

Aug 23, 2026

Jacob's Sons - Joseph sold into slavery Genesis 35 and 37

Story: Read the story ahead of time. Practice it. For the younger grades, feel free to summarize, if needed. It's okay to reference the story as you are telling it, but the goal is to know the story well enough that you don't have to read it word for word. :) And, we encourage you to have your Bible open during the telling of the story, so the kids know where this story came from.

★ Introduction & Story:

We have spent the last few weeks talking about the beginning of the Bible and the world. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God made a beautiful garden called Eden. He put the first people there (Adam and Eve) and it was perfect. But it didn't stay perfect for long. No, Adam and Eve sinned. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that displeases God. And the consequence of sin is death and separation from God. But God said He would send a Savior. While people were waiting for a Savior, what did they do? More sin!! Despite all of the sin, God was faithful to His promise to send a Savior. He continued to carry His plan out through sinful people. In the Old Testament, we see how God loves people - even when they sin. God still has a plan and carries out that plan. Today, we see how Abraham's great grandchildren acted. Remember - God is using Abraham's family to carry out his plan to bring a Savior.

When Jacob left his father and mother to go live near his mother's brother (his uncle, whose name was Laban) he fell in love with one of Laban's daughters, Rachel. He actually ended up marrying both Rachel and her sister, Leah. How that happened is a story for a different day.

What we want to talk about today is Jacob's sons. He had 12 sons. He had at least one daughter that we know of. Her name was Dinah.

His sons' names were Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin.

Jacob loved Joseph the most. Jacob once gave Joseph a "coat of many colors." This was a special robe and was probably very expensive. Clothes at that time did not usually have much color. It cost a lot of money to have clothes made that had

color in them. The brothers were jealous of Joseph. In fact, after he received the robe from his father, the brothers didn't even want to talk to him.

One day, his brothers had gone to pasture with their father's flocks. Jacob (who God now called Israel) sent Joseph to them. He told Joseph to see how they were doing and bring word back to him.

His brothers could see him coming in the distance. They plotted to kill him. When Reuben, the oldest son, heard of this, he told them not to take Joseph's life. He told them to throw him into a pit. Reuben intended to rescue Joseph and return him to his father.

When Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped off Joseph's robe. Then they took him and threw him into the pit.

They sat down to eat a meal, and when they looked up, there was a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were carrying many things that they were taking down to Egypt.

Judah said to his brothers, "What do we gain if we kill our brother? Let's sell him to the Ishmaelites." His brothers agreed. When the caravan passed by, the brothers pulled Joseph out of the pit and sold him for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took Joseph to Egypt.

When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not there, he was very upset. He asked the other brothers what happened and they told Reuben that they had sold him to be a slave.

The brothers took Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat, and dipped the robe in its blood. Then they sent the robe to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it. Is it your son's robe?"

Their father recognized it. "It is my son's robe," he said. "A vicious animal has devoured him. Joseph has been torn to pieces!" He mourned for his son for many days. All his sons and daughters tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted.

The men from the caravan sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and the captain of the guards. We will pick up more of this story next time!

★ **Connection to God's Overall Story/Plan:**

Sometimes our plans don't work out like we think they are going to. Joseph certainly didn't expect to end up in Egypt. He wanted to serve God, but what was he to do now that he was in Egypt? God had a plan. And Joseph was part of that plan. (In

fact, a huge part! The story of Joseph tells us how the Israelites ended up in Egypt - which is a huge backdrop for many things in the Bible as God carries out His plan).

Ultimately, God's plan for us was to save us from our sins. God sent Jesus for just that reason.

What we see through this story is that

- God made a covenant to save His people from sin - through Abraham
- The people sin and make a mess of things and it looks like God's promise won't happen - Joseph's been sold and the family is separated - this is messy!!
- God remains true to His promise, we just can't see it immediately - in this story, God is working in the background
- God delivers on His plan and Jesus comes to save us!! God uses several things from this story to deliver on all of His promises.

Follow Up: As a church, we are encouraging disciple makers to practice the REAP method as it is one useful tool in learning to read the Bible on your own. Retell, Examine, Application, Prayer. Now this may not be everyone's preference, but it is an easy and consistent way to teach children to pull the meaning out of a passage and not just read it or rely on others to teach them what it means. Trees & Mountains - this is a station.

★ **Retell:** Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.

★ **Examine:**

- Comprehension Questions:
 - Do you know what it feels like to be jealous?
 - Do you think it was a good idea for Jacob to treat Joseph differently than his brothers?
 - Do you think that Joseph could forgive his brothers for what they did? (We are going to talk about that the next time we are together.)
- Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
 - We learn that God allows us to make our choices and allows us to sin and make a big mess of things.
- Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"

- Humans have a choice. We can sin or not sin. It is our choice, but our sinful nature is so strong, we lean toward sin all the time. We also learn that in the moment, we don't know God's big plan.

★ **Application:** Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"

- God included this story because it tells us how the Israelites entered Egypt and that is important to predict the coming of God (adults - the Passover). For us immediately, we need to trust God.

★ **Prayer**

Memory Verse: Have the kids use the Bible. They should either share or each have one. If kids have their own Bibles, we can encourage them to use it, but sometimes you may just need to use the class set. Trees & Mountains - this is one station.

★ **Verse:** "We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God," - Romans 8:28a

Memory Verse Practice:

Verse Look Up: Explain the address of the verse (Book Chapter:Verse). Explain whether it's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Read and explain the verse.

- Rainbow Tip: Not necessary until we split classrooms.
- Fireweed Tip: Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. Then have them find the chapter and verse.

Practice the Verse:

- Rainbow: Not necessary :)
- Fireweed: Have the kids read it with you several times. Since they are learning to read, group practice is the focus.
- Trees & Mountains: Kids should be learning the verse and saying it on their own. We will provide activities - pick one to have the kids practice. We will PM provide: fill-in-the-blank verses, phrases for the kids to put in order, lines for the kids to write the verse out, and a worksheet for the kids to say the verse based on just the first letter of each word in the verse.

Books of the Bible:

- ★ If there is time or if kids have mastered the verse, have the kids practice the Books of the Bible. When we are doing Old Testament stories, have them practice the Old Testament; when in the New, practice the New Testament. We will have some activities for them to practice with.
 - Trees/Mountains currently have pencil cases with sets of cards/bookmarks in them.

Sticky Activities: No need to do all of these! Pick which ones work best for your teaching style and time frame! For the Trees and Mountains - there is enough time for two of the stations to do activities.

★ Sensory:

Category	Activity 1	Activity 2
Experiential	Pit Experience: Sit inside a taped square or kiddie pool ("the pit") and discuss Joseph's feelings.	Trading Activity: Give each child a small object (button, block, or toy animal) and let them trade with classmates. Discuss how Joseph was traded and how people should never be treated like objects.
Visual	Journey Map: Follow Jacob's route on the map (in the Activity section).	Colors of the Coat: Talk about different colors around the room and compare them to brown. Discuss how wearing colors vs. brown could feel.
Smell	Spice Caravan: Smell cinnamon, cloves, cardamom, and other spices carried by traders to Egypt.	Shepard's Camp: Smell wool, hay, or leather to connect with Joseph's life as a shepherd.
Touch	Coat Fabric Station: Feel velvet, fleece, burlap, cotton,	The Pit: Fill a sensory bin with sand, smooth rocks,

	and silk while comparing Joseph's special robe with ordinary clothing.	and pebbles for children to feel while talking about the empty cistern where Joseph was placed.
Movement	Freeze Drama: Freeze in poses for scenes such as Joseph dreaming, brothers arguing, Joseph in the pit, and the caravan.	Follow the Leader: One child leads the group safely to "Bethel," emphasizing following God.
Sound	Praise Parade: March while playing rhythm instruments and singing a worship song.	Emotion Echo: Repeat story phrases using different emotions (jealous, scared, hopeful, sad).
Crafts	Joseph's "Coat of Many Colors": Color, cut, and glue Joseph's coat craft from attached activity packet. Write "God is with us" on the back of the coat.	"God is with me" Journey Wheel: Create a journey wheel from the attached pattern. Have kids create pictures for Joseph's journey.

Send Home Page: Please send home with parents. They are sized 4 to a page.

August 23, 2026 Lesson Activities

Joseph's "coat of many colors"

Color, cut, and glue Joseph's coat.



"God Is With Me" Journey Wheel

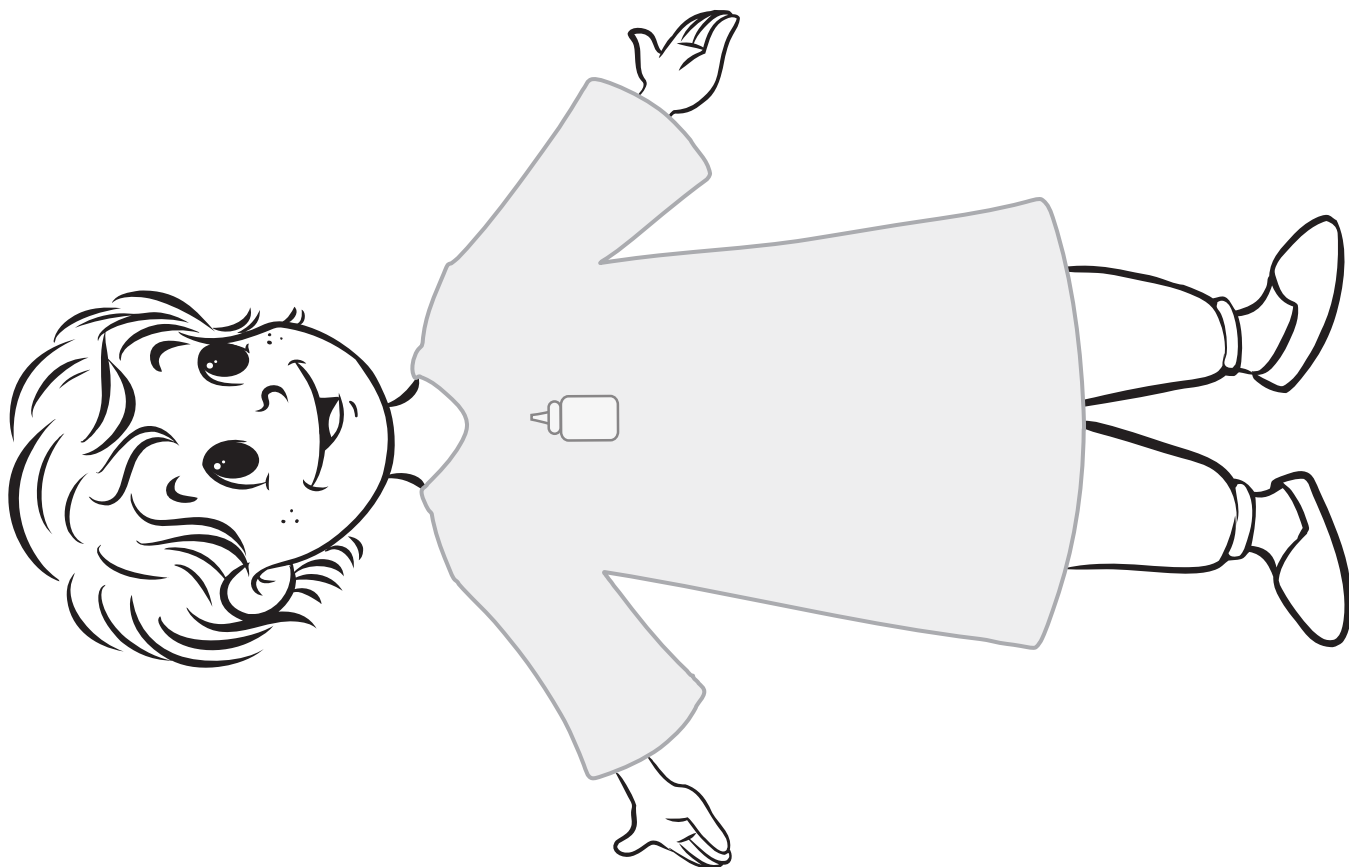
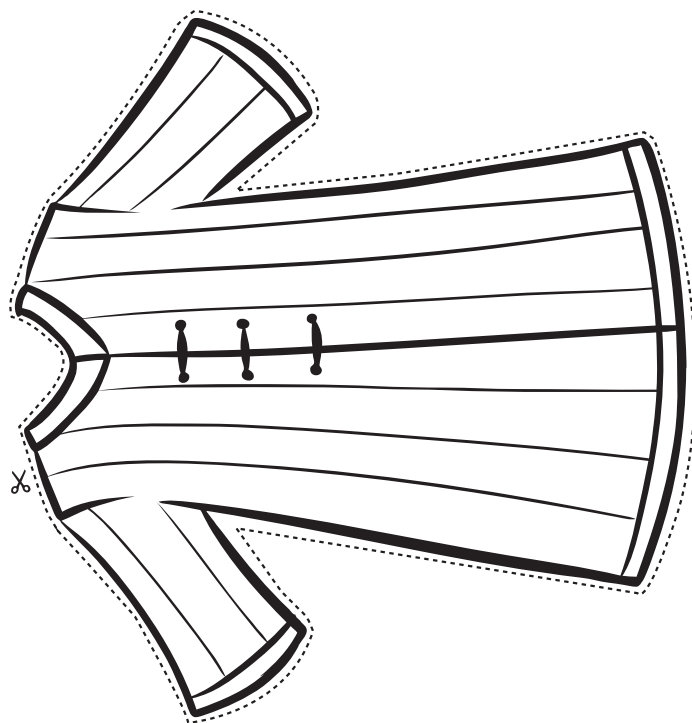
Supplies:

- Two cardstock circles (template below)
- Brass fastener (paper fastener)
- Scissors
- Markers/crayons

Directions:

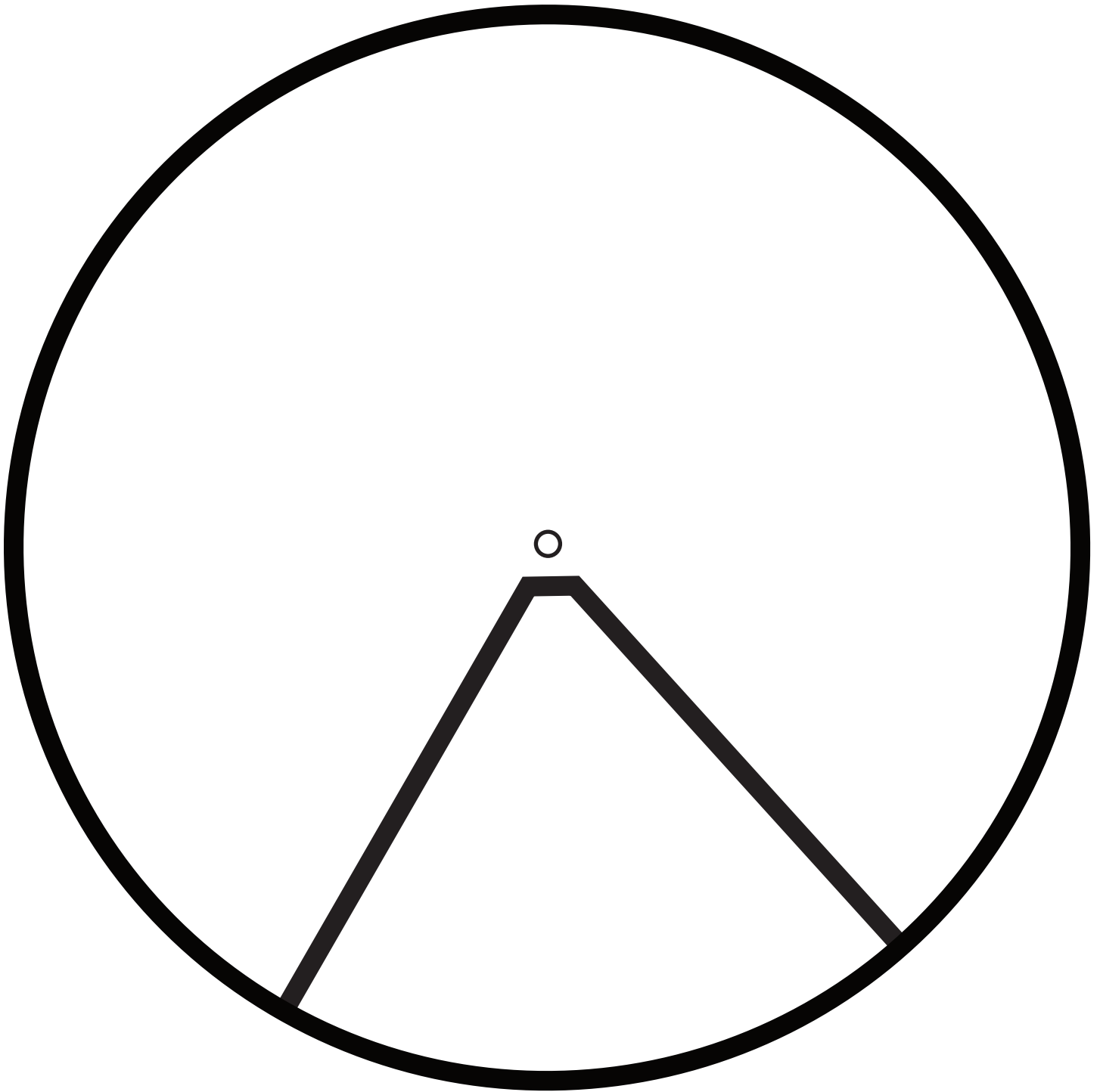
1. Draw five pictures around the circle:
 - Joseph and his brothers
 - Joseph's colorful coat
 - The pit
 - The caravan
 - Egypt
2. Attach the circles with a brass fastener.
3. Turn the wheel to reveal each picture while discussing how God stayed with Joseph through every part of his journey.

Message: *God is with us wherever we go.*

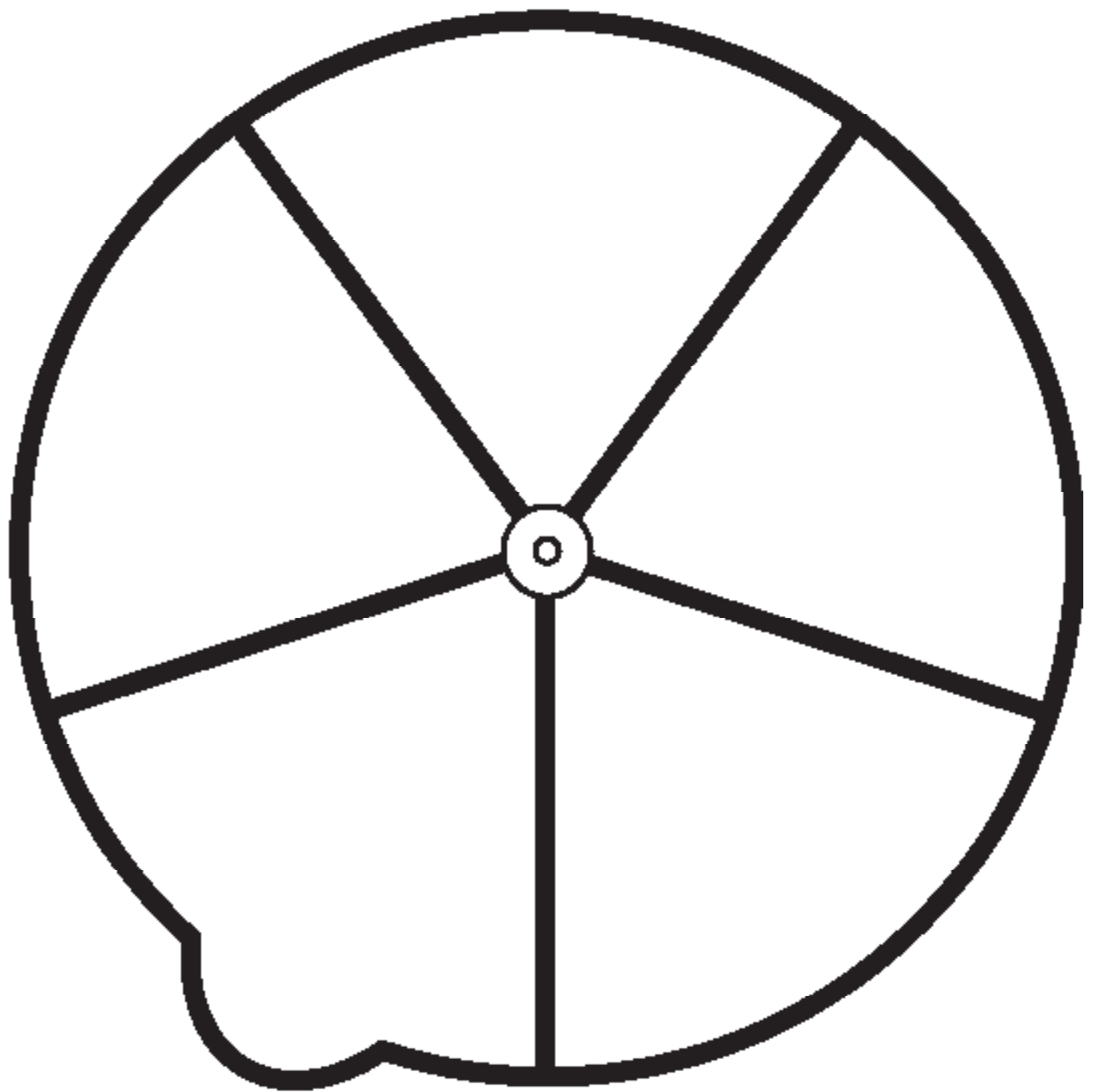




Front Pattern



Background Pattern



Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors

Genesis 37





Genesis 37:2–36

Joseph's Brothers Sell Him

Joseph's Brothers Sell Him

Genesis 37:2–36

Joseph's father, Jacob, loved Joseph more than any of his other sons. Jacob gave Joseph a special coat to show that Joseph was his favorite son. Joseph had dreams about being in charge of the family even though he was one of the youngest brothers. Joseph's brothers thought that Joseph was always bragging.

One day Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers while they were taking care of the sheep. Joseph walked a long time. Finally he found his brothers and the sheep.

When Joseph's brothers saw Joseph coming, they decided to get rid of him by throwing him into a dry well. While the brothers were eating lunch, they saw a caravan headed for Egypt. They pulled Joseph out of the well and sold him as a slave to the people in the caravan.

Then Joseph's brothers took Joseph's coat and tore it up so it looked like a wild animal had attacked him. They told their father, Jacob, that they found Joseph's coat in a field. Jacob was sad because he thought Joseph was dead.

Memory Verse:

August 23, 2026

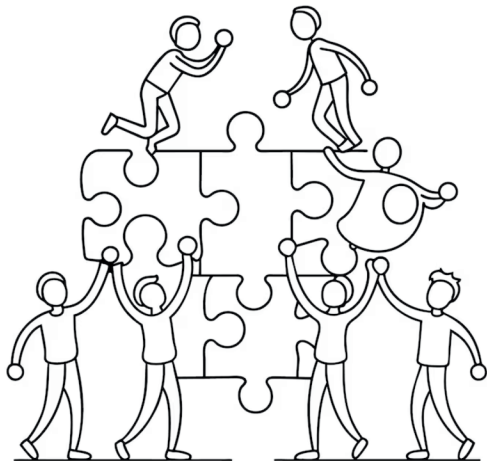
“We know that all things
work together for the
good of those who love
God,”

-- Romans 8:28a

Fill in the Blanks

We _____ that _____ things
work _____ for the
_____ of those who _____
God,
-- Romans 8:28a

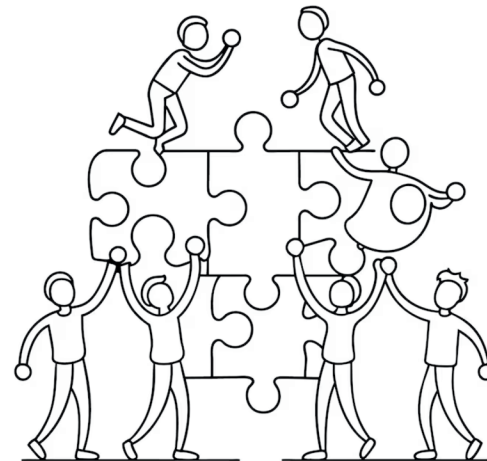
What skills has God given you to help
make a team work?



Fill in the Blanks

We _____ that _____ things
work _____ for the
_____ of those who _____
God,
-- Romans 8:28a

What skills has God given you to help
make a team work?



August 23rd's lesson was on
Jacob's Sons - Joseph sold in to slavery

Memory Verse:

"We know that all things work together for
the good of those who love God,"

-- Romans 8:28a

*Kids that recite the memory verse
to the check in desk person next week earn a prize ☺

August 23rd's lesson was on
Jacob's Sons - Joseph sold in to slavery

Memory Verse:

"We know that all things work together for
the good of those who love God,"

-- Romans 8:28a

*Kids that recite the memory verse
to the check in desk person next week earn a prize ☺

August 23rd's lesson was on
Jacob's Sons - Joseph sold in to slavery

Memory Verse:

"We know that all things work together for
the good of those who love God,"

-- Romans 8:28a

*Kids that recite the memory verse
to the check in desk person next week earn a prize ☺

August 23rd's lesson was on
Jacob's Sons - Joseph sold in to slavery

Memory Verse:

"We know that all things work together for
the good of those who love God,"

-- Romans 8:28a

*Kids that recite the memory verse
to the check in desk person next week earn a prize ☺



Want more
information?
Scan the QR code



Starting this week on
Wednesday 8/26!

New Time
5:30 - 7pm



Want more
information?
Scan the QR code



Starting this week on
Wednesday 8/26!

New Time
5:30 - 7pm



Want more
information?
Scan the QR code



Starting this week on
Wednesday 8/26!

New Time
5:30 - 7pm



Want more
information?
Scan the QR code



Starting this week on
Wednesday 8/26!

New Time
5:30 - 7pm