

1

Joseph in Jail

Joseph did not sit in the pit very long. His brothers soon pulled him out and sold him. Now he was on his way to Egypt. He could not see his brothers' camp anymore.

Scrunch, scrunch, scrunch went the camel's feet in the hot sand. Would Joseph ever see his father and little brother Benjamin again? Scrunch, scrunch, scrunch. What would his brothers do with his coat of many colors? What would they tell their father?

Scrunch, scrunch, scrunch. What would these men do with him when they got to Egypt?

Joseph did not know the answer to any of these questions. But he knew God would take care of him.

When they got to Egypt, the men sold him again. Joseph's new master liked Joseph because God blessed all that he did. But his master's wife told a lie about him and his master put him in jail.

God blessed Joseph in jail too. Joseph became friends with two men who had worked for the king. One night each of them dreamed a strange dream. God told Joseph what the dreams meant. He said one man's dream meant that the king would get him out of jail.

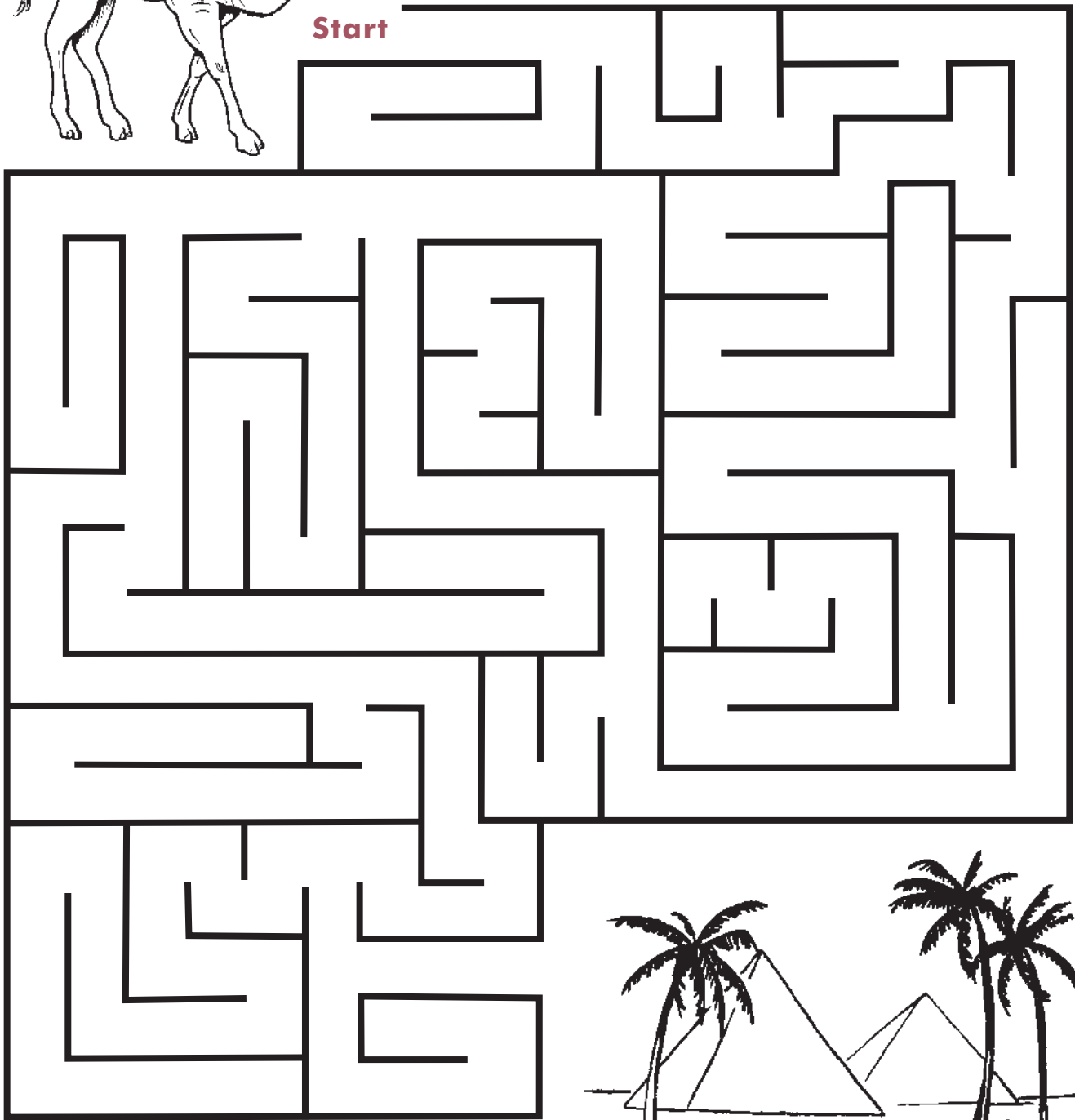
That dream came true. When the man left, Joseph said to him, "Will you please tell the king about me?"

"Yes, I will," said the man. But he forgot his promise.



Ride the camel with Joseph as he travels through the maze on his way to Egypt.

Start



They . . . lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites . . . and they brought Joseph into Egypt. Genesis 37:28

2

From Prison to Palace

Pharaoh, the king, dreamed two dreams. He asked his wise men what they meant.

"We do not know," they said.

All at once the butler said, "Now I remember. When I was in prison, a man named Joseph told me the meaning of a dream I had. My dream came to pass just as he said."

Pharaoh sent for Joseph. He said, "I had a dream. My wise men do not know what it means. I have heard that you can tell what dreams mean."

"No, I can't," said Joseph. "God is the One who can tell you what dreams mean."

Pharaoh said, "In the first dream I saw seven thin cows eat seven fat cows. But they

looked as thin as ever. In the second dream seven thin ears of corn ate up seven fat ears."

Joseph said, "Both dreams mean the same thing. Egypt will have seven good years. Your crops will grow well. After that will come seven years when nothing will grow.

"You should store up food in the seven good years. Then when the seven poor years come, your people will have food. Pick a wise man. Put him in charge of saving food."

Pharaoh said, "Since God has showed you all that is going to happen, you are the wise man I need." So Pharaoh made Joseph his ruler. And that was how Joseph went from the prison to the palace in one day.

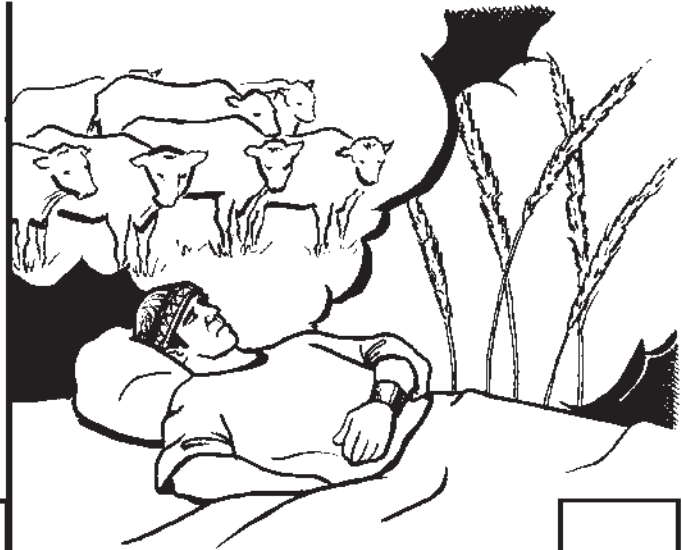
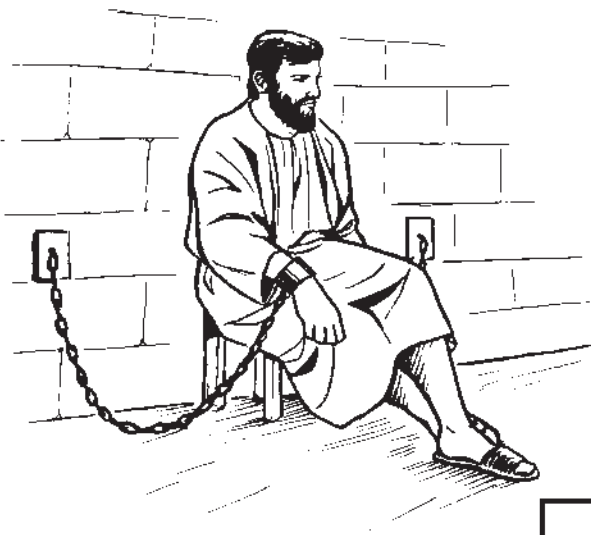
Write each title number in the box with its picture.

1. Joseph the ruler

3. Joseph telling dreams

2. The king dreaming

4. Joseph in prison



The LORD was with him [Joseph], and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

Genesis 39:23

3

After Twenty Years

When in prison, Joseph did not have much to do. But when Pharaoh made him ruler of Egypt he found himself very busy. The seven years of plenty had begun.

Egypt had never seen such wonderful crops. They had never seen corn grow like it did in those years. Joseph built storehouses in every city. He gathered corn and put it in the storehouses.

Then the seven years of famine began. No rain fell. The land dried up. Nothing grew in Egypt or in the lands nearby.

When the Egyptians ran out of food they cried to Pharaoh. He said, "Go to Joseph. Do what he tells you."

Joseph opened the store-

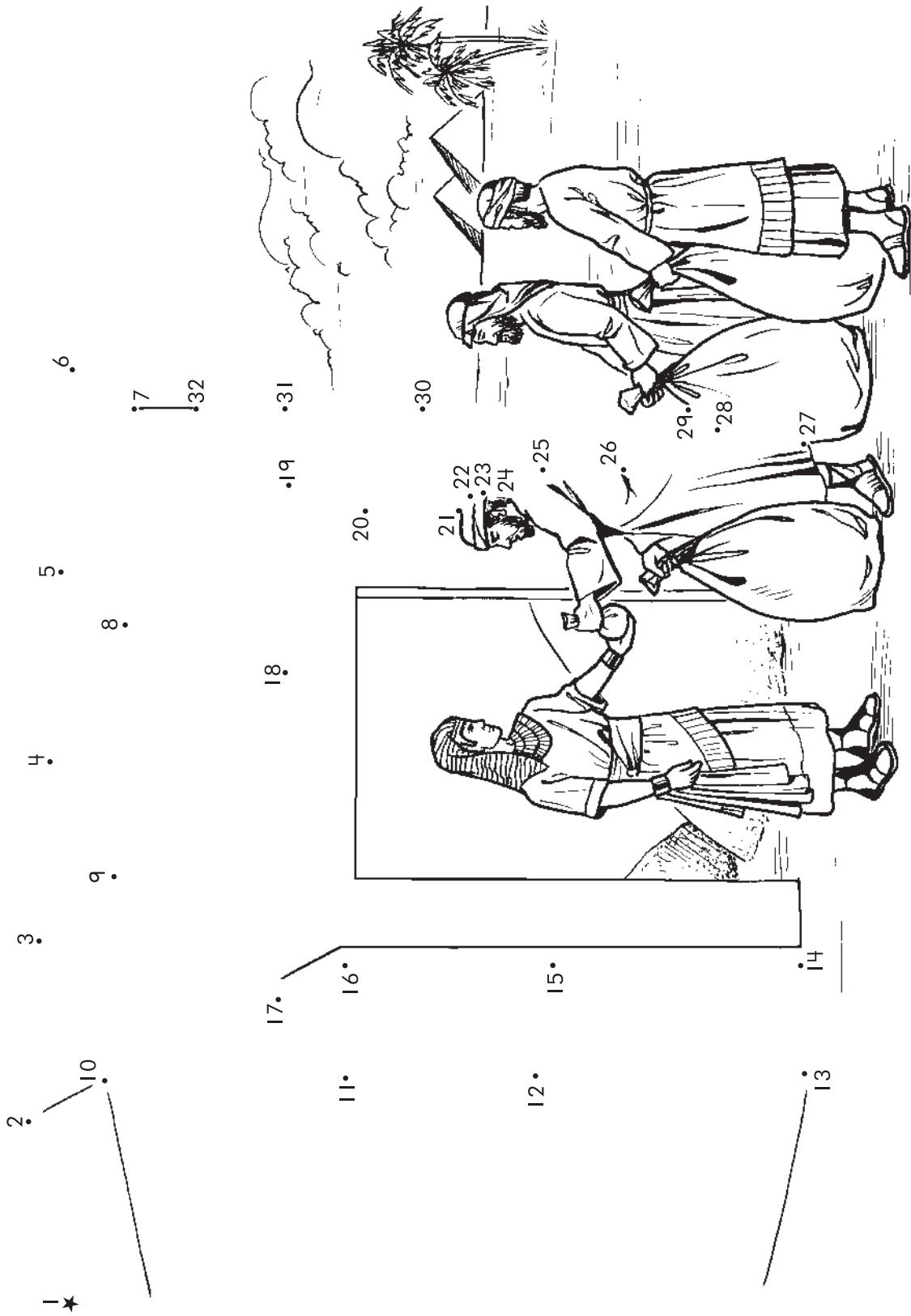
houses and began selling corn to the people of Egypt. How glad they were that he had stored food during the seven years of plenty.

Then people from other lands began to come to buy corn. They did not look like Egyptians. They did not dress like Egyptians. They did not talk like Egyptians. Joseph had never seen these people before, but he was glad to sell corn to them.

One day ten men came. They did not look like Egyptians. They did not talk like Egyptians. But Joseph had seen those ten men before. Twenty years had gone by since he had seen them, but he knew them right away. They were his brothers. They were all there except Benjamin.

Joseph, the ruler, is selling corn to his brothers.

Follow the dot-to-dot from 1-32. Use your ruler.



Joseph's brethren came . . . from the land of Canaan to buy food. Genesis 42:6, 7

4

Corn and Trouble in Egypt

Israel and his sons did not know what to do. All last year no rain had fallen. This year, no rain had fallen. Canaan lay dry and dead. People were running out of food.

Then Israel said to his sons, "I have heard you can buy corn in Egypt. Go and buy corn before we die. Only do not take Benjamin."

So the ten oldest sons went to Egypt. They bowed down before the ruler and said, "We have come to buy some corn."

"Where did you come from?" asked the ruler in a cross voice.

"We came from the land of Canaan," they answered.

"No, you didn't," said the ruler. "You are spies."

"Oh no," said the brothers,

"we are twelve sons of one man. One stayed home. One is not."

"I will find out if you are telling the truth," said the man. "One of you must go home and get your other brother. I will keep the rest of you here." Then he put all of them into prison. They sat there for three days.

When the ruler took them out of prison, he said, "I will keep only one of you. The rest can go home. The next time you must bring your other brother or you will not see me again."

Then the ruler took Simeon. He put him back in prison.

The nine other brothers paid for some corn. They loaded their donkeys. They started on the long trip back to Canaan.

Many years later, Joseph's dream came true as his brothers bowed before him.

Color the picture.



Write how many are Joseph's brothers.

Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him.

Genesis 42:6