

**JOSEPH INTERPRETS DREAMS**

Old Testament Lesson #28

Things went well for Joseph as a slave in Potiphar's house. God blessed him, and he eventually became responsible for caring for Potiphar's entire household. Potiphar's wife fell in love with Joseph, but he rejected her because she was already married. In response, she tricked her husband into thinking Joseph had done something bad. Potiphar placed Joseph in prison (see Genesis 39:1-23).

Though Joseph was wrongly imprisoned, God continued to bless him. He found favor with the prison warden, who eventually put him in charge of all the prisoners. Two fellow prisoners, who had been the servants of Pharaoh, had dreams that made them sad. They told Joseph about the dreams.

The imprisoned cupbearer dreamed of a grapevine with three branches. The grapes were squeezed into a cup and given to Pharaoh. Joseph said the dream meant that the cupbearer would be restored to his position in Pharaoh's court after three days. Joseph requested that when the cupbearer left prison, he would remember and help Joseph.

The imprisoned baker explained that in his dream he carried on his head three baskets of bread. The top basket contained baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds ate them. Joseph indicated that the three baskets also represented three days' time. However, unlike the cupbearer, the baker would not be restored to his position, but be hanged instead.

The dreams came true just as Joseph had said. Sadly though, when the cupbearer was restored to his position, he did not try to help Joseph.

**POINTS TO CONSIDER:**

- Joseph had interpreted dreams long before his imprisonment. Much earlier, he interpreted his own dreams regarding his family (Genesis 37:5-11). Those dreams were not fulfilled until later in Joseph's life, when his family came and bowed before him in Egypt (see events of Genesis 42-45).
- A cupbearer was a person in the household who tasted the wine before passing it to the people at the table. It was an important and honored position, one that had frequent access to the king.

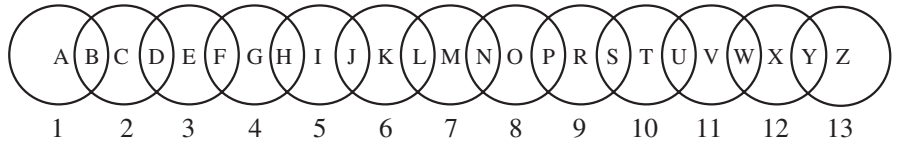
**Joseph Interprets Dreams**

- I. Joseph was a highly regarded servant in Potiphar's house.
  - A. God blessed him.
  - B. He later was responsible for the entire household.
  - C. Potiphar's wife loved Joseph, but he rejected her.
  - D. Angry, she lied to her husband about Joseph's activities.
- II. Potiphar sent Joseph to prison.
  - A. God continued to bless Joseph.
  - B. The prison warden liked Joseph and gave him much responsibility.
  - C. Joseph became acquainted with two prisoners who had worked for Pharaoh.
- III. The two imprisoned servants — a cupbearer and a baker — shared their dreams with Joseph.
  - A. The cupbearer dreamed about grapevines and the Pharaoh.
  - B. The baker dreamed about baskets of bread and the Pharaoh.
  - C. Joseph interpreted both dreams.
  - D. He said the cupbearer would return to his job, but the baker would die.
  - E. Joseph asked the cupbearer to remember him.
  - F. The dreams of the servants came true.

**ANSWER KEY:**

well, slave, house, responsible, caring, entire, household, fell, love, rejected, tricked, done, something, bad, put, prison

bless, prison, won, favor, warden, put, charge, dreams, prisoners, true



Use the code to fill in the blanks.

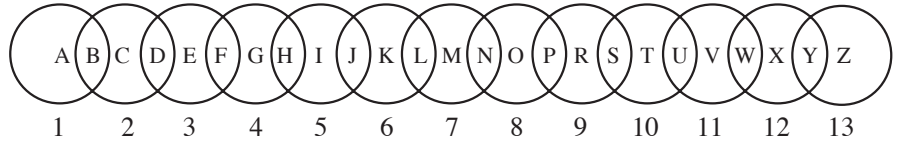
**J**oseph was doing \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_ in  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 11,12 3 6,7 6,7 9,10 6,7 1 11 3  
 Potiphar's \_\_\_\_\_. He became  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 4,5 8 10,11 9,10 3  
 \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 3 9,10 8,9 8 7,8 9,10 5 1,2 6,7 3 2 1 9 5 7,8 4  
 for the \_\_\_\_\_ Potiphar's wife  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 7,8 10 5 9 3 4,5 8 10,11 9,10 3 4,5 8 6,7 2,3  
 \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ with Joseph. He \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3,4 3 6,7 6,7 6,7 8 11 3 9 3 5,6 3 2 10 3 2,3  
 her. She \_\_\_\_\_ Potiphar into thinking Joseph had \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 9 5 2 6 3 2,3 2,3 8 7,8 3  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph was \_\_\_\_\_  
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 in \_\_\_\_\_  
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Unscramble the words to fill in the blanks.

God continued to \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph even while  
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 he was in \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_ the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ sriopn \_\_\_\_\_ onw  
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 other prisoners. Joseph  
 interpreted – explained – \_\_\_\_\_ for 2  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ermasd  
 other \_\_\_\_\_ – the Pharaoh's baker  
 \_\_\_\_\_ nrsipores  
 and cupbearer. They came \_\_\_\_\_! The cupbearer promised to remember Joseph.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ etur

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Use the code to fill in the blanks.

Joseph was doing \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_ in  
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 3 7,8 10 5 9 3 4,5 8 10,11 9,10 3 4,5 8 6,7 2,3  
 \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ with Joseph. He \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph was \_\_\_\_\_  
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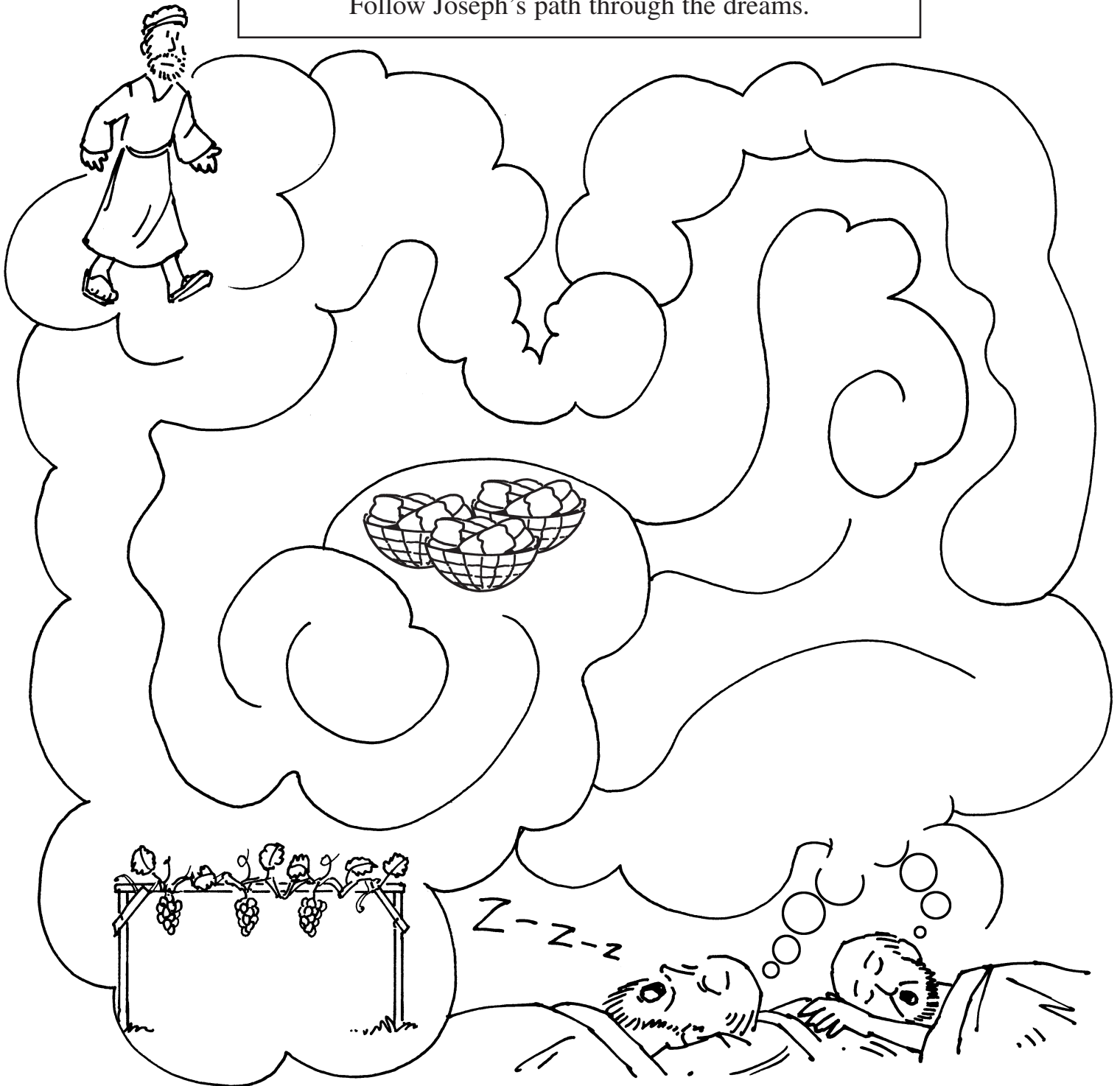


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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**T**wo of Pharaoh's servants had dreams. With God's help, Joseph told the servants what their dreams meant.

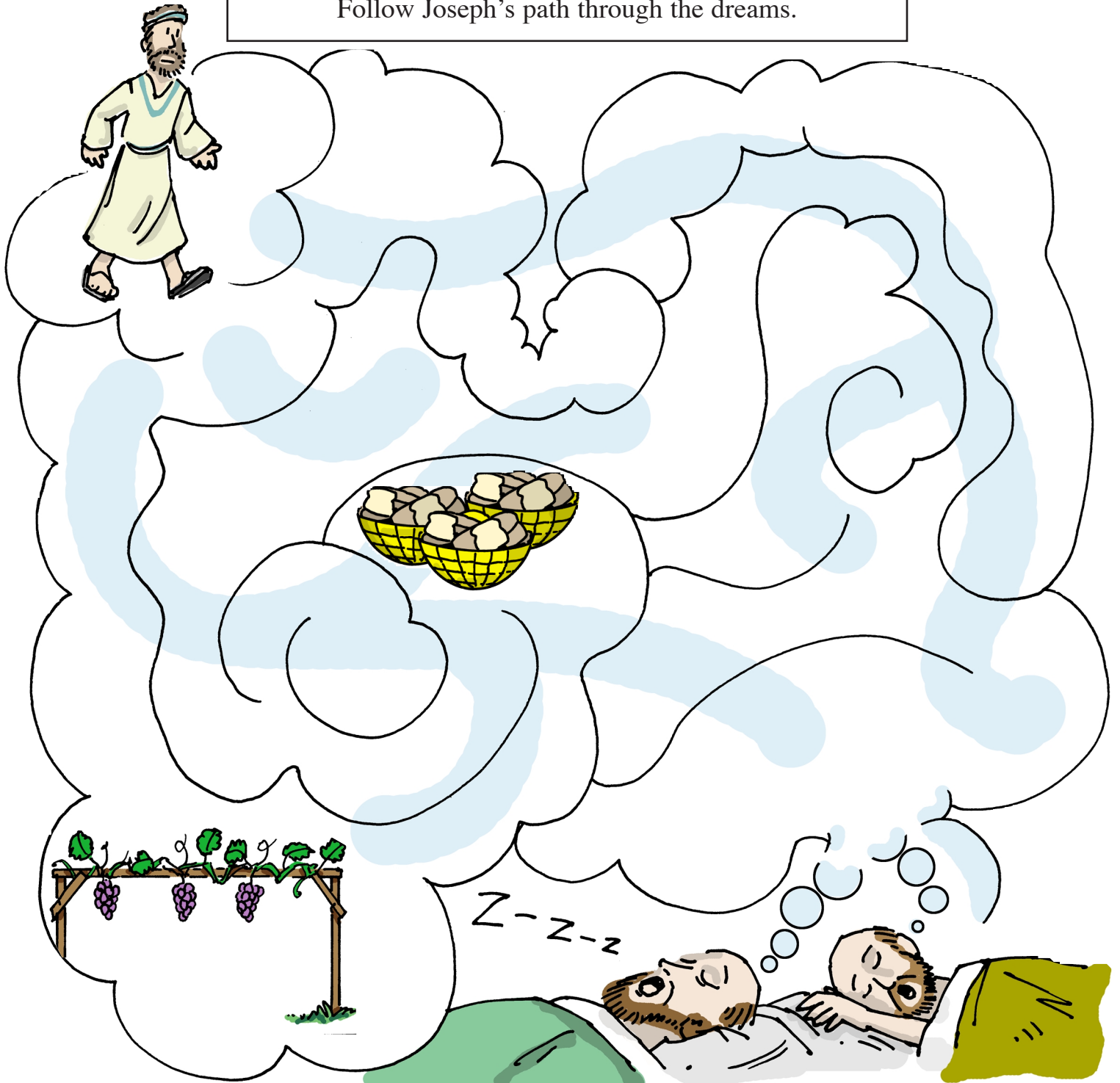
Follow Joseph's path through the dreams.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Follow Joseph's path through the dreams.



Name \_\_\_\_\_