



# Joseph's Cup Found

Genesis 43:1-5, 11-13, 15-17, 26-34; 44:1-7, 12-14

## Level A

Ages 3-6

**Life Focus:** The Lord knows what I do.

**Memory Verse:** The steward searched...and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. Genesis 44:12

**Story Summary:** The famine continued, and Jacob and his family needed more grain. Judah reminded Jacob that Benjamin had to go to Egypt with them and took responsibility for his safekeeping. They returned to Egypt with gifts and double the money they needed. Joseph saw them and prepared a feast for them. The frightened brothers told the steward about the money in their sacks, and learned that there was no problem. The brothers bowed to Joseph when he arrived. Overcome by seeing Benjamin, Joseph wept. The brothers were seated by age at the feast, and Benjamin was served five times more food than anyone else. The next morning Joseph instructed that his cup should be secretly put in Benjamin's sack along with the grain. Shortly after the brothers left, Joseph's steward went after them and found the cup. The brothers returned to Joseph, bowing to the ground.

## Lesson 5

*Materials Needed*

		<i>Supplied with Lesson</i>	<i>Additional Materials</i>
<b>1. Getting Started</b> (1-2 min)	<b>Welcome Warm-up Activity</b>	<b>Welcome Warm-up Activity</b> song online at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob">www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob</a> directions p. 52	computer or other viewing device - watch online or download; see p. 4 for downloading directions
<b>2. Focus on the Word</b> use all activities (5-7 min)	<b>Read the Word</b>		Bible or copy of Genesis 43, 44:1-14
	<b>Talk About It</b> story discussion	<b>Talk About It</b> discussion guide p. 52  <b>Teaching Pictures</b> pp. 55-57	
	<b>Make</b> decorate "Joseph's" cup	<b>A Cup for Joseph</b> directions p. 53	
<b>3. Learn by Doing</b> choose 1 or 2 activities (15-20 min)	<b>Act It Out</b> recreate the events of the story by having a feast	<b>Feasting with Joseph</b> directions p. 53 <i>Feast Name Cards</i> pp. 58-60	food such as grapes, crackers or bread, juice, honey, etc. <i>optional:</i> costumes
	<b>Picture to Color</b>	<b>The Cup Is Found in Benjamin's Sack</b> p. 61	crayons, markers or colored pencils
<b>4. Wrap It Up</b> (2-3 min)	<b>Memory Verse</b> introduce <i>Memory Verse</i> for the week	<b>Memory Verse</b> <i>Parent Note</i> p. 62	

# 1. Getting Started

## Welcome Warm-up Activity

The 12 Sons of Jacob Song

Memorize the names of the brothers in Joseph's family by singing The 12 Sons of Jacob by Lori Odhner. Use our online video to sing along. View online or download at [www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob](http://www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob). Downloading directions are on p. 4. Listen through the song several times and then try singing along.

*Optional:* to make learning fun, join hands and sing as you walk in a circle in time to the music. Once the song finishes, turn in the opposite direction and sing again.

# 2. Focus on the Word

**Read**            **Genesis 43:1-5, 11-13, 15-17, 26-34; 44: 1-7, 12-14**  
Show the **teaching pictures** on pp. 55-57 as you discuss the story.

**Talk About It**    **What is a famine?** It is a time when people are hungry because there is no food.

**Jacob and his sons and their families were hungry. The brothers had been to Egypt to buy grain for their family once, but they had eaten up all that food. Imagine if your parents did not go to the store to buy food—what would dinner time be like at your house?**

**Jacob decided they needed more food. And the brothers knew that this time Benjamin had to go to Egypt with them because the man had told them to bring their youngest brother.**

**Who did Joseph especially want to see?** Benjamin—his youngest brother.

**What did Joseph do when he saw Benjamin?** He cried. People sometimes cry when they are happy—as well as when they are sad. People can also cry when something happens that they hoped for but doubted would ever occur. Joseph cried because he was so happy to see his younger brother.

**Joseph made a big feast for his brothers at his own house. How did he seat the brothers around the table?** From oldest to youngest. This must have been a big surprise—how could a stranger have known their ages?

**What did Joseph's steward hide in Benjamin's sack?** Joseph's cup. **We don't know exactly what the cup looked like, but we know it was silver which made it precious.**

**How was the cup found?** Joseph sent the steward after his brothers soon after they had left and asked them why they had repaid evil for good by stealing the cup. The brothers said they had not taken it and quickly opened their sacks. After looking through all of the other sacks the cup was finally found in Benjamin's sack.

**What did the brothers do to show how sad they were?** They tore their clothes—which was usually a sign that somebody had died. **What do you do when you are sad?**

**Had Joseph's brothers done anything wrong?** They did not take the cup, but remembered treating Joseph badly a long time before and thought they were being punished for that.

**The Lord knows everything we do. Most importantly, He knows what is in our hearts. If we make a mistake we can pray to the Lord. He will help us to be sorry so that we can try to do better the next time. This is how the Lord helps us get to heaven!**

# 3. Learn by Doing

Choose one or two activities



## A Cup for Joseph

Make a special cup like Joseph's! Joseph's silver cup represents true ideas from the Lord's Word. Just as Joseph put his cup into Benjamin's sack, the Lord plants true ideas in our minds as we read His Word. Choose from 2 options to make a cup.

**Glitter Note:** It is likely that children will want to "drink" from their finished cups. Avoid using tape, glue and glitter close to the top of the cup to prevent children from accidentally getting glitter in their mouths.

### Decorated Paper Cup

1. **Before class:** Stick double-sided tape in a circle around the cup, avoiding the top. Set up a glitter tray.
2. **During class:** give each child a taped cup. Sprinkle silver glitter on the tape over a glitter tray.
3. Decorate the cup with stickers.

### Plastic Wineglass

1. **Before class:** Stick double-sided tape in a circle around the cup, avoiding the top. Set up a glitter tray.
2. **During class:** give each child a taped cup. Sprinkle silver glitter on the tape over a glitter tray.
3. Give each child a piece of aluminum foil to wrap around the base.



## Feasting with Joseph

When the brothers journeyed to Egypt for a second time, Joseph saw them coming and told his steward to bring them into his own house and prepare a feast. The steward welcomed them, gave them water and washed their feet.

1. When the brothers came to Egypt for the second time, Joseph invited them to his house for a feast. During the feast the brothers were surprised to be seated in order of their ages.
2. Use the place cards supplied to seat children in the order of Jacob's family: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin. Joseph sat apart. Review the names by reading the cards.
3. Prepare and serve a feast for the children. The foods on the list below were eaten in Ancient Egypt. Choose several of these foods, or other foods to serve finger-food style as a feast.

- Lamb
- Rock Cornish game hens
- Baked fish
- Fresh vegetables: black olives, radishes, scallions, cucumbers
- Fresh fruit: figs, dates, grapes, melon chunks
- Barley bread
- Honey
- Pita (pocket) bread with hummus (chickpea) dip
- Grape juice



### Materials for Each Child

#### Decorated Paper Cup

paper cup, double-sided tape, silver glitter, stickers, *optional:* fake plastic "gemstones", sequins, glue.

**Do in Advance:** stick double-sided tape around the cup.

#### Plastic Wineglass

plastic cup with stem, double sided tape, silver glitter, piece of aluminum foil large enough to cover stem.

**Do in Advance:** stick double-sided tape around the cup.

### Materials

*Feast Name Cards* pp. 58-60, foods of your choice, table and chairs (or space to sit on the floor), plates, napkins, *optional:* costumes, tablecloth

*optional:* crayons for name cards

### Do in Advance

Copy and cut apart cards with the names of Jacob's sons.

Choose, buy and prepare foods for a feast.





## Picture to Color: The Cup is Found in Benjamin's Sack

Hand out copies of the picture and invite the children to color it.

**Materials for each child**  
picture on p. 61, crayons, markers, or colored pencils

# 4. Wrap It Up

## Memory Verse

The steward searched...and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.  
Genesis 44:12

Read the Memory Verse aloud. Repeat it slowly several times. Invite the children to say it with you. Say "The steward searched." Ask the children to repeat it with you. Say "and the cup was found." Ask the children to repeat it with you. Say "in Benjamin's sack." Say the whole sentence and have children repeat it several times with you.

## Closing

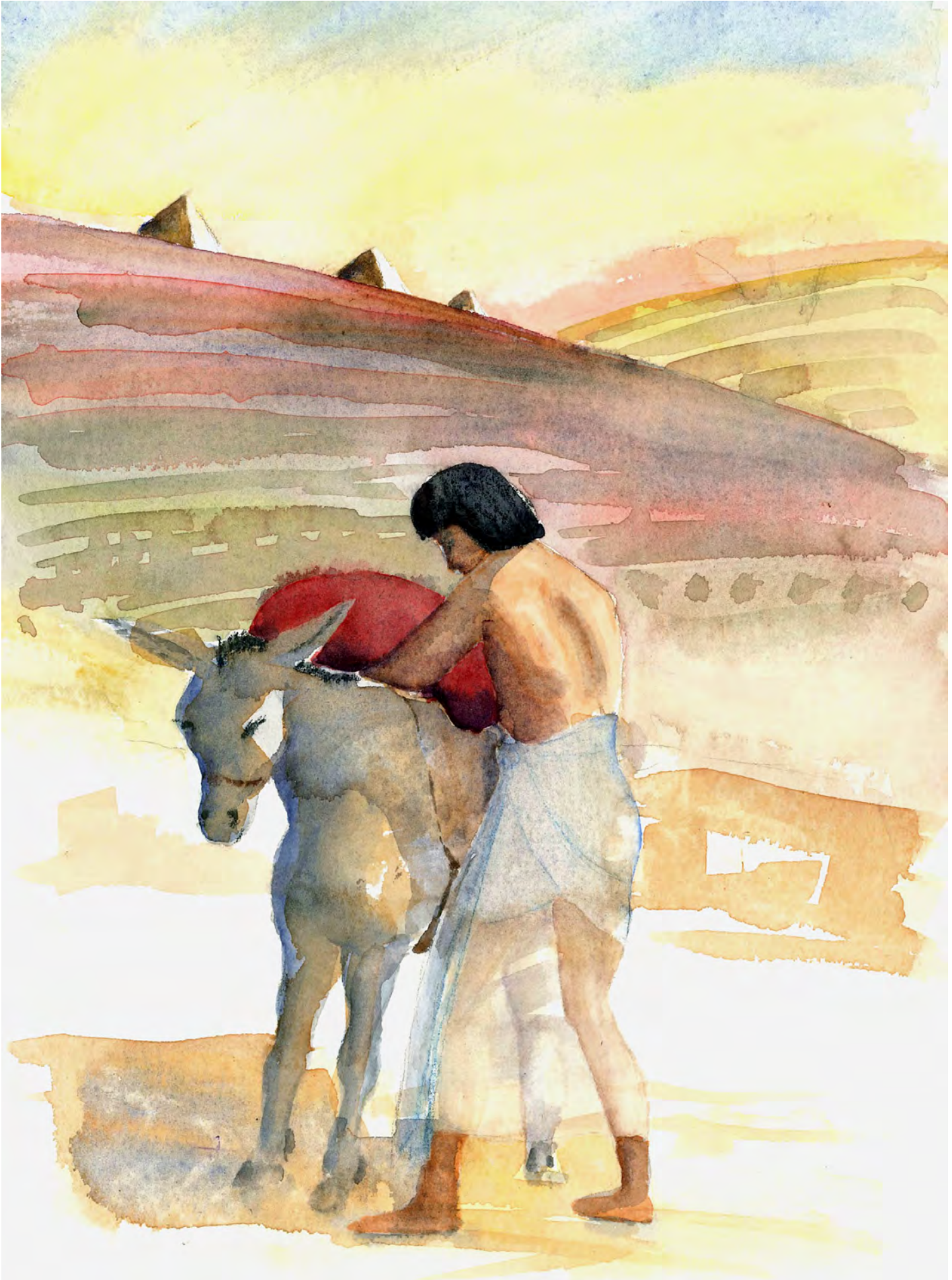
Joseph's brothers treated him badly, but they did not tell anyone what they had done. Later, when they could not understand what was happening to them in Egypt they began to think it was caused by the way they had treated Joseph.

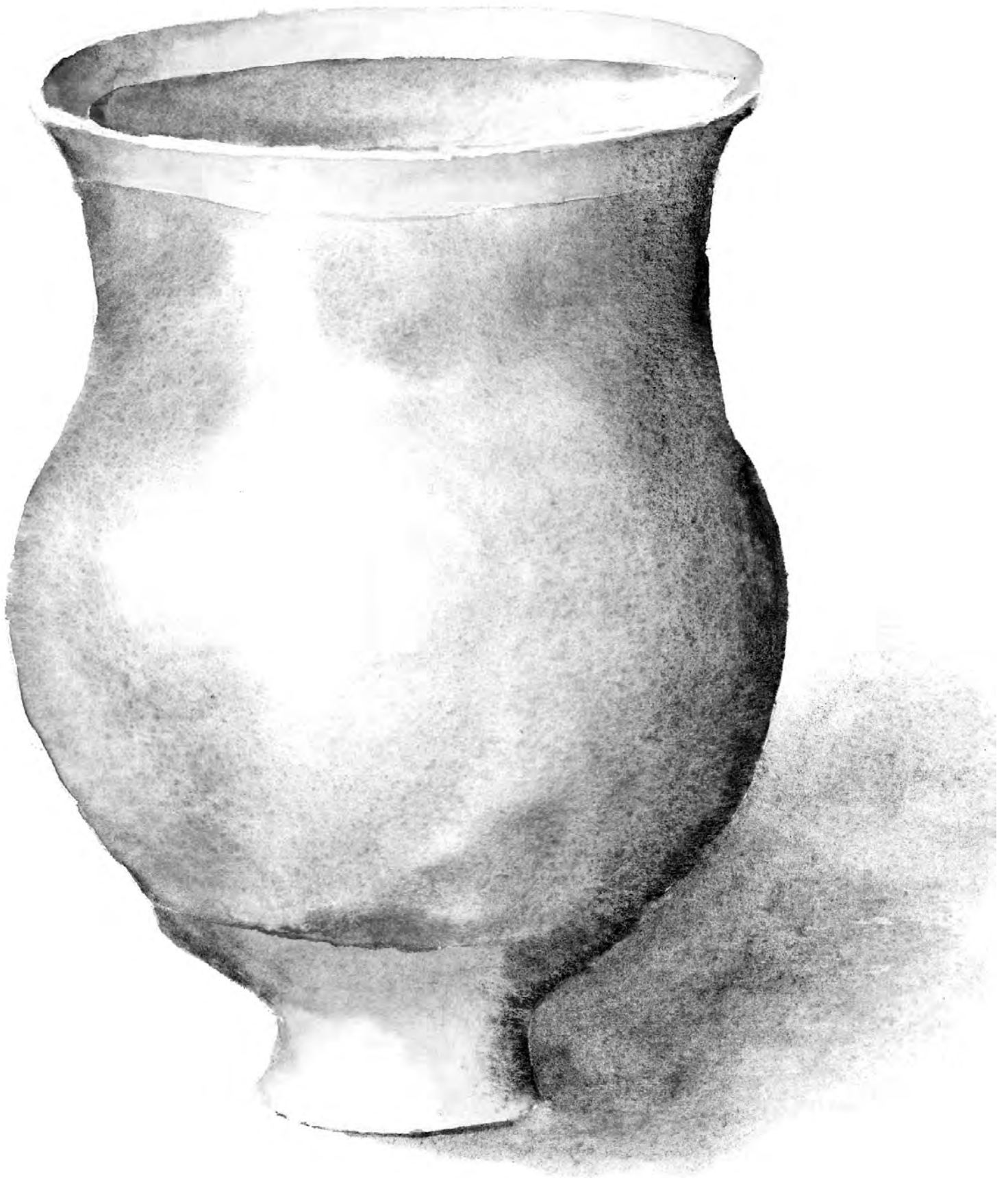
Who knows what you are doing at every moment? The Lord! He sees everything we do—even when we think nobody sees what is happening! The Lord watches over us all the time. He knows about our mistakes and wants us to be sorry for what we have done so He can help us do better the next time we have a chance.

Hand each child his or her projects and a *Parent Note* (p. 62) to take home.













Reuben



Reuben



Levi



Levi



Simeon



Simeon



Judah



Judah





Dan

Dan



Gad



Gad



Naphtali

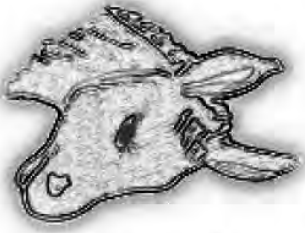
Naphtali



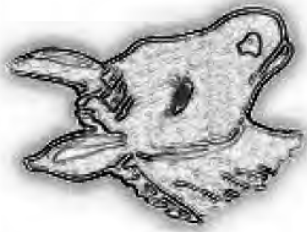
Asher



Asher



Issachar



Issachar



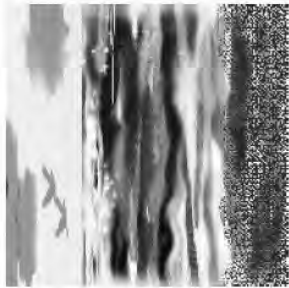
Joseph



Joseph



Zebulun



Zebulun

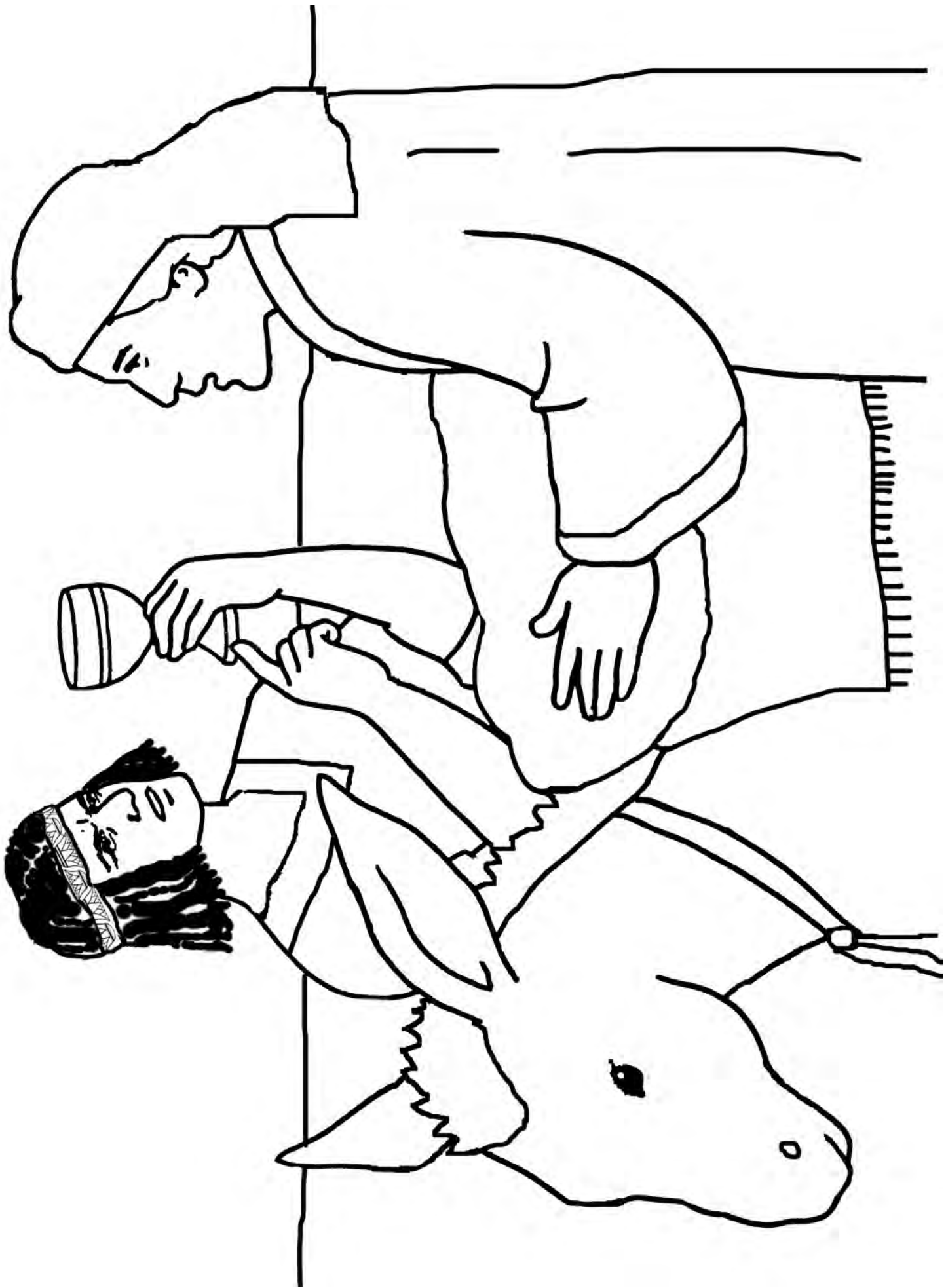


Benjamin



Benjamin





Parent Notes

Make a copy for each child. Hand out as children leave.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT NOTE</b></p> <p>Dear Parents,</p> <p>Today's lesson focused on Joseph's brothers returning to Egypt with Benjamin to buy grain (Genesis 43, 44:1-14). Joseph's steward searched their sacks and found Joseph's cup in Benjamin's sack. You can hear a song about Joseph's family online at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob">www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob</a>. We encourage you to help your child keep the Lord's Word in his or her heart by learning this week's Memory Verse. Try saying it once or twice in the morning, at mealtime or before bed!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>The steward searched...and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. Genesis 44:12</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT NOTE</b></p> <p>Dear Parents,</p> <p>Today's lesson focused on Joseph's brothers returning to Egypt with Benjamin to buy grain (Genesis 43, 44:1-14). Joseph's steward searched their sacks and found Joseph's cup in Benjamin's sack. You can hear a song about Joseph's family online at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob">www.bitly.com/The12SonsOfJacob</a>. We encourage you to help your child keep the Lord's Word in his or her heart by learning this week's Memory Verse. Try saying it once or twice in the morning, at mealtime or before bed!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>The steward searched...and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. Genesis 44:12</p>
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