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Joseph's Coat of Many Colours

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**The Dreamer**

Long time ago, there was a wealthy man,  
Who lived in the land of Canaan.



His name was Jacob; he had a large family,  
He had twelve sons, and he loved them dearly.

Of all his sons, Jacob loved Joseph most;

So, he made him a beautiful and colourful coat.

Red, orange, violet, green, blue, indigo and yellow;

It had all the colours of the rainbow.



Joseph liked the coat his father made for him;  
He said, "It's as lovely as the one I saw in my dream."  
He showed it to his brothers, before it was sunset,  
But when they saw it, they became very upset.



"Our father loves Joseph more than he loves us,"  
His brothers complained, because they were jealous.  
"He's a proud little chap who thinks only of himself."  
From that day on, they spoke unkindly to Joseph.



One night, Joseph dreamt he was with his brothers;  
And they were tying stacks of wheat together.  
Suddenly, stood Joseph's stack of wheat,  
And his brother's stacks of wheat bowed to his.



When Joseph woke up from his dream,  
He wondered, "What could this mean?"  
Joseph told his brothers about his dream,  
But when they heard it, they became angry with him.



Soon after, Joseph had yet another dream,  
In his dream, the sun, moon and stars bowed to him.



Again, he told his brothers; he told his father too;  
But they scolded him saying, "Are we to bow to you?"

Joseph's brothers became even more jealous.  
They murmured, "He thinks he's better than us?"  
But Jacob kept thinking about Joseph's dream,  
He knew God had a special plan for him.





**Sold into  
Slavery**

One day, Joseph's father sent him to his brothers,  
To see how his brothers were tending to the sheep.

While he was looking for them, he met a man,  
Who told him his brothers had gone to Dothan.



When he got to Dothan, his brothers saw him from afar,  
"Hey guys!" one of them said, "Here comes the dreamer."

"This is our chance," they said. "Let's get rid of him;  
Then, we won't have to listen again to another dream."





Joseph came to his brothers,  
looking dashing in his coat,  
But they seized him, and  
ripped off his fancy clothes.

They threw him into a  
pit that was empty;  
Then, they had their  
lunch, and felt happy.



Later on, Joseph's brothers saw a group of traders passing by.

"Hey!" one of them said. "What's the point if Joseph should die?"



"We can make some gain if we sell him off to these traders."

"That's a good idea," agreed the other brothers.

Joseph's brothers sold Joseph to these traders,  
Who sold him as a slave in Egypt to a man named, Potiphar.  
Potiphar was the captain of the king's guard.  
And Joseph became a slave in a faraway land.



Although Joseph served Potiphar as a slave,  
He was hardworking, humble and brave.  
God blessed everything Joseph did,  
That Potiphar gave him charge over all his needs.



From that moment, God blessed Potiphar's home;  
He also blessed all that Potiphar owned.  
Joseph took good care of Potiphar's things,  
That Potiphar didn't have to worry about a thing.



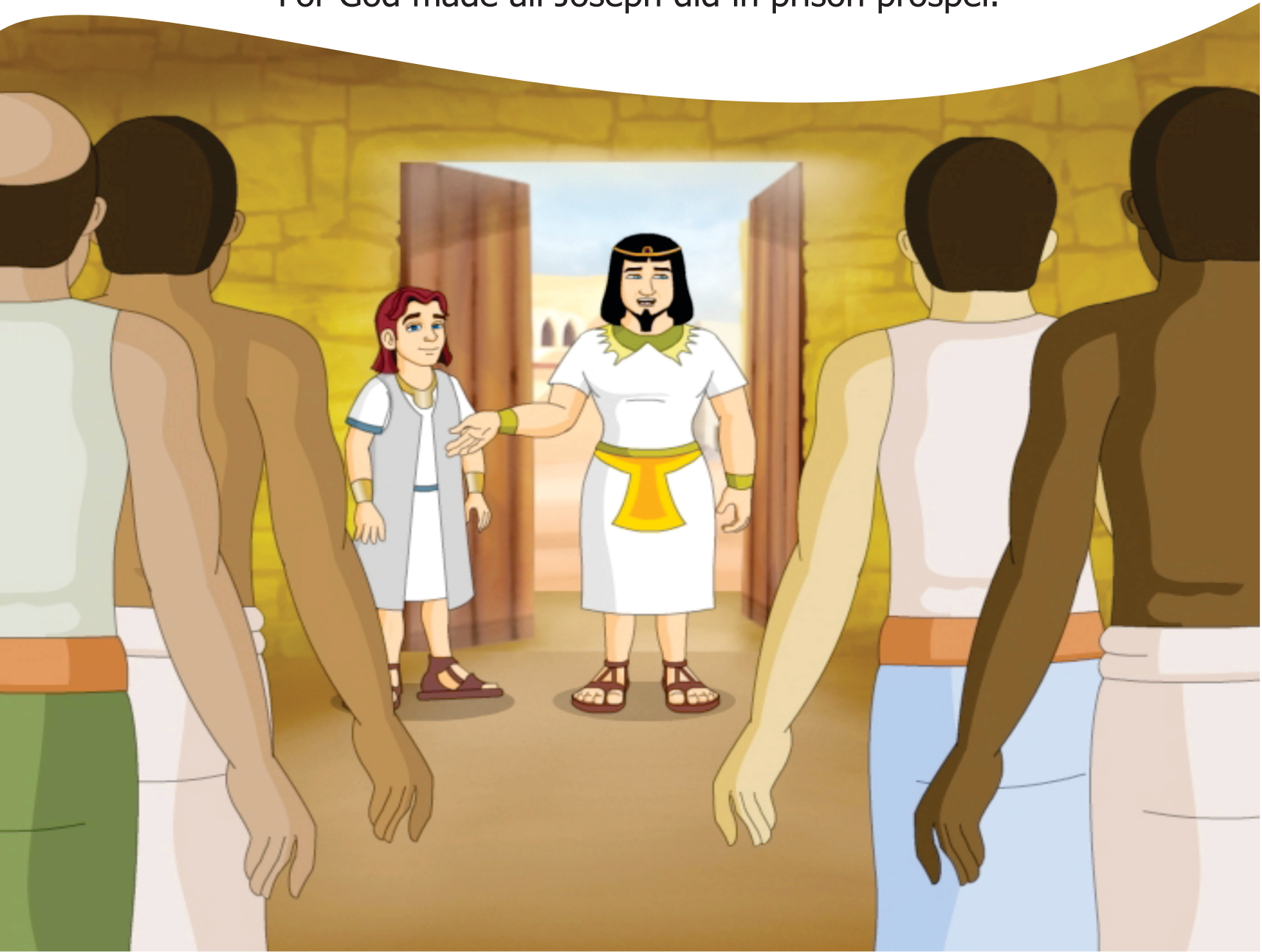


# Joseph in Prison

Potiphar had a wife, who didn't love the Lord,  
She wanted Joseph to do what was wrong.  
But Joseph refused, and she lied against him;  
Potiphar believed his wife, and sent Joseph to prison.



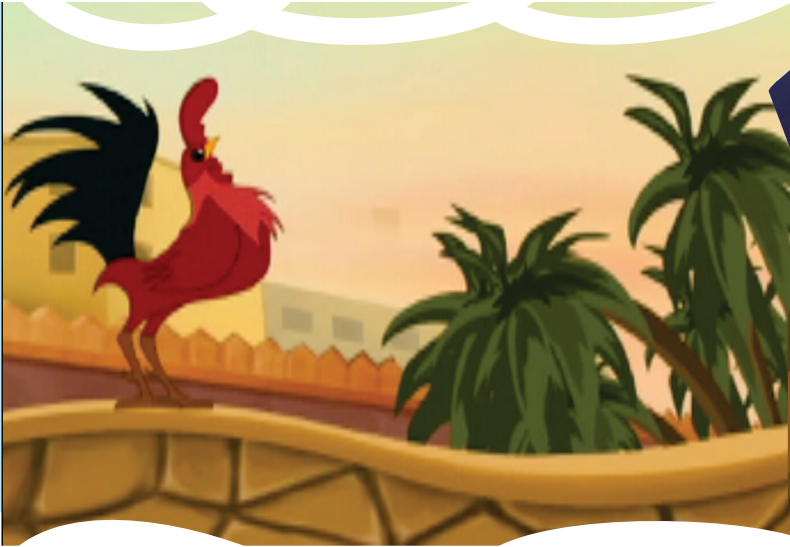
But God was with Joseph while he was in prison;  
Before long, the prison officer began to like him.  
He gave Joseph charge over the other prisoners,  
For God made all Joseph did in prison prosper.



One day, Pharaoh was angry with two of his servants,  
“Lock them up in prison,” Pharaoh did rant.  
They were locked up, and placed in Joseph's care,  
One was the baker and the other the butler.



One night, both the baker and the butler had a dream;  
They woke up thinking what their dreams could mean.



They told Joseph what  
they had dreamt;

And he told them what  
their dreams meant.



The dreams came to pass: the baker was sacked.

But the butler was given his job back.



The baker did not remember how Joseph interpreted his dream, Nor did he tell the king about what Joseph did for him.



**Joseph**  
**The Prime Minister**

Two years later, Pharaoh also had a dream;  
But no one could tell the meaning of the dream to him.  
Then, the butler said, "I know a man who can, Pharaoh."  
"Bring him now," Pharaoh ordered. "I can't wait till tomorrow."



Immediately, Joseph was brought out from prison,  
And was taken to the palace to tell Pharaoh his dream.  
“There will be seven years of great harvests and plenty,”  
Joseph said. “But soon after, the land will be dry and empty.”



Joseph also said, "Store up all the grains in the land,  
And appoint someone wise to carry out your command."  
But Pharaoh said to him, "Hmmm, that's a great plan!  
You'll be the Prime Minister, for you're a wise man."



So, Joseph became  
Egypt's Prime Minister,  
He was head over all of  
Egypt as Pharaoh's chief  
adviser.

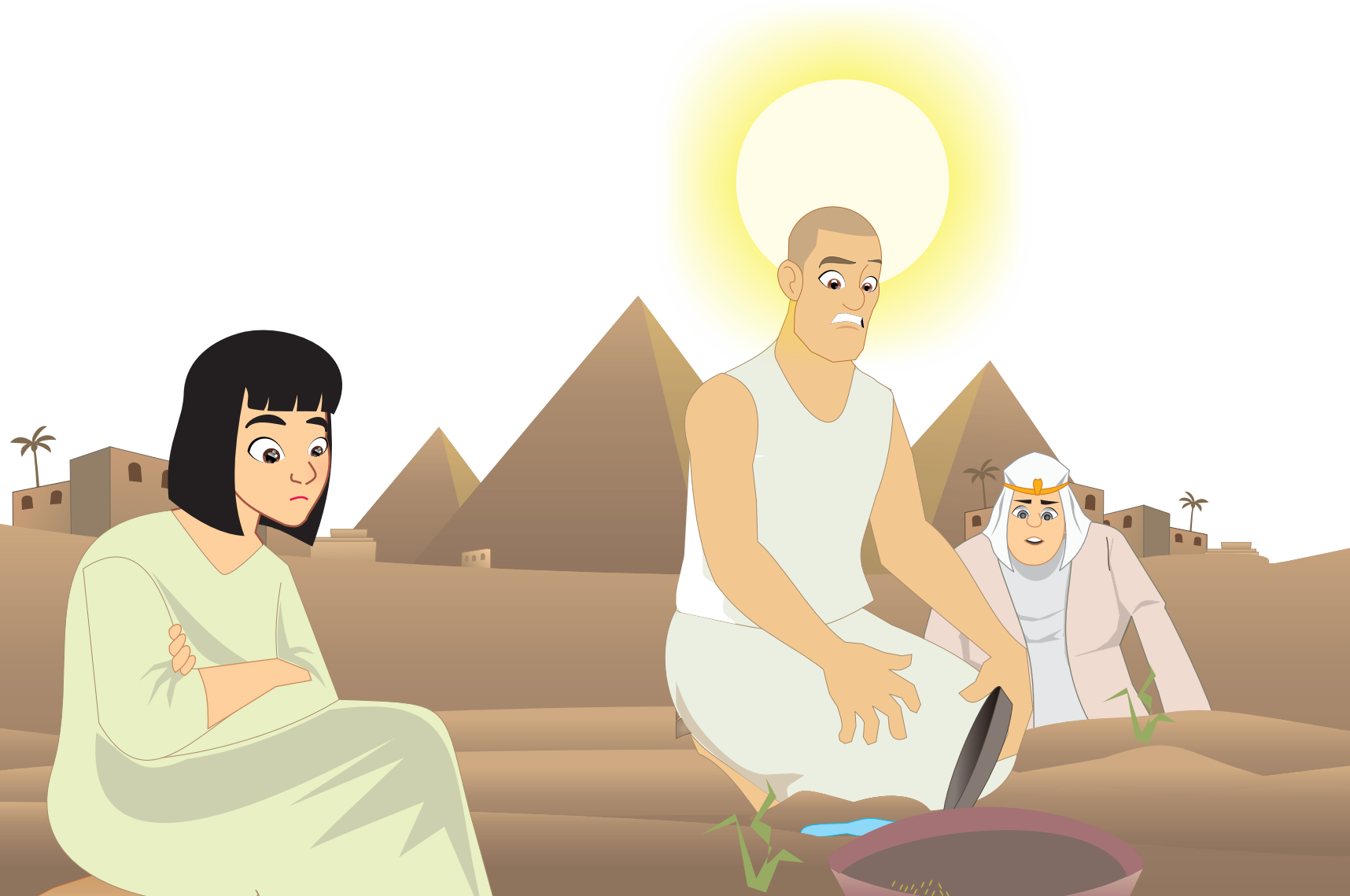


Joseph then stored lots  
of grains in the time of  
plenty,

That there were more  
than enough grains in  
every city.

Not long after, there were seven years of famine:  
It was everywhere, the worst the people had ever seen.

The famine was where Jacob's family lived too.  
It was a hard time, there was barely enough food.



Joseph's brothers went to Egypt as fast as they could,  
Because in Egypt, grains were being sold.  
They saw Joseph, but didn't recognise him,  
And as they bowed to him, he remembered his dream.



"Why are you here?"  
Joseph said to them  
roughly.

"We've come to buy  
grains, sir," they replied  
timidly.



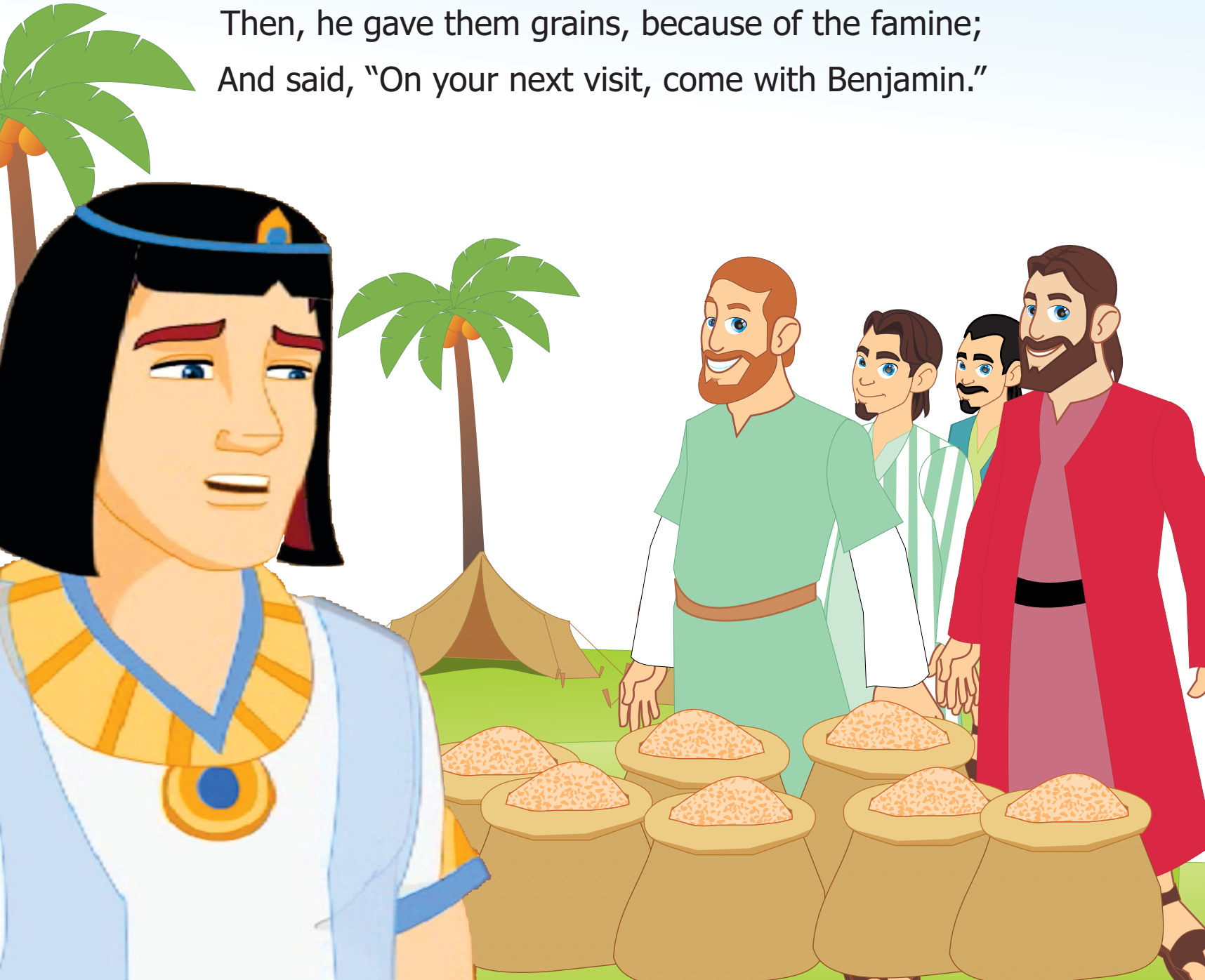
"That's not true!" Joseph yelled.  
"You're here to spy my  
country!"

"No sir!" They pleaded.

"We're brothers from one  
family."



Joseph's brothers told him about their father,  
And about Benjamin, Joseph's little brother.  
Then, he gave them grains, because of the famine;  
And said, "On your next visit, come with Benjamin."



Benjamin was Joseph's little brother;  
He was the youngest son of their father.  
Joseph remembered how they played together,  
And had fun listening to stories from their father.





# The Reunion

Soon, the grains they bought in Egypt got finished, Jacob's family needed to buy more grains from Egypt.

So, Joseph's brothers went down to Egypt again, Benjamin went with them too, to get some grains.



When Joseph saw Benjamin, he began to cry,  
His brothers were stunned, and wondered why;  
Then he said to them, "I'm Joseph your brother.  
Don't be afraid, how is our father?"



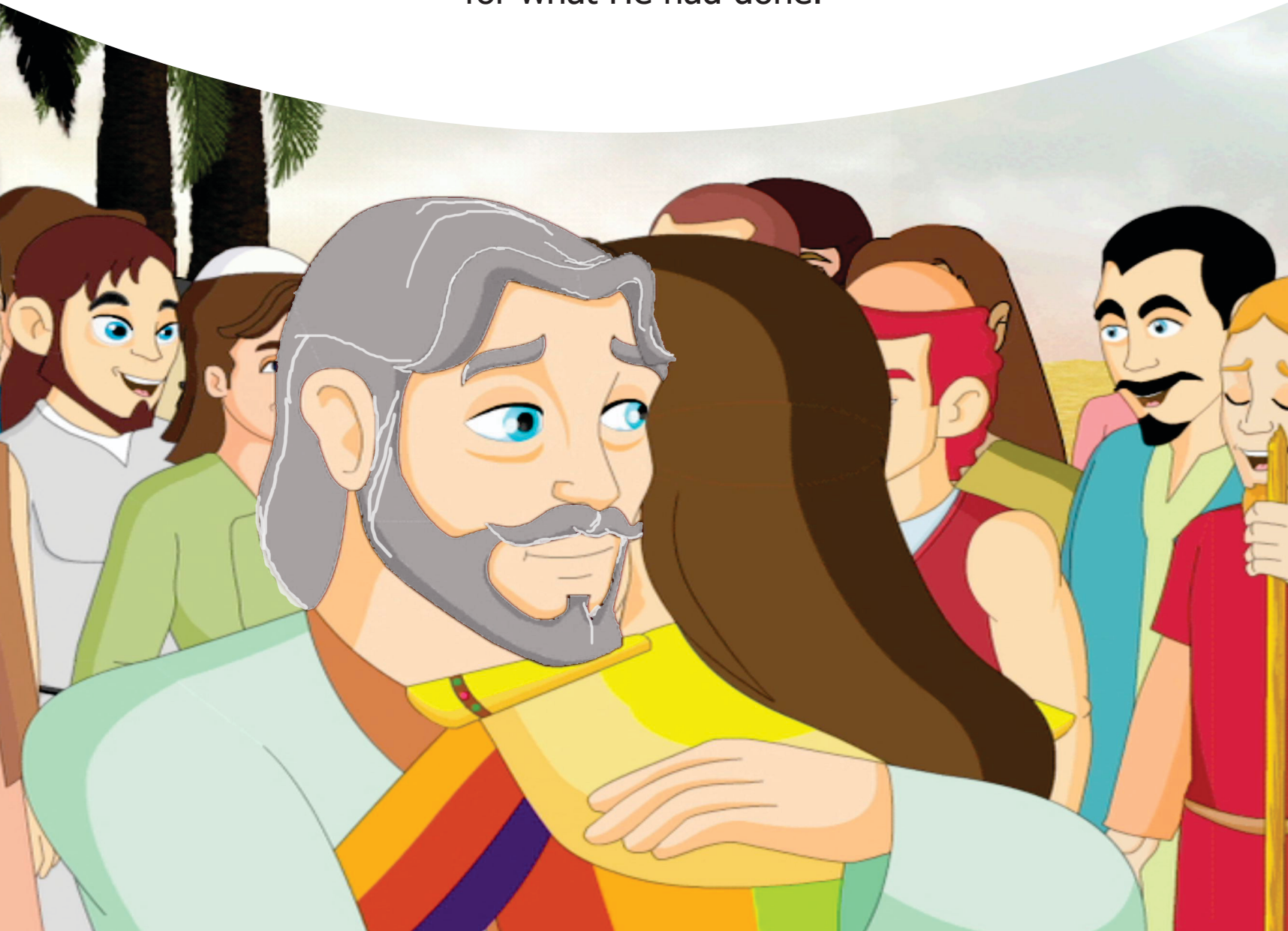
But his brothers were speechless and too afraid  
"Please, come closer, I'm Joseph, your brother," he said.  
"You meant to harm me, but God used it for good  
Bring our family here, for there's plenty of food."



Joseph's brothers hurried home to tell their father.

“Joseph is alive,” said Joseph's brothers.

Jacob was very glad, and quickly went to see his son;  
Jacob's family was happy again, and thanked the Lord  
for what He had done.



# Lessons from **Joseph's** story

Though Joseph's brothers had treated him unkindly,  
He forgave them, and talked to them nicely.  
Like Joseph, you're to forgive when people wrong you.  
For that's what God wants you to do.