

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 28: JOSEPH IS SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS
GENESIS 37:3-36

Joseph was born at a time when his father Israel was very old, so Israel loved him more than he loved his other sons. Jacob gave him a special coat, which was long and very beautiful. When Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them, they hated their brother because of this. They refused to say nice things to him. One time Joseph had a special dream. Later, he told his brothers about this dream, and after that his brothers hated him even more. Joseph said, "I had a dream. We were all working in the field, tying stacks of wheat together. Then my stack got up. It stood there while all of your stacks of wheat made a circle around mine and bowed down to it." His brothers said, "Do you think this means that you will be a king and rule over us?" His brothers hated Joseph more now because of the dreams he had about them. Then Joseph had another dream, and he told his brothers about it. He said, "I had another dream. I saw the sun, the moon, and eleven stars bowing down to me." Joseph also told his father about this dream, but his father criticized him. His father said, "What kind of dream is this? Do you believe that your mother, your brothers, and I will bow down to you?" Joseph's brothers continued to be jealous of him, but his father thought about all these things and wondered what they could mean. One day Joseph's brothers went to Shechem to care for their father's sheep. Jacob said to Joseph, "Go to Shechem. Your brothers are there with my sheep." Joseph answered, "I will go." His father said, "Go and see if your brothers are safe. Come back and tell me if my sheep are all fine." So Joseph's father sent him from the Valley of Hebron to Shechem. At Shechem, Joseph got lost. A man found him wandering in the fields. The man said, "What are you looking for?" Joseph answered, "I am looking for my brothers. Can you tell me where they are with their sheep?" The man said, "They have already gone away. I heard them say that they were going to Dothan." So Joseph followed his brothers and found them in Dothan. Joseph's brothers saw him coming from far away. They decided to make a plan to kill him. They said to each other, "Here comes Joseph the dreamer. We should kill him now while we can. We could throw his body into one of the empty wells and tell our father that a wild animal killed him. Then we will show him that his dreams are useless." But one of Joseph's brothers - Reuben - wanted to save Joseph. He said, "Let's not

kill him. We can put him into a well without hurting him." Reuben planned to save Joseph and send him back to his father. When Joseph came to his brothers, they attacked him and tore off his long and beautiful coat. Then they threw him into an empty well that was dry. While Joseph was in the well, the brothers sat down to eat. They looked up and saw a group of traders traveling from Gilead to Egypt. Their camels were carrying many different spices and riches. So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit will we get if we kill our brother and hide his death? We will profit more if we sell him to these traders. Then we will not be guilty of killing our own brother." The other brothers agreed. When the Midianite traders came by, the brothers took Joseph out of the well and sold him to the traders for 20 pieces of silver. The traders took him to Egypt. Reuben had been gone, but when he came back to the well, he saw that Joseph was not there. He tore his clothes to show that he was upset. Reuben went to the brothers and said, "The boy is not in the well! What will I do?" The brothers killed a goat and put the goat's blood on Joseph's beautiful coat. Then the brothers showed the coat to their father. And the brothers said, "We found this coat. Is this Joseph's coat?" His father saw the coat and knew that it was Joseph's. He said, "Yes, that is his! Maybe some wild animal has killed him. My son Joseph has been eaten by a wild animal!" Jacob was so sorry about his son that he tore his clothes. Then Jacob put on special clothes that people used to wear when someone died to show that he was sad. He continued to be sad about his son for a long time. All of Jacob's sons and daughters tried to comfort him, but Jacob was never comforted. He said, "I will be sorry for my son until the day I die." So Jacob continued to be sad for his son Joseph. The Midianite traders later sold Joseph in Egypt. They sold him to Potiphar, the captain of the Pharaoh's guards.

28. JOSEPH IS SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS

(GENESIS 37:3-36)

MEMORY VERSE:

“Happy are you when men give you a bad name, and are mean to you, and say all bad things against you falsely, because of Me.” MATTHEW 5:11

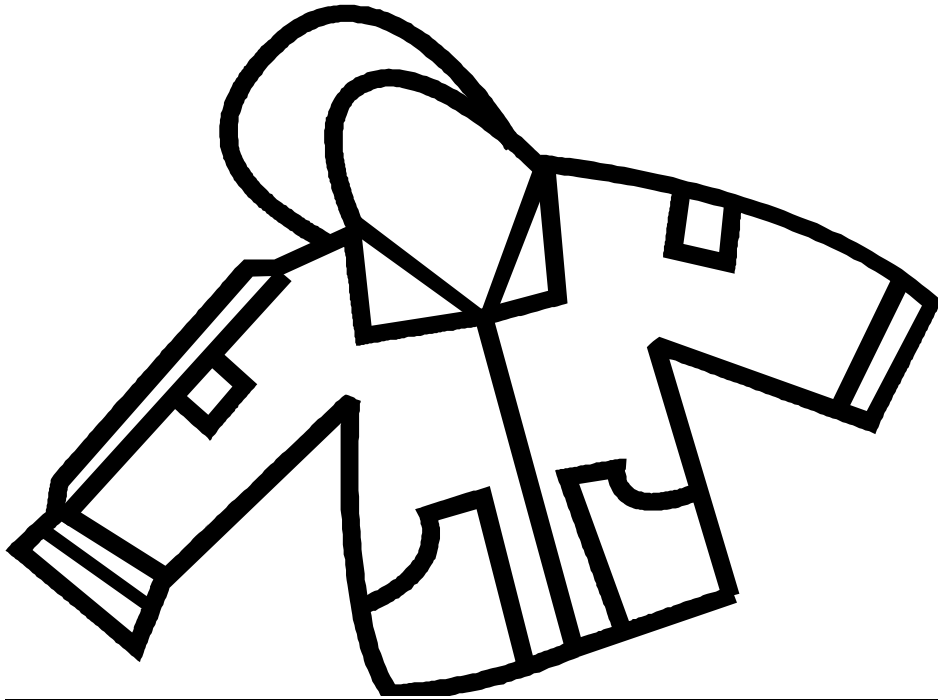
TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Israel made Joseph a HOUSE of many colors. TRUE or FALSE
2. When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father loved him more than all the other brothers, they hated him very much. TRUE or FALSE
3. Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, that made them hate him even more. TRUE or FALSE
4. Joseph didn’t have any more dreams, and his brothers began to love him. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

5. Who did Israel send to the other brothers while they were feeding their flock?
6. When the brothers saw Joseph coming a long way away, what did they want to do to him?
7. What did Joseph’s brother Reuben want to do to Joseph instead of killing him like the other brothers wanted to do?
8. Where did they put Joseph when they captured him?
9. How did Joseph’s father Israel feel when he thought that a wild animal had killed Joseph? Was he happy? Or was he sad?

WHAT COLORS WOULD YOU MAKE A COAT OF MANY COLORS FROM? COLOR SOME OF THE COLORS HERE:





JOSEPH

Genesis 37-45

Lesson 28 Craft

Evaporating Sparkling Paint

You will need small cups with 1/4 cup of warm water for each cup, 6 teaspoons of salt for each jar, paint brushes, and black or dark red construction paper. Mix the water and salt in the jars and have the children paint pictures on the paper then let them dry. When the water evaporates, it will leave sparkly pictures.

Point out to your class that sometimes we cannot see the beauty in a situation until later, “after the water has dried.” In today’s lesson, we learned about Joseph who had to trust that the Lord was doing something good in his life even when it looked like things were pretty bad. [God is working a wonderful plan for our lives, even when it does not seem like it.](#)

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to trust the Lord no matter the circumstances. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.