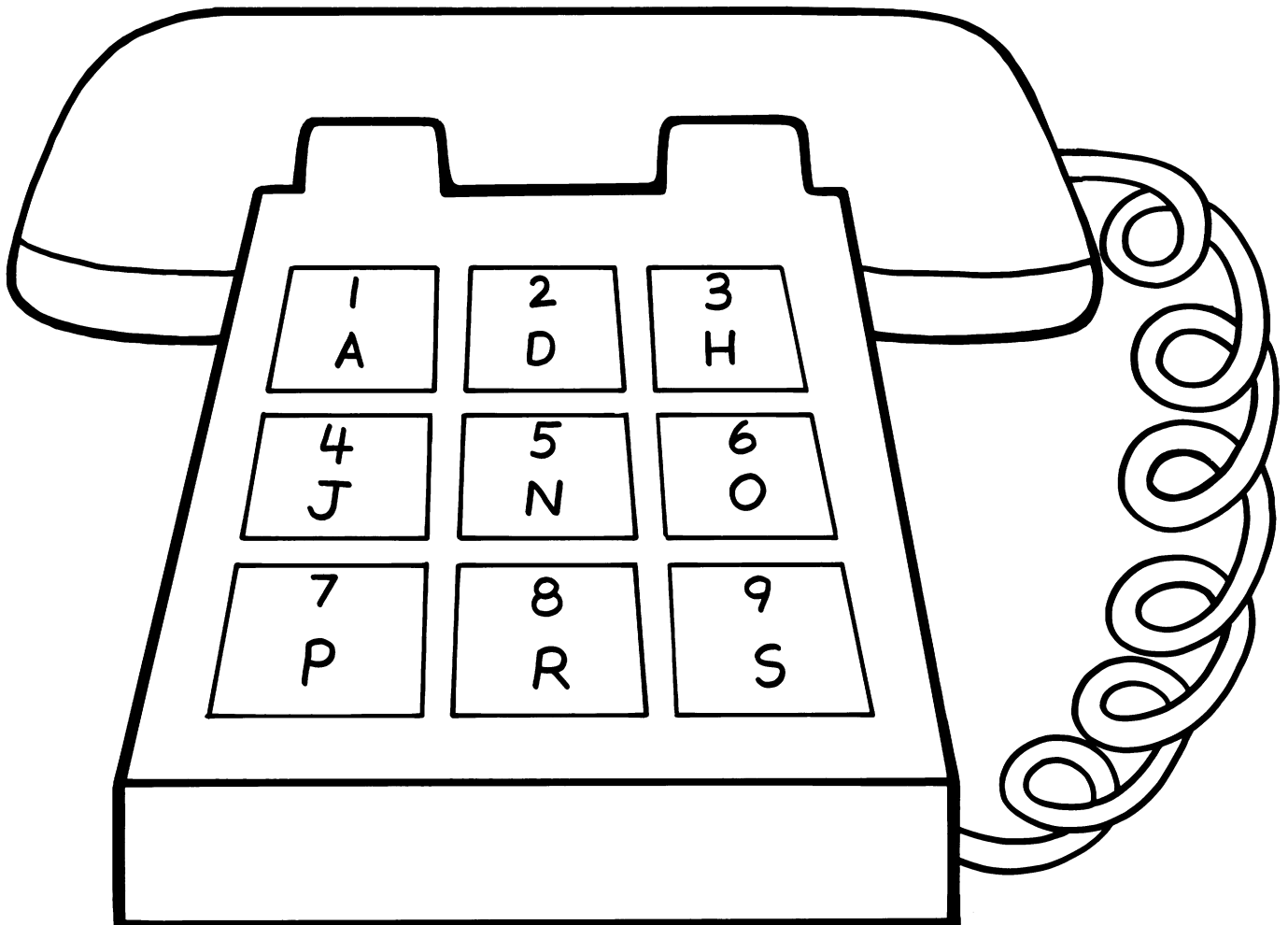
Genesis 37:12-28

Memory Verse

The LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy. — Genesis 39:21

Why Did He Go?

Use the push-button phone code to find out why Joseph went to Egypt. Write the correct letters on the lines in the box below.



G	6	2	3	1	2	1	7	L	1	5
F	6	8	4	6	9	E	7	3		

Name: _____