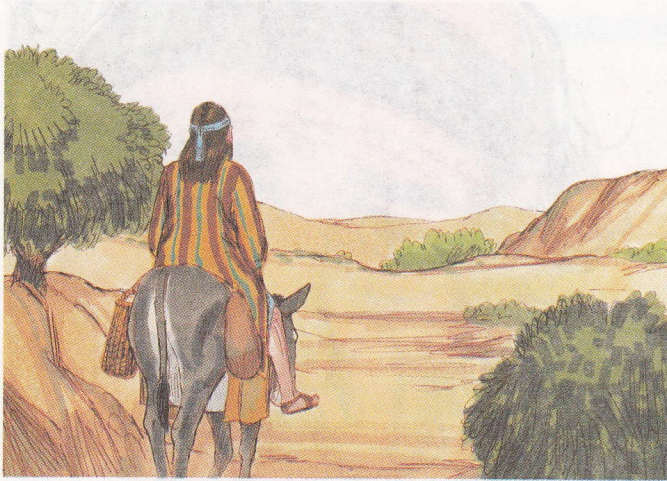


Joseph Is Sold



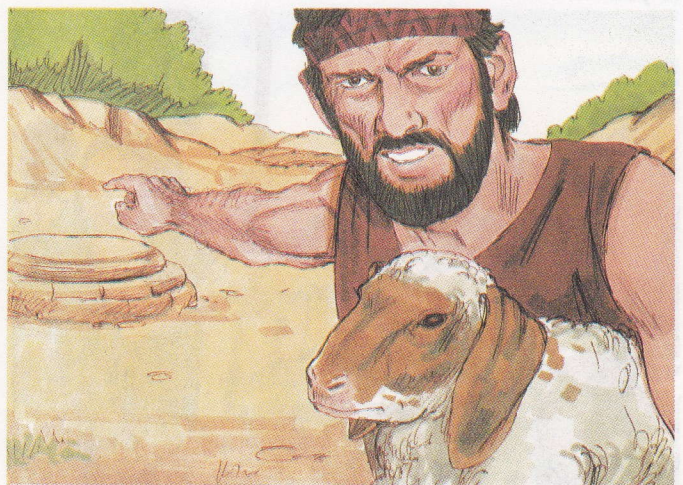
1 As Joseph traveled toward Dothan to find his brothers, they were tending their flocks in the nearby hills.



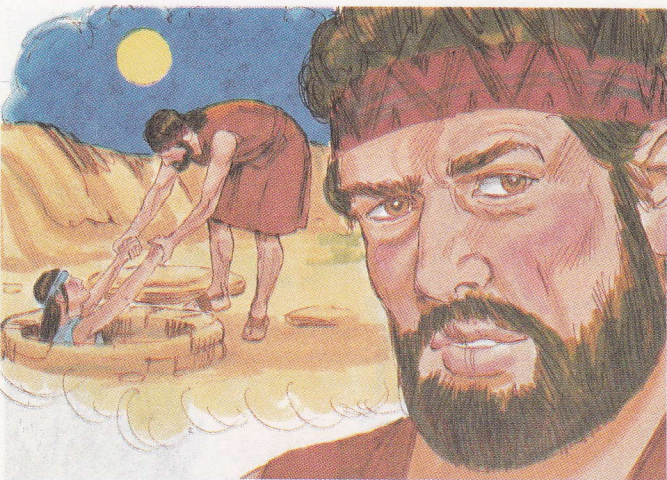
2 Suddenly the brothers saw Joseph coming in the distance. They remembered his boastful dreams and how they hated him because of the dreams.



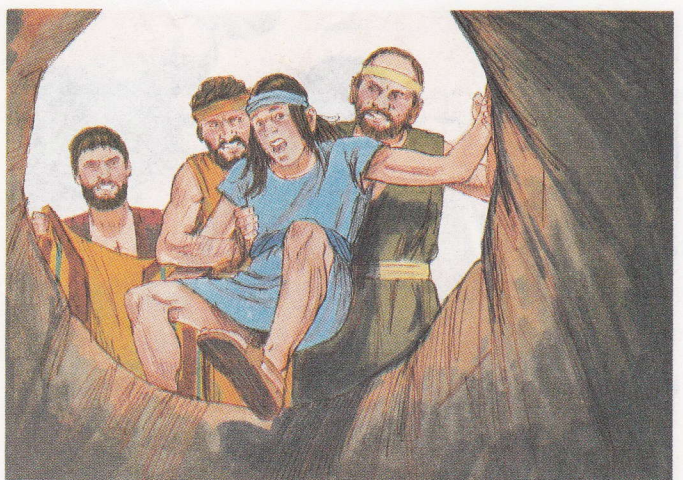
3 "Here comes that dreamer!" said one of the brothers. "Now's our chance—let's kill him!"



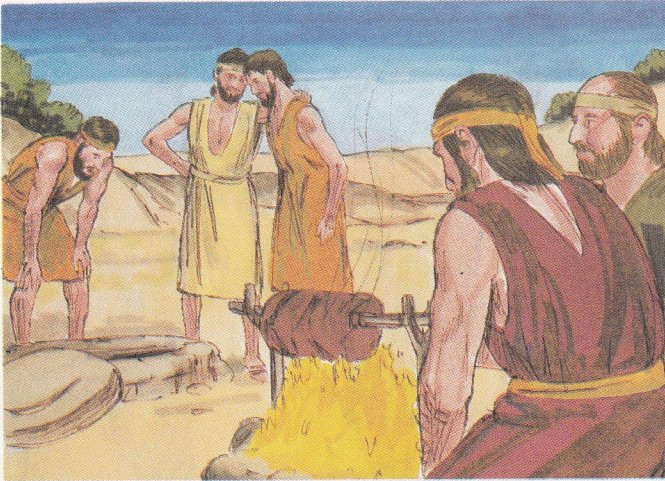
4 Reuben knew the brothers were too angry to be reasonable. But he didn't want to be guilty of killing Joseph. "Let's just put him down that dry well," he said.



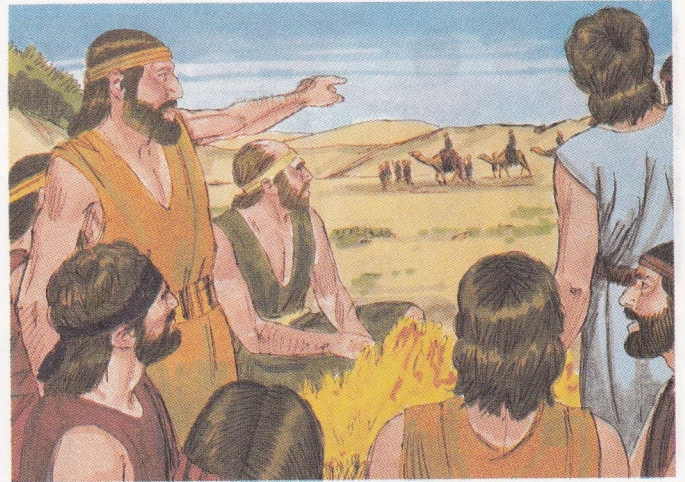
5 The brothers agreed to Reuben's plan. They did not know that Reuben was secretly planning to come back later and rescue Joseph.



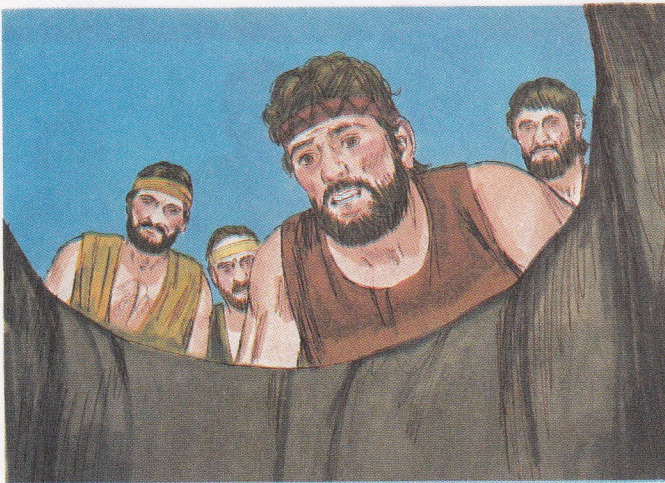
6 When Joseph entered their camp, the brothers jumped on him. They roughly stripped off his brightly colored coat and threw him down the nearby dry well.



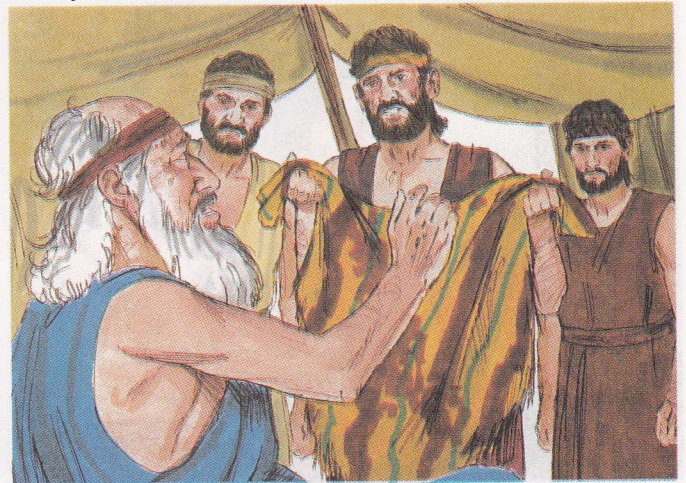
7 Later, while Reuben was taking his turn watching the herds, the other brothers sat down to supper. Joseph was still deep in the well, pleading with them to set him free.



8 While they were eating, the brothers saw a caravan of traders passing nearby. "Let's sell Joseph to these slavers. We can be rid of him and make some money, too!" So Joseph was sold to the traders.



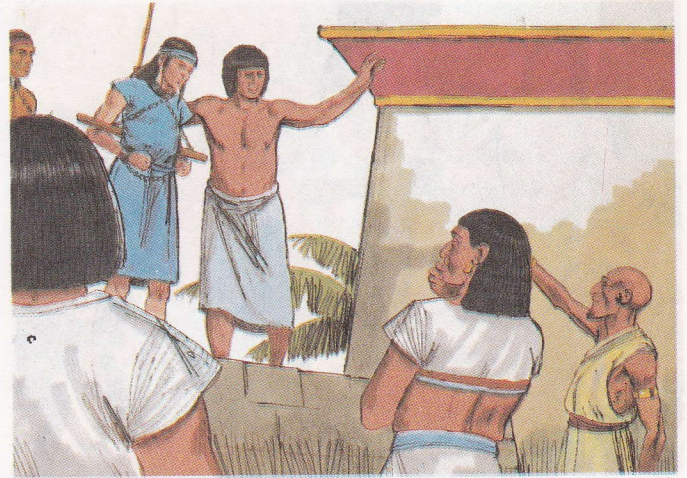
9 When Reuben returned hours later and discovered that the well was empty, he cried in great sadness, "Joseph is gone! How shall we face our father?"



10 To cover up their crime, the brothers tore Joseph's coat, dipped it in goat's blood, and took it to their father. "We found this in the field," they lied.



11 "A wild beast has eaten him!" Jacob cried, as he tore his clothes in sorrow. Jacob was so full of grief for Joseph that he could hardly stand to live.



12 Meanwhile, while Jacob grieved in Canaan, Joseph was carried far away to Egypt and sold as a slave.