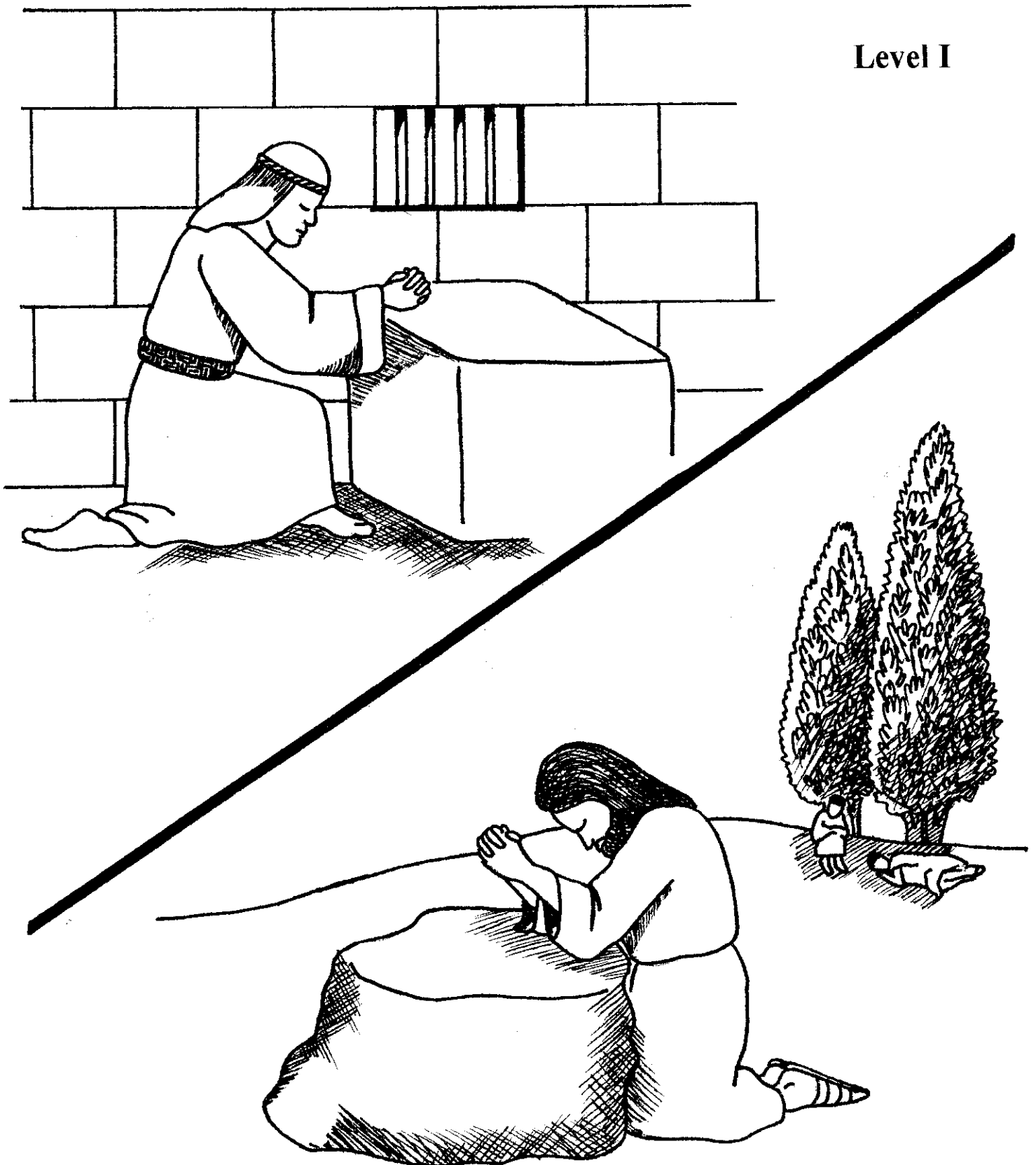


Your Will Be Done

Level I

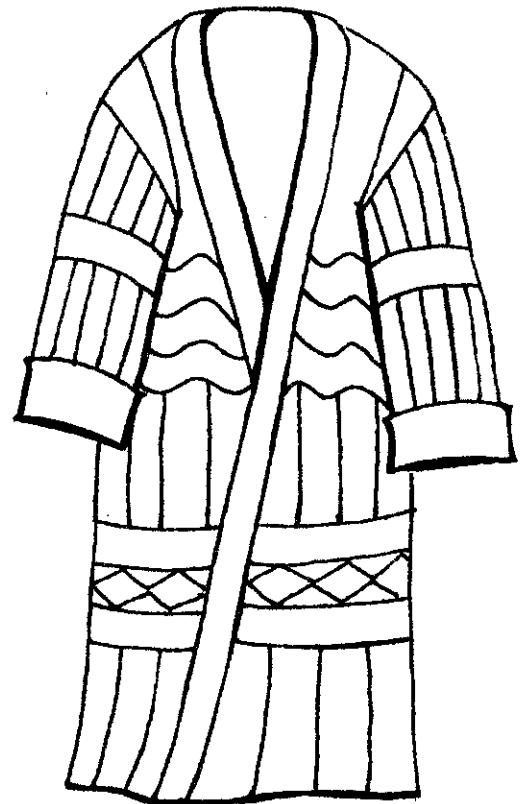


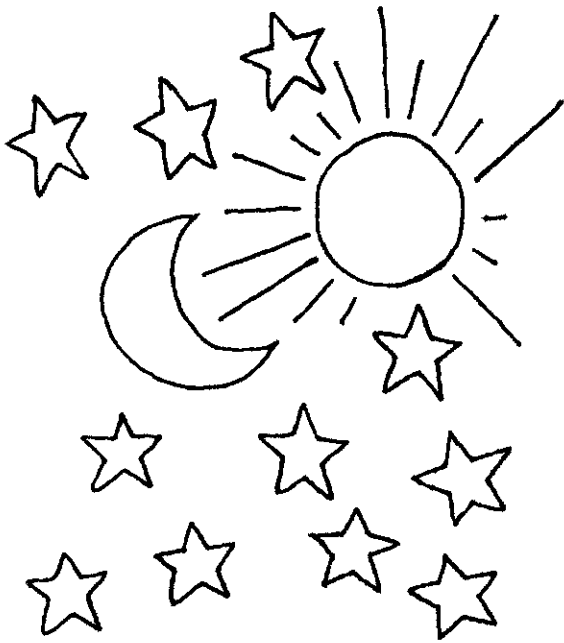
Joseph • His Dreams • Sold Into Slavery

A man named Jacob had a large family of 12 sons and also some daughters. Jacob owned many animals—sheep, cattle, and camels. His sons helped him by tending the sheep and working in the fields. Jacob loved all his children, but he had a favorite son among them, named Joseph. This week we will be learning a lot about this son Joseph and the many events which took place in his lifetime. Some things were very wonderful and amazing. And then some things were very sad and troublesome. Through it all the Lord watched over His child and made Joseph's trust in the Lord to grow strong. Joseph learned to pray and live these words "Your will be done."

As we said, Jacob loved Joseph more than his other children. To show his love Jacob gave Joseph a coat of many colors. The other children did not receive coats like that one. How do you suppose his brothers felt about Joseph? You are right, they hated Joseph and could not speak nicely to him.

One night Joseph had a dream about the bundles of grain in the field. While he and his brothers were tying up the grain stalks, suddenly his bundle stood upright in the field and the brothers' bundles stood all around his bundle. Then the brothers' bundles bowed down to his! In the morning Joseph told his brothers about this dream. Of course, the brothers were angry about Joseph's dream. "Shall you rule over us?" they asked.





On another night he dreamed that the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed down to him. He told this dream to his father and his brothers. His father scolded him by asking, "Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?"

One day the brothers were away tending their father's sheep in a distant grazing area. Jacob wondered how his sons were doing, so

he called to Joseph and sent him to find out. His brothers saw Joseph coming near to them and they said, "Look the dreamer is coming. Let's kill him and throw him into a pit. We'll say that a wild beast has killed him and eaten him." Can you see how much they hated their brother?

The oldest brother Reuben did not like this plan. He suggested they simply throw him into the pit and later on he would take him out and send him home safely. Remember, the oldest son would be the one the father would question, if something would happen to Joseph. So when Joseph came near to them, they took off his beautiful coat of many colors and threw him into the empty pit. It was mealtime for the brothers. They sat down to eat, leaving Joseph by himself in the dark hole. While they were eating, they saw in the distance a group of men with camels coming toward them.

These men were traders of spices and other goods on their way to the country of Egypt. Brother Judah had a new idea about getting rid of Joseph. "Let's sell Joseph to these men, and not kill him, for he is our brother." The others agreed to the plan. They pulled Joseph from the pit and sold him to the traders for 20 pieces of silver (about \$50.00

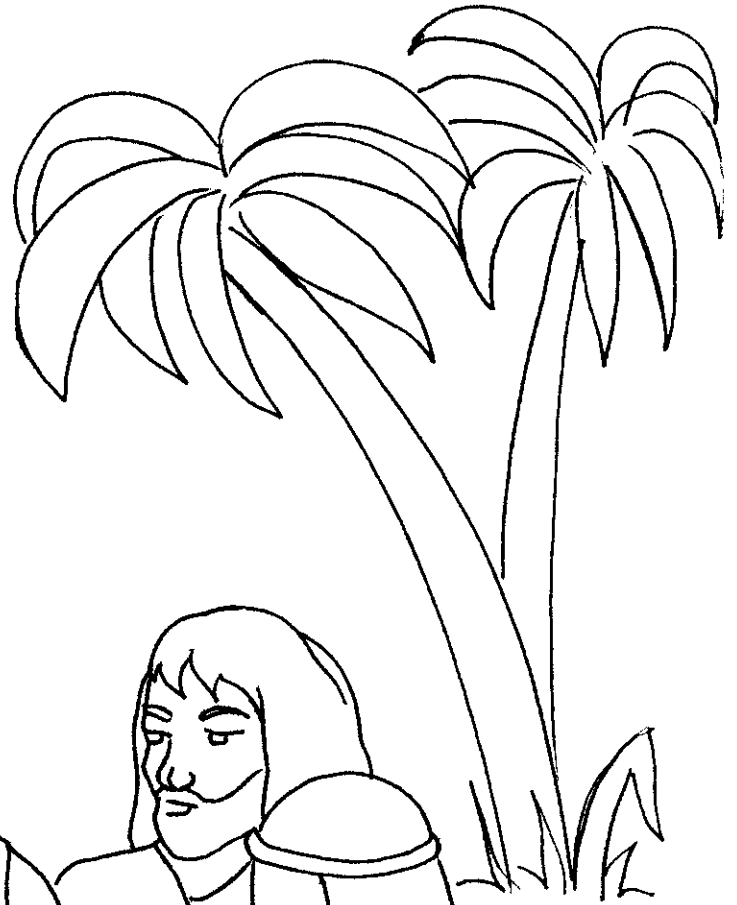
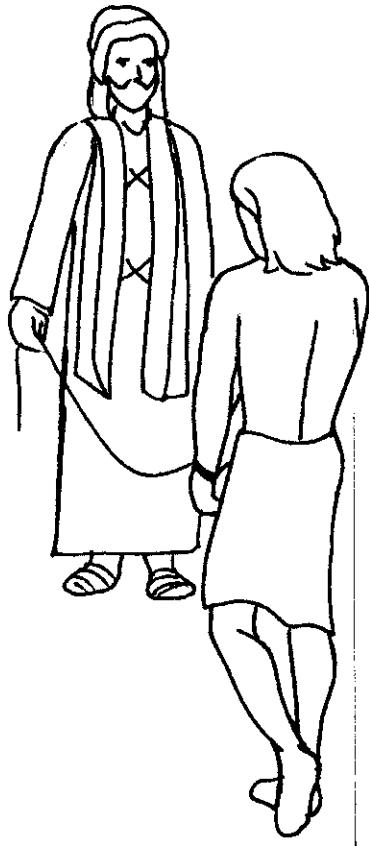


in our money). Joseph was now on his way to a strange country, where he didn't know anyone and didn't know their language either.

Now the brothers had a new problem. They had gotten rid of Joseph all right, but what were they going to tell their father Jacob? They took his beautiful coat and dipped it into some goat's blood. Then they took it home and showed it to their father. What do you think Jacob thought had happened? Right! He was sure a wild animal had killed his beloved son. Jacob cried and cried for many days thinking that Joseph had died so cruelly. He thought he would never see his dear son Joseph again. Even after seeing their father in so much grief, the brothers did not tell him the truth.



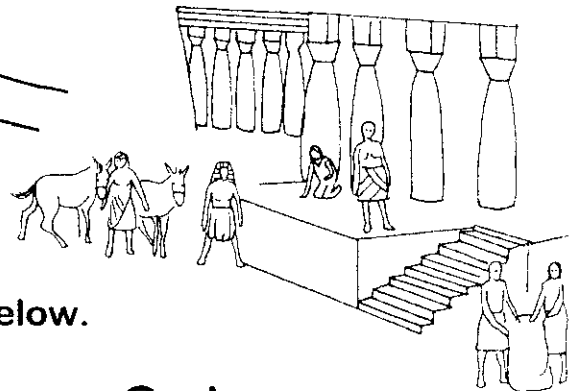
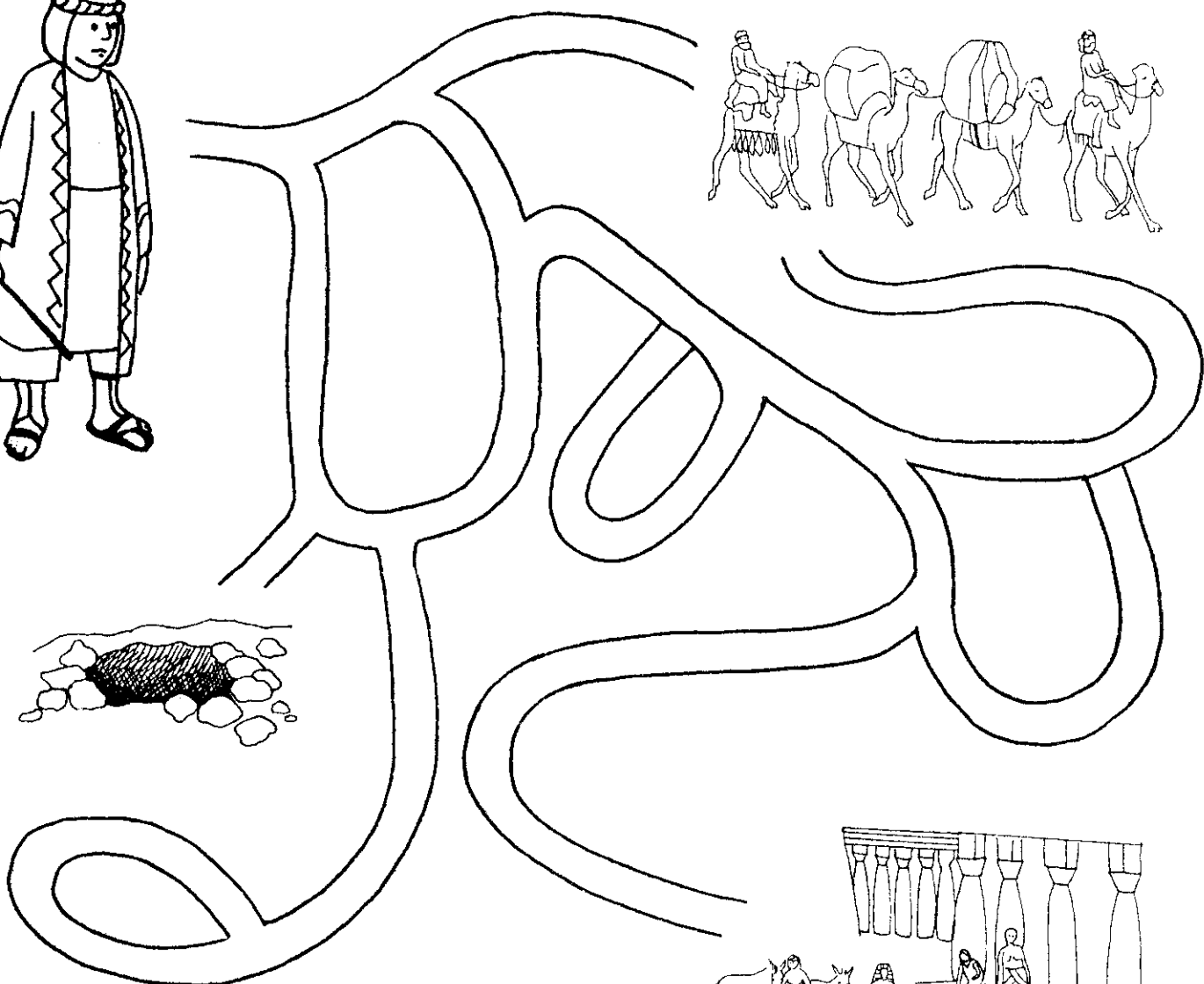
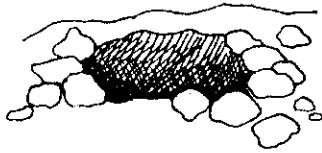
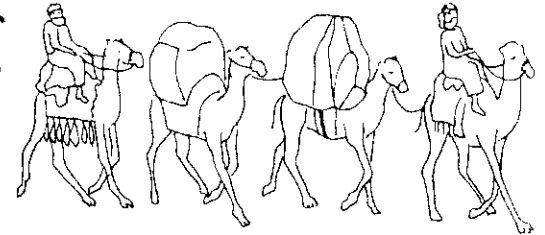
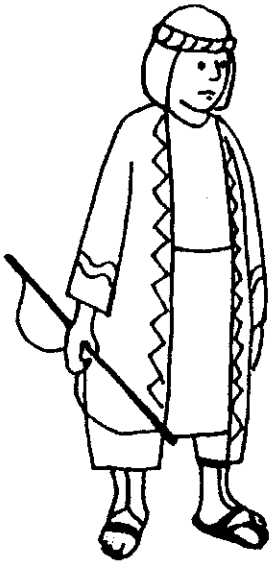
However, Joseph was alive and someone did know him in Egypt! Who was that? Yes, the Lord knew where he was and what was happening to him. The Lord was watching over His child so that no harm would come to him. And He had a plan for this young man's life, just as He has a plan for yours and mine.



“The LORD
was with
Joseph...”
Genesis 39:2a

Level I
Lesson 1

Help Joseph to get from his home, through the pit, through the slave caravan, and finally to Egypt.



Copy the missing words in the Bible passage below.

us

who

us

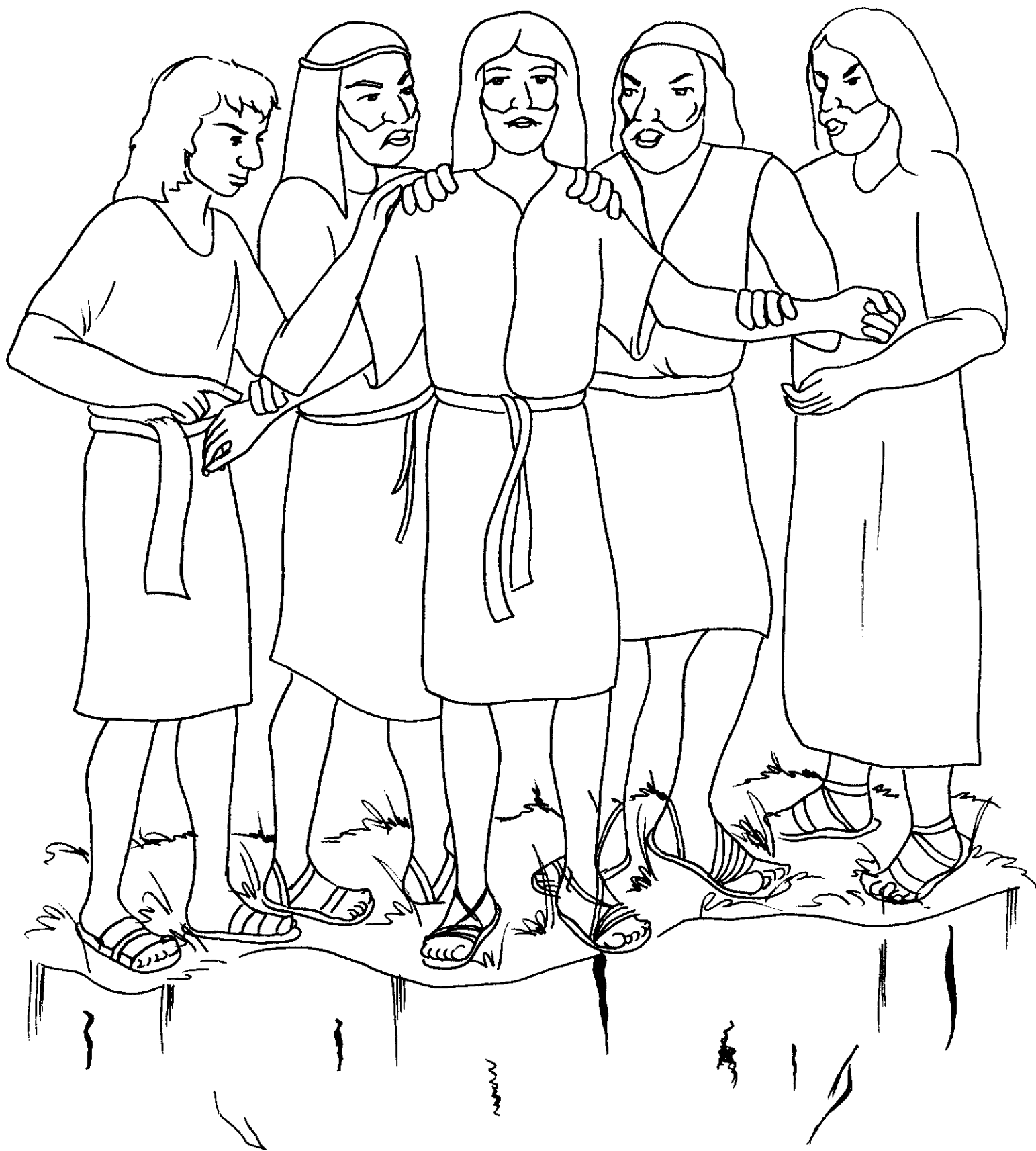
God

If _____ is for _____ , _____ can be against _____ ?

Romans 8:31b

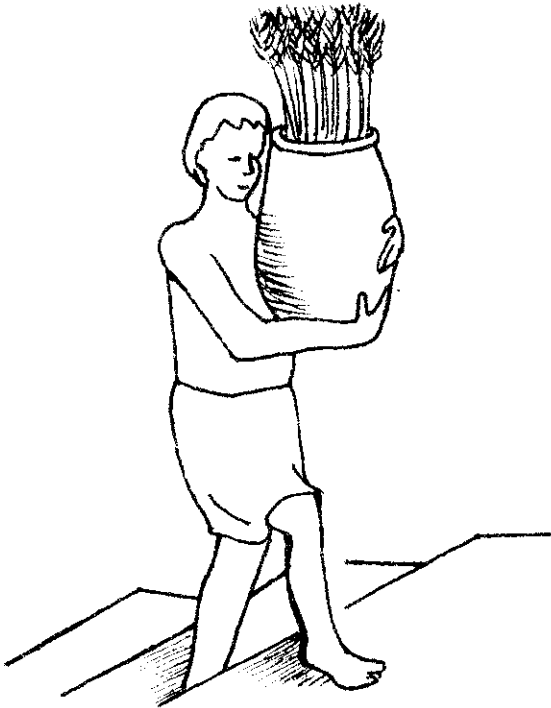
...And they led Jesus to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff.

— Luke 4:29



Joseph Says “No!”

Joseph was taken far away to a land called Egypt. Here he was sold again to be a slave in the house of a man named Potiphar. Potiphar was a captain of the guard for the king of Egypt. Kings in Egypt were called “Pharaohs.”



Joseph could not see his father Jacob anymore, but his dear Heavenly Father still watched over him. The LORD blessed Joseph with courage and strength to work hard and well for Potiphar. Potiphar noticed how God blessed his new slave and soon Potiphar made Joseph the chief slave in his house. He trusted Joseph with all that he owned.

The LORD also blessed Joseph in the way he grew—strong and handsome.

Potiphar’s wife liked the way Joseph looked and wanted Joseph to love her in the special way that your father and mother love each other. “No!” He said what every child of God should say when tempted to sin, “How can I do such a wicked thing and sin against god?”

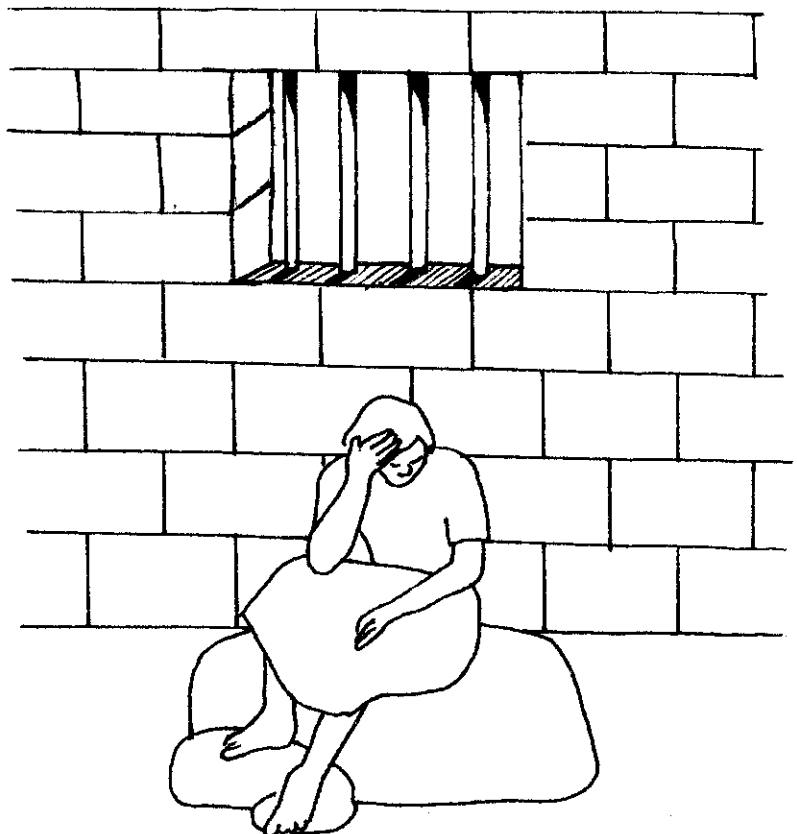
But Potiphar’s wife did not give up. She tried again when Joseph was working all alone in the house. She caught Joseph by his coat and wanted Joseph to love her. He ran out of the house, away from her, leaving his coat behind.

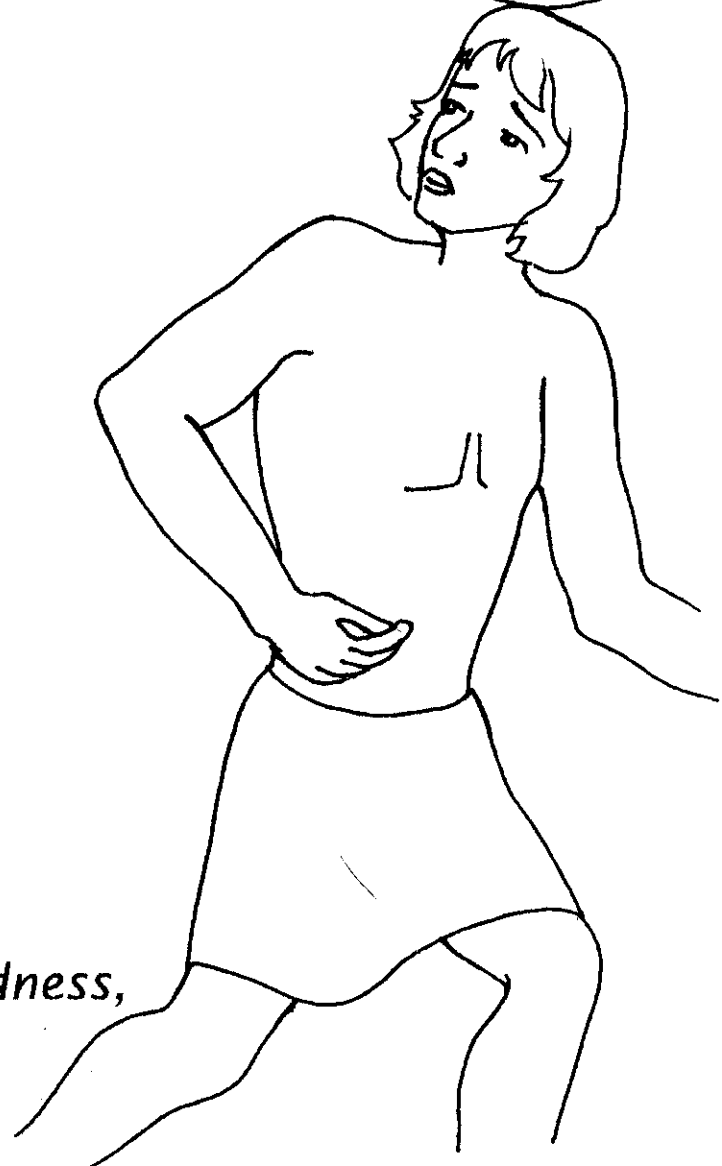
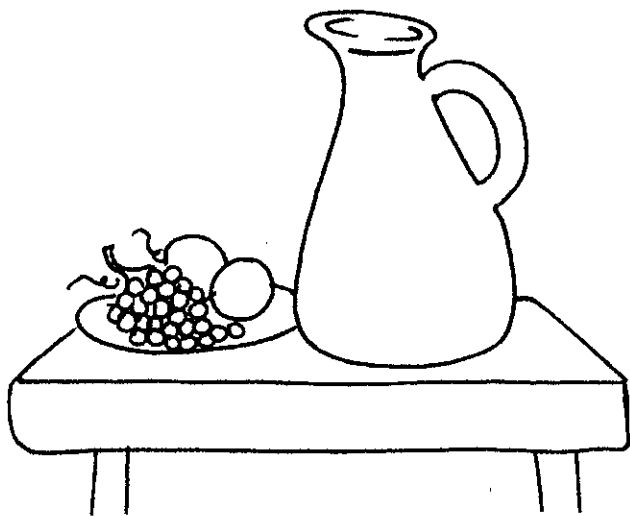
Potiphar’s wife was angry that Joseph paid no attention to her. She made up a terrible lie about Joseph and told her husband that Joseph

wanted her to do wrong things. Potiphar believed her lie, and he had Joseph thrown into prison.

Again it seemed as though Joseph was all alone in the world. Not so. The LORD still watched lovingly over His child and blessed him here in prison. The prison keeper soon put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners.

The LORD never stops watching over you either. He loves you and takes care of you during good times and when you are in trouble. He also gives you the power through Jesus to say “NO” to sin and wrong actions. Just like Joseph, you should say, “How can I sin against God who sent Jesus to die for my sins?”

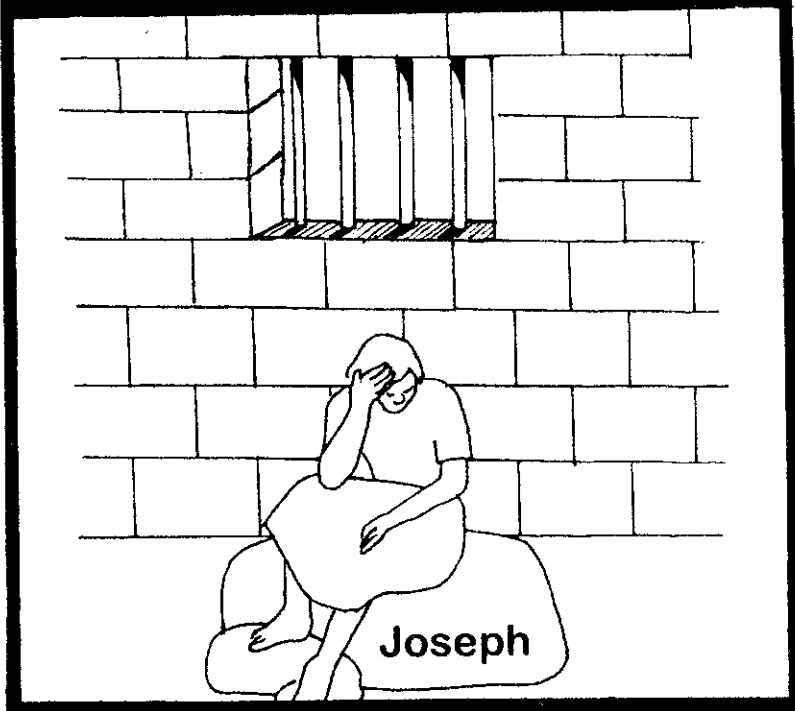
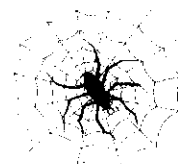
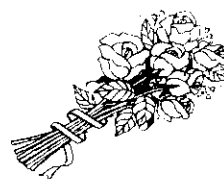
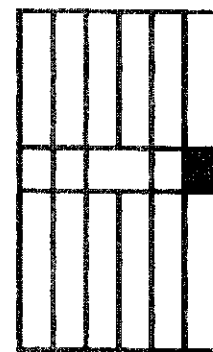
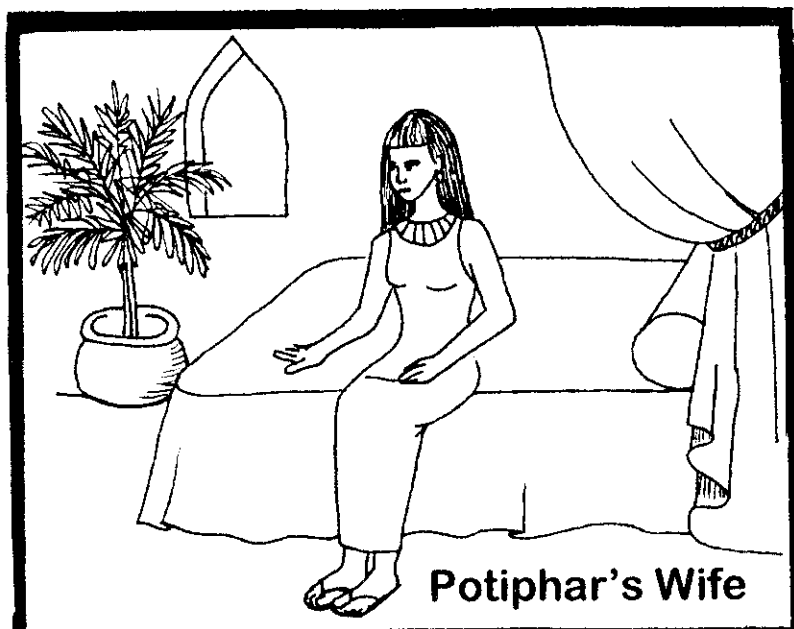




*"How then can I do this great wickedness,
and sin against God?"*
Genesis 39:9b

Level I
Lesson 2

Draw a line to match each item on the right with its proper picture on the left.



Copy the missing words in the Bible passage below.

God great sin

How can I do this _____ wickedness and _____ against _____?
Genesis 39:9c



**“THEN JESUS SAID TO HIM, ‘AWAY WITH YOU,
SATAN! FOR IT IS WRITTEN...’”**

MATTHEW 4:10A

Joseph's Dreams Come True

At the end of our last story we saw Joseph in prison for something he had not done. God blessed Joseph even in prison and some very amazing things happened to him.

God gave Joseph the ability to tell what dreams meant. He told Pharaoh's chief butler that he would get his job back, after telling what his dream meant. When Pharaoh had two very strange dreams, Joseph was taken out of prison to tell him what his dreams meant. Because Joseph was blessed by the LORD to say the right words, Pharaoh made him the highest governor in the land of Egypt.

God was going to send a famine. When that happens, no crops grow well. It was Joseph's job to save food in special barns for the days when there wouldn't be much food growing in the fields. It was also his job to sell the food to people who came to buy.

Joseph's brothers and father lived far away in Canaan. Their land had a famine too. Jacob heard that people could buy food in Egypt, so he sent all the brothers, except Benjamin the youngest, to Egypt to get food.

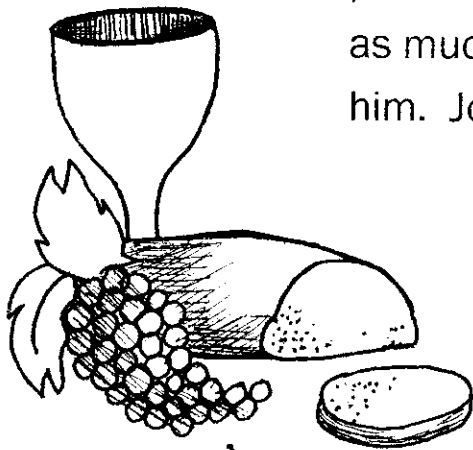
When the brothers came to Joseph, they bowed down to him and asked to buy some food. They did not know it was their brother whom they had sold into slavery so many years earlier. He had grown to be a man, he wore clothes different from theirs, he had no beard like they probably did, and he spoke in a different language. But Joseph knew who they were. Joseph pretended not to know them. Can you think of a reason not to tell? Yes, he wanted to find out if they had changed, if they loved others more now.



Joseph tested them in this way. He accused them of being spies. He put them into prison for three days. Then he sent them all home, except for brother Simeon. Simeon could only get out of prison when they brought their youngest brother Benjamin along next time. Frightened and sad the brothers left for home. On the way they discovered that the money used to buy the food was put back into their sacks. They wondered if they would be accused of stealing the money the next time they went to Joseph to buy food. All of this made them think they were being punished for what they had done to Joseph so long ago.

When they ran out of food many months later, they had to take Benjamin along. This worried father Jacob, because he loved his youngest son dearly. The older boys promised their worried father that nothing would happen to him. They showed real love to their aging father.

In Egypt Joseph still did not tell his brothers who he was. He wanted to test them a little more to be sure they had changed. He invited them to his house and prepared a meal for them. Each brother was given equal portions of food, except Benjamin who was given five times as much as the others. The brothers were not jealous of him. Joseph tested them in other ways and could now see that the brothers were no longer selfish or mean. They loved each other and their father.



So Joseph finally told them who he really was. He explained to them that God had wanted him to live in Egypt so that he could help to save so many people from dying during the terrible famine. Joseph knew that troubles turn out to be good for others, too. We should never complain or give up when hard or sad things happen, for God will make it a blessing to us and to others. He knows exactly what everyone needs to be kept safe.

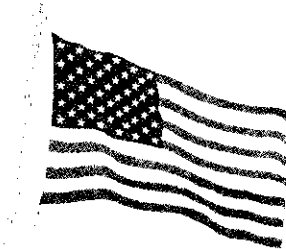
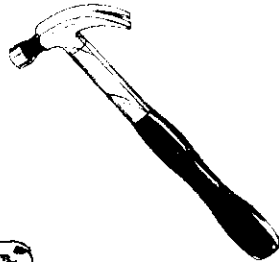
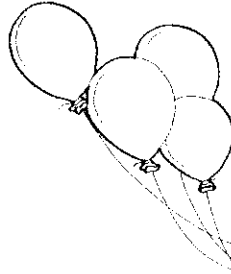


“But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.”

Genesis 45:5

Level I
Lesson 3

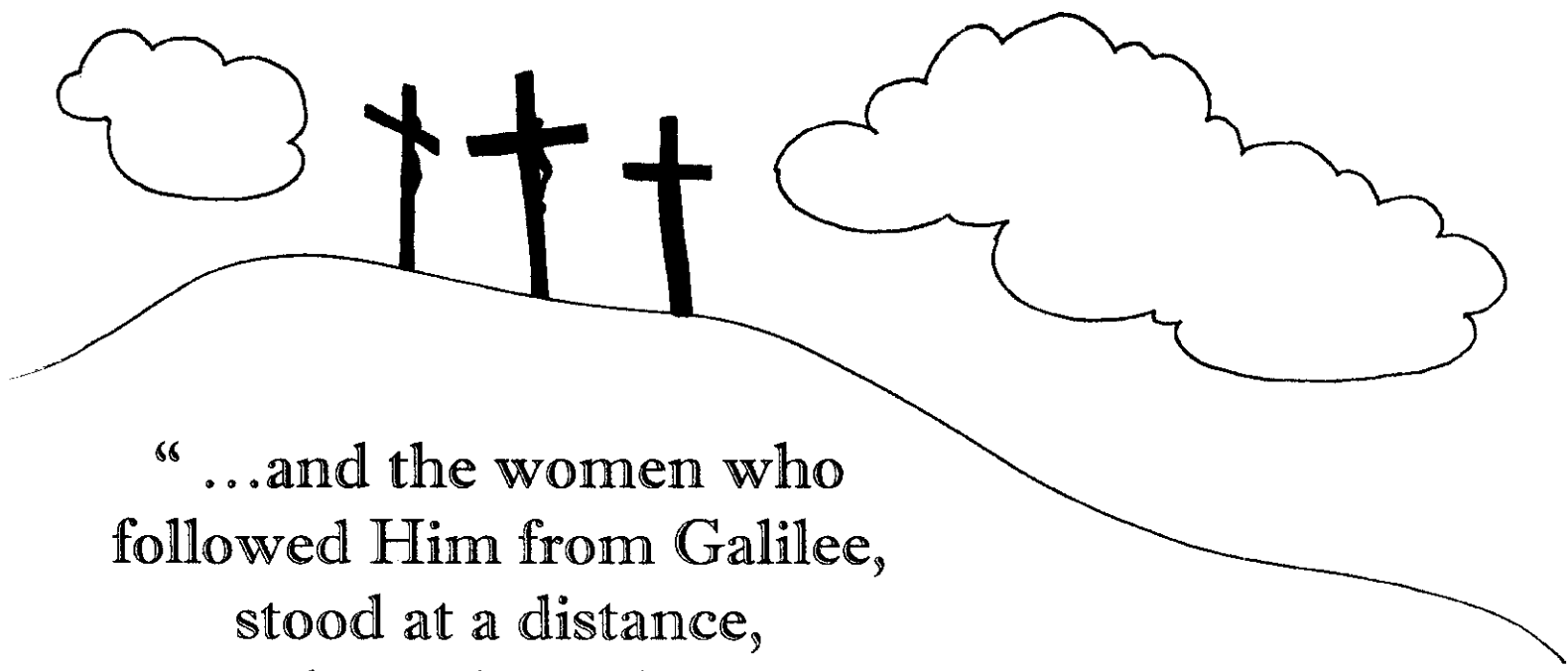
Circle the things Joseph gave to his brothers. Put an 'X' over the things he did not give to them.



Connect the dots to complete the Bible passage.

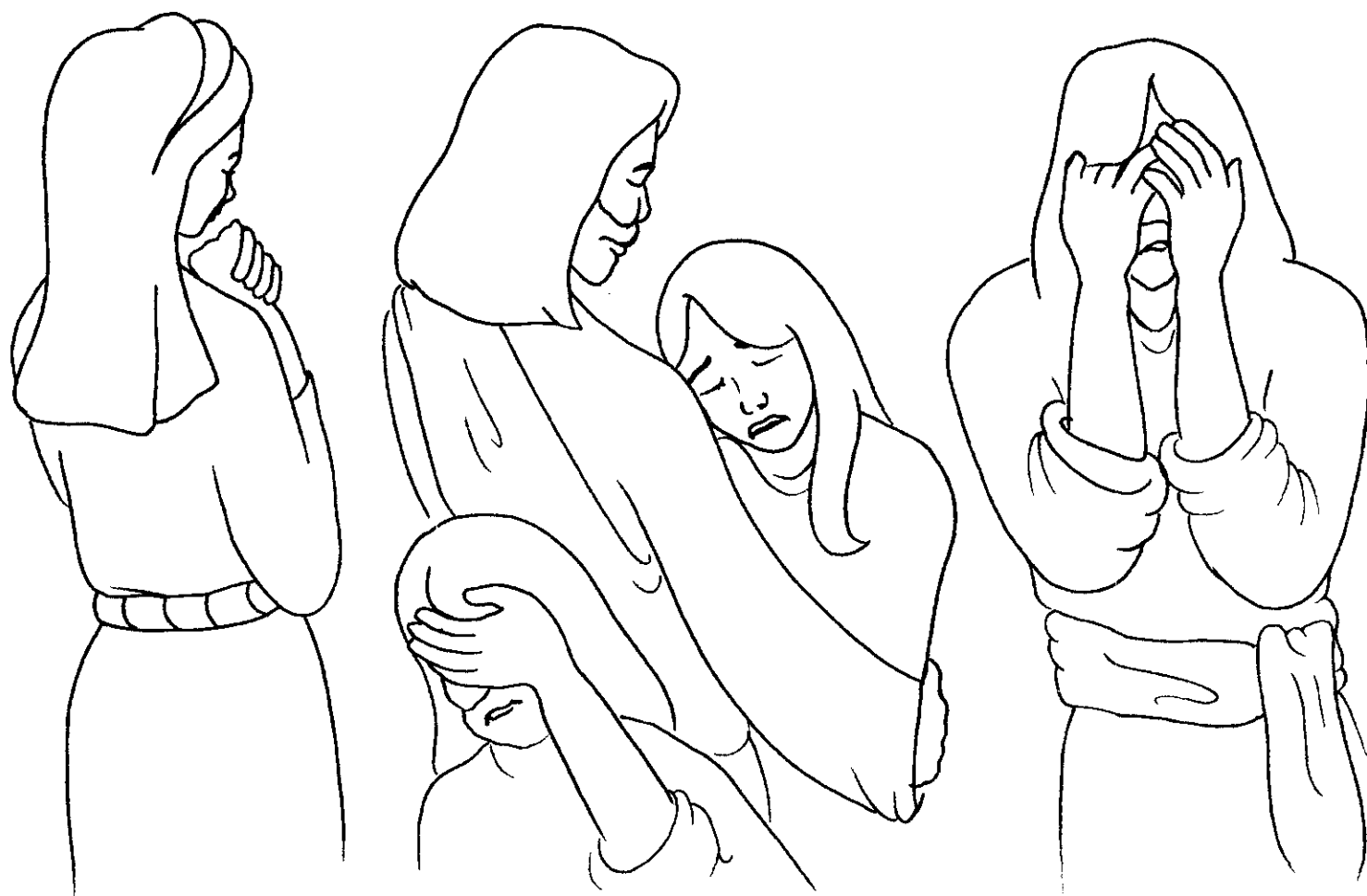
A **NEW** commandment I give you, that
you **LOVE** one another.

John 13:34a



“...and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.”

Luke 23:49b

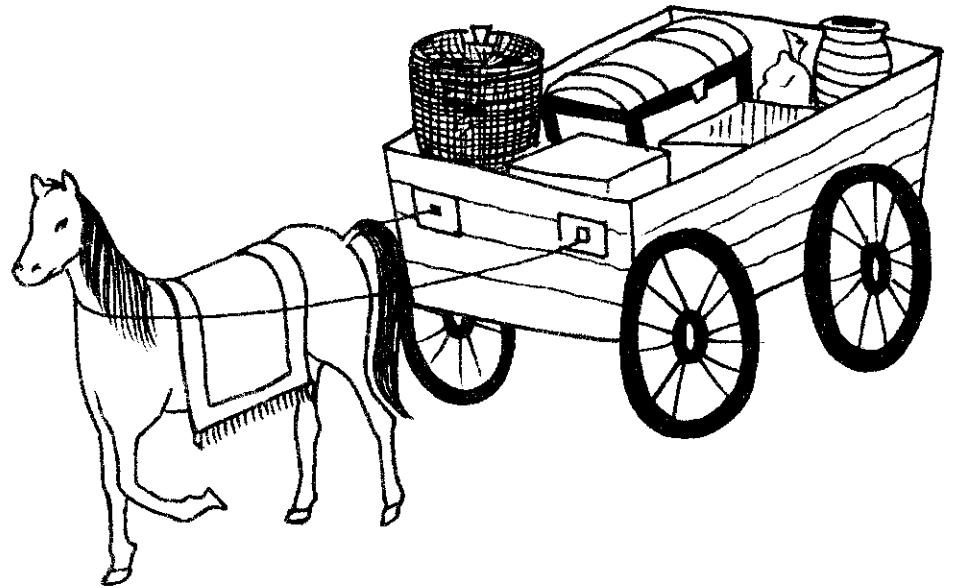


Joseph Forgives His Brothers

When Joseph told his brothers who he really was, they were afraid. But Joseph said, “Come close to me.” When they did, he told them again, “I am Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt. Don’t be sad or worried for what you did, because God wanted me to save lives here in Egypt.”

Then Joseph sent his brothers back to Jacob with food and gifts and clothes and money and wagons to bring Jacob and the brothers’ families back to Egypt to live. In Egypt they wouldn’t get hungry and they could be near Joseph.

Imagine how surprised father Jacob was to find out Joseph was not really dead, and that he was a high ruler in Egypt! At first he found it hard to believe, but when he saw the gifts and carts, he believed his sons were telling the truth. Jacob traveled to Egypt to see his dear son Joseph before he died.

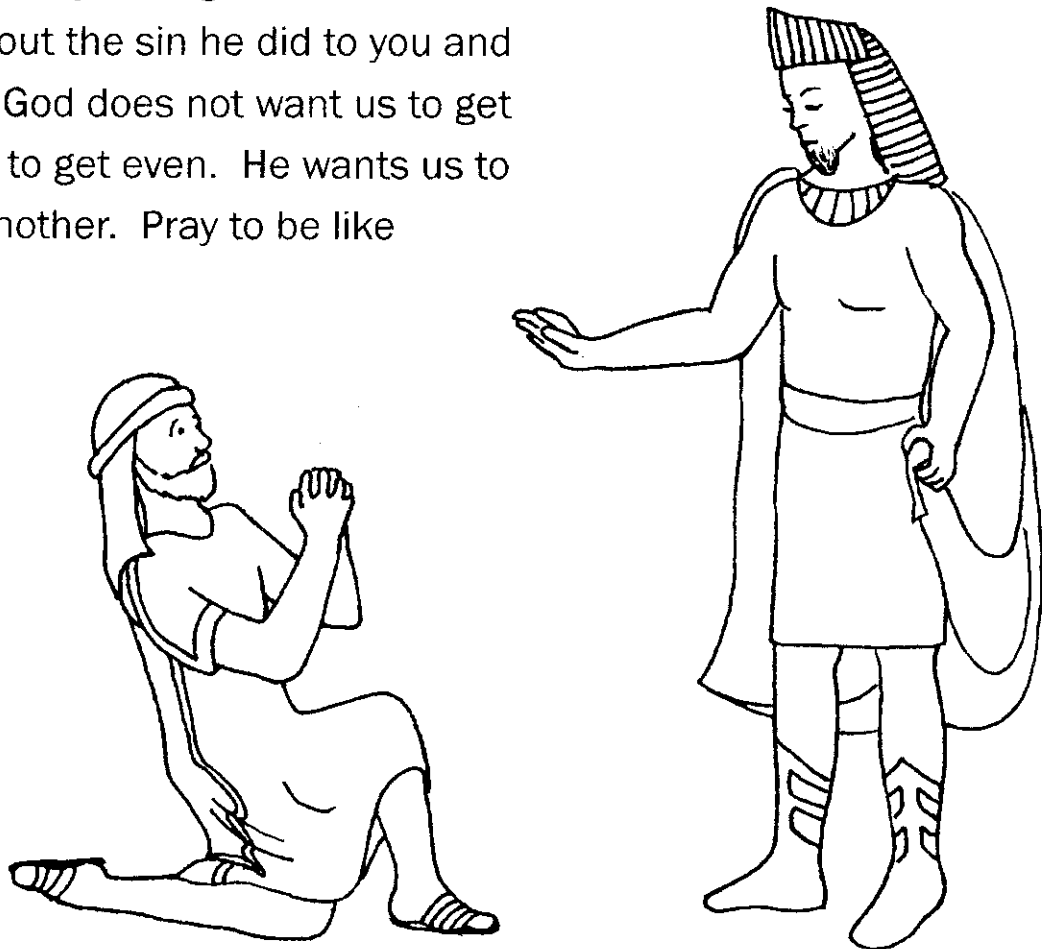


So all the families moved to Egypt, where they lived in great comfort, blessed by God. For 17 years Jacob lived in Egypt and then he died. Joseph and his brothers took their father’s body back to Canaan to bury him there. Jesus took his soul to heaven with Him.

After Jacob's death, Joseph's brothers were again afraid that Joseph would get back at them for selling him to be a slave. The brothers were very sorry for the wrong they had done to Joseph long ago, but they weren't sure Joseph really forgave them.

Joseph cried when he found out they were worried he might get back at them. He loved the LORD and that means forgiving people who do wrong things to us. Joseph told them again, "You meant to do me harm, but God meant it for good, to save many lives. Don't be afraid of me, I will give you and your children food." He spoke kindly to them, and they trusted Joseph.

How about you? Are you like Joseph when someone is sorry for doing a bad thing to you? Do you forgive him? Do you forget about the sin he did to you and forgive him? God does not want us to get "revenge," or to get even. He wants us to forgive one another. Pray to be like Joseph.



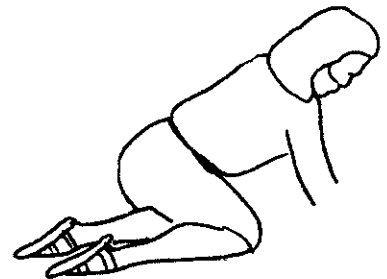
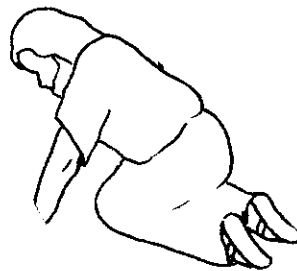
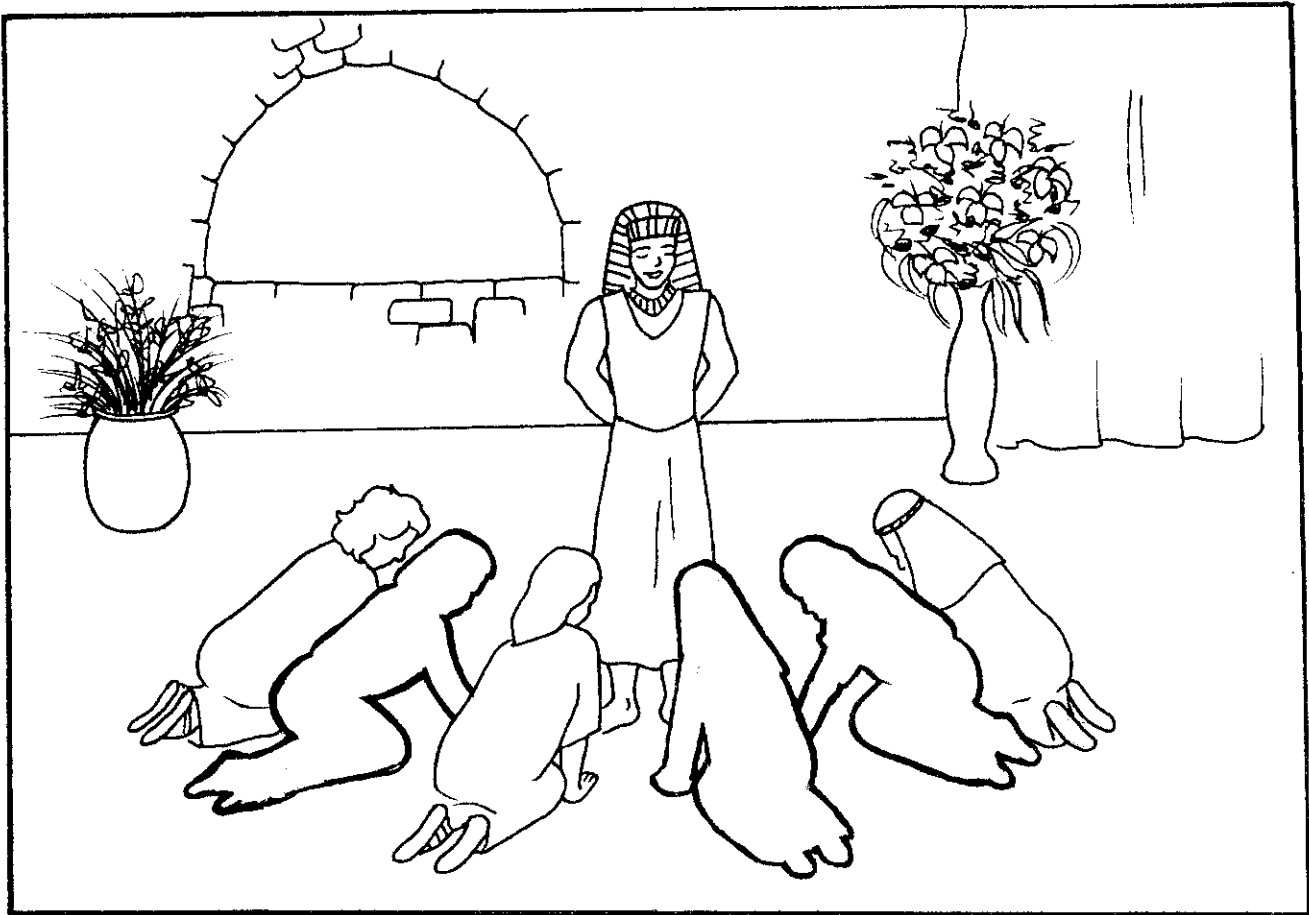
**"Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid,
for am I in the place of God?'"**

Genesis 50:19



Level I
Lesson 4

Draw a line from each person on the bottom of the page to where he belongs in the picture.



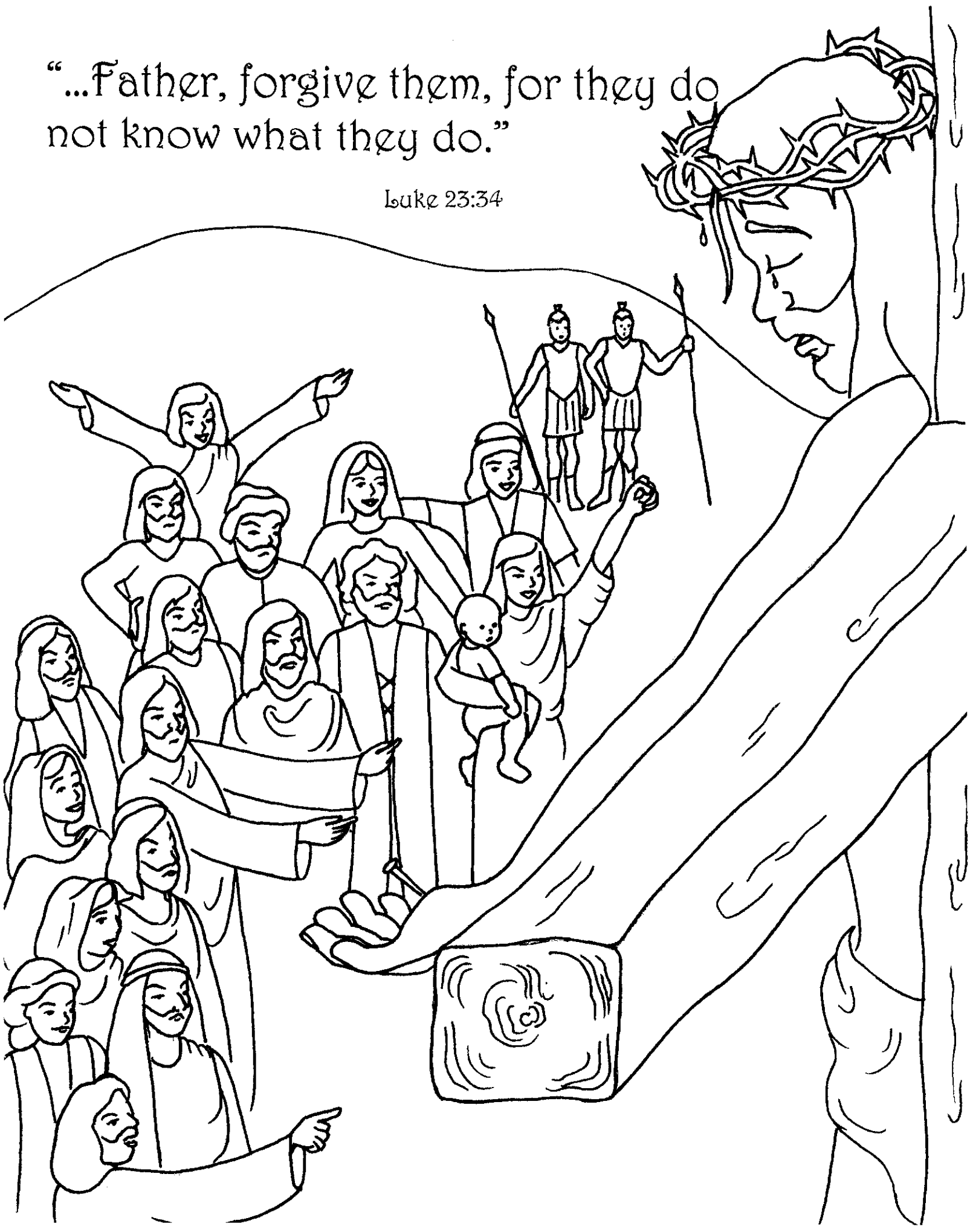
Connect the dots to complete the Bible passage.

Do not be overcome by **EVIL**, but
overcome **EVIL** with **GOOD**.

Romans 12:21

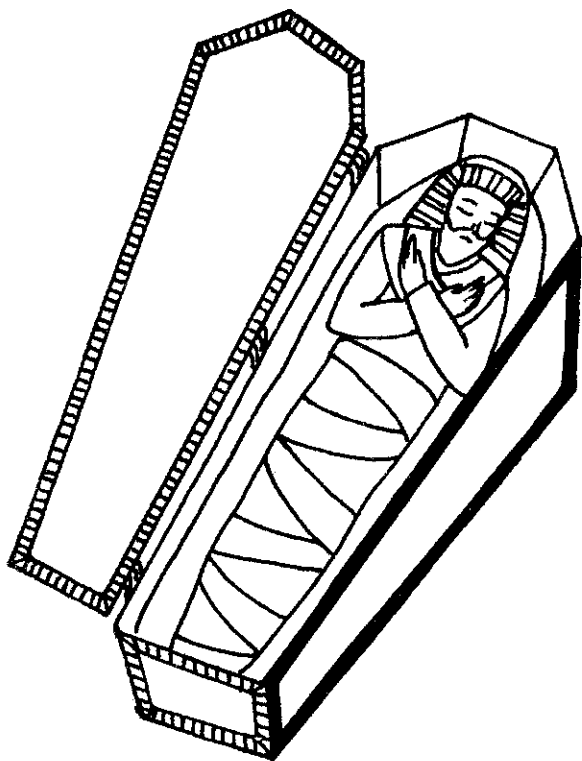
“...Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”

Luke 23:34



Joseph Goes Home

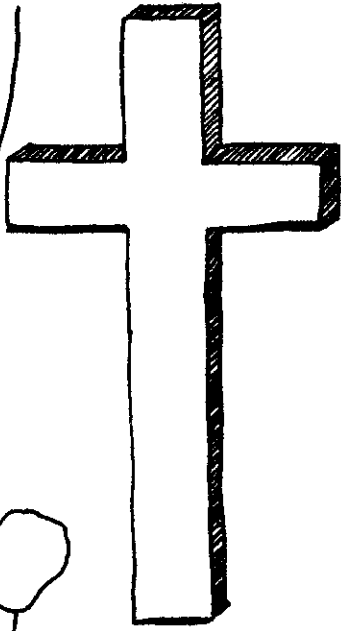
Joseph stayed in Egypt with his brothers and their families. Joseph helped the people of Egypt to stay alive during the long famine. He sold them food, he gave them seeds to plant new crops, he gathered the new food into the barns for the king. He worked hard and enjoyed his job.



God truly blessed Joseph. He gave Joseph wisdom and courage to help the people and his own family. He gave Joseph a heart full of love to forgive his brothers. The LORD also blessed Joseph with sons. Two of his sons were promised a share of the land of Canaan along with the other sons of Jacob.

Joseph lived to be 110 years old. He saw his great great grandchildren. Egypt was a nice country, but he remembered his home in Canaan, so he made his brothers' families promise to take his body back "home" when they left Egypt. They promised him that. When Joseph died, he was embalmed, and his body was put into a coffin, but he was not buried in the ground in Egypt. His body was carried back to Canaan many years later when the Children of Israel left Egypt to go "home."

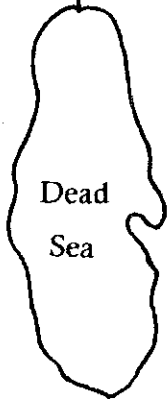
Joseph also went "home" to Jesus. We only live on earth and in our houses for a short while. Then we go to our real home—HEAVEN. Joseph believed and trusted all the promises of God. One of those promises was "A Savior will come to take away your sins, and you will come to live in heaven with Me." Joseph believed these wonderful words, and so Jesus took him to heaven forever.



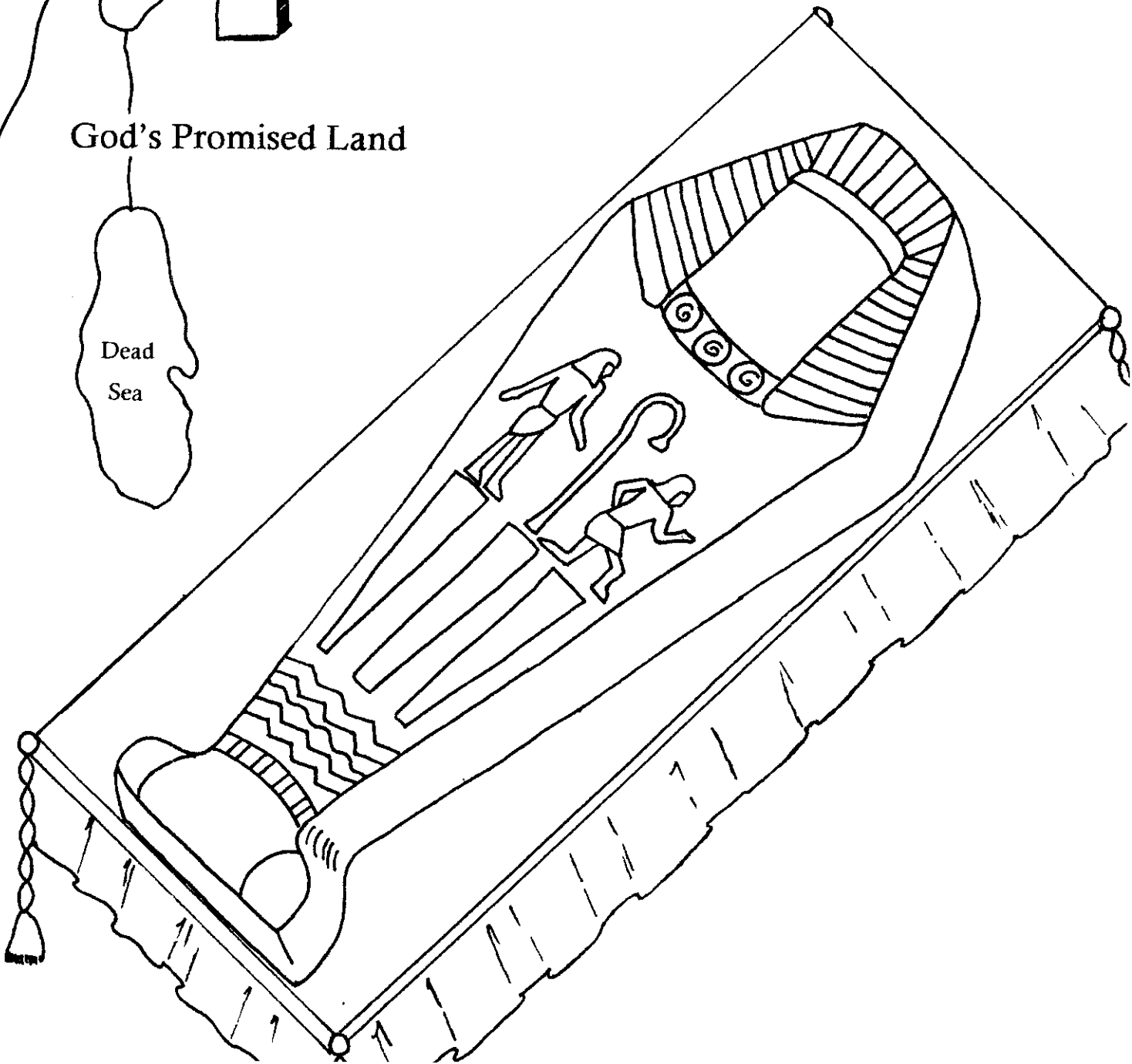
“By faith Joseph, when he was dying,
made mention of the departure
of the children of Israel,
and gave instructions
concerning
his bones.”

Hebrews 11:22

God's Promised Land

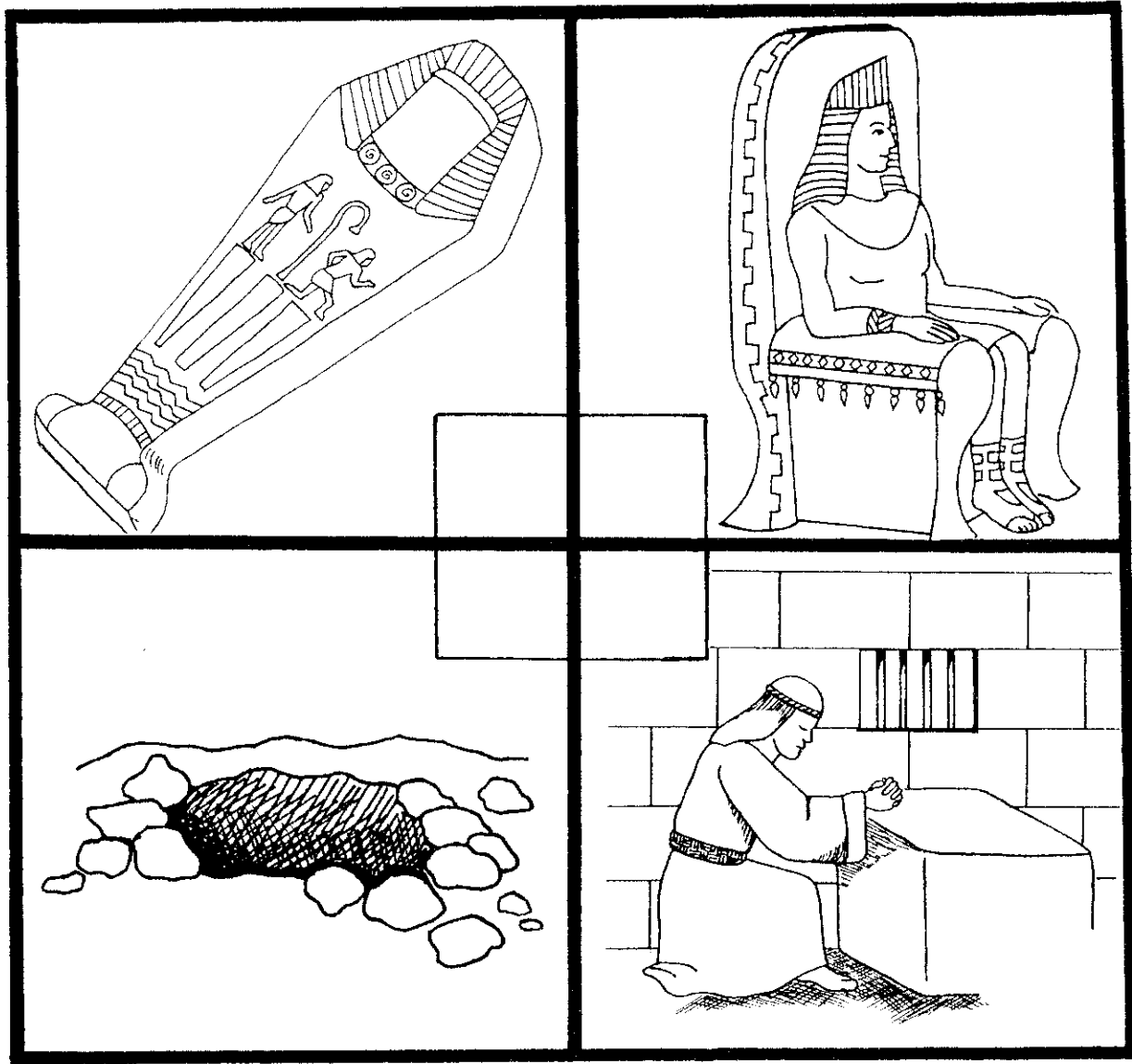


Dead
Sea



Level I
Lesson 5

Put the pictures in the order in which they happened by writing the correct number in the box in the corner of each picture.



1 2 3 4

Copy the missing words in the Bible passage below.

live I you

Because _____ live, _____ shall _____ also.

John 14:9

“He is not here;
for He is
risen...”

Matthew 28:6



*(Psalm 1:1-2) Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
(2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.*

Memory Verses

Levels I and II

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Romans 8:31b | If God is for us, who can be against us? |
| 2. Genesis 39:9c | How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God? |
| 3. John 13:34a | A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. |
| 4. Romans 12:21 | Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. |
| 5. John 14:19b | Because I live, you shall live also. |

Levels III and IV

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. Romans 8:28 | And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. |
| 2. Matthew 26:41 | Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. |
| 3. 1 Cor. 6:19-20 | Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. |
| 4. Eph. 4:32 | And be kind to one another, tenderhearted forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you. |
| 5. 1 Cor. 15:55-57 | O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. |

Memory Hymn

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1) If God Himself be for me,
I may a host defy;
For when I pray before me
My foes, confounded, fly.
If Christ, my Head and Master,
Befriend me from above,
What foe or what disaster
Can drive me from His love? | 2) This I believe, yea, rather,
Of this I make my boast,
That God is my dear Father,
The Friend who loves me most,
And that, whate'er betide me,
My Savior is at hand
Thro' stormy seas to guide me
And bring me safe to land. | 3) My heart for joy is springing
And can no more be sad,
'Tis full of mirth and singing,
Sees naught but sunshine glad.
The Sun that cheers my spirit
Is Jesus Christ, my King;
The heaven I shall inherit
Makes me rejoice and sing. |
|---|---|--|

(The Lutheran Hymnal, hymn 528:1,2,15)

Suggested Prayer

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We ask for Your blessing upon our Bible studies. Open our hearts to understand the great work of Jesus as the Savior from sin. First instruct us in Your most holy and gracious will and then make us willing followers. Use the life Joseph to teach us to trust that You, our God, will make all things, even adversity, work for our good. Enable us to do Your will by fleeing sin, show us that by being a blessing to others round about us, we glorify Your name. Forgive us our many sins for the sake of Jesus Christ, even as we also for the sake of Jesus forgive those who hurt us. And, finally, as the sum of all our hopes, give us in Christ the victory over death and take us from this vale of tears to our eternal home of peace and joy in heaven. We ask for these blessings in the name of Jesus. Amen.