

JACOB'S FAMILY MOVES TO EGYPT

Old Testament Lesson #32

Joseph had revealed himself to his brothers. After their initial shock and fear, they were happy to be reunited with him. Pharaoh promised Joseph's brothers and their father that if they moved to Egypt, he would give them the best of the land of Egypt so they could enjoy the fat of the land.

Pharaoh also told them not to worry about their belongings because "the best of all Egypt will be yours." Carts and traveling provisions were sent for their families. Joseph gave them all new clothing, and to Benjamin he gave five sets of new clothes and 300 shekels of silver. He sent a gift to his father of 10 donkeys loaded with the best of Egypt and 10 female donkeys with food and supplies for Jacob's return trip.

When the brothers arrived home, they told Jacob that Joseph was still alive! In fact, he was the ruler over all Egypt, second only to Pharaoh. At first Jacob doubted what he heard, but when his sons showed him the gifts from Joseph and told him what Joseph had said, Jacob proclaimed, "I'm convinced! My son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

Jacob (now called Israel in the text) departed with his entire family to go to Egypt. When they arrived in Beersheba (BE-er-SHE-ba), Jacob offered sacrifices to God. That night in a vision, God spoke to Jacob. God told him not to be afraid to go down to Egypt. God would be with him and would surely bring him back again. Joseph would also be at his side when he died.

Jacob/Israel continued on to Egypt, with all his descendants and their families and all their livestock.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- Jacob's name was changed to Israel at Peniel (Genesis 32:28; see also Old Testament Lesson 25).
- The writer of Genesis begins to refer to Jacob as "Israel" near the end of Chapter 45. The usage of the name Israel continues into the next chapter involving God's dialogue with Israel and God's promise to be with him in Egypt and make him a great nation.

Jacob's Family Moves to Egypt

- I. Joseph's brothers were happy to be reunited with him.
 - A. The Pharaoh promised them the best land if they would move to Egypt.
 - B. He also provided food, clothes and carts for the trip.
 - C. To his youngest brother Benjamin, Joseph gave both clothes and silver coins.
 - D. He sent his father Jacob 20 donkeys as a gift.
- II. The brothers returned to their home in Canaan.
 - A. They told Jacob that Joseph was still alive.
 - B. They shared stories about him.
 - C. They gave their father the gifts that Joseph had sent.
 - D. Jacob wanted to see Joseph.
- III. The family all moved to Egypt.
 - A. Jacob is called Israel in the story at this point.
 - B. On the trip, Jacob offered sacrifices to God.
 - C. In a vision one night, God spoke to Jacob and told him not to be afraid to go to Egypt.
 - D. God promised to be with Jacob and promised that Joseph would be with him when he died.

ANSWER KEY:

the best land in Egypt, carts, clothing, silver, donkeys, food

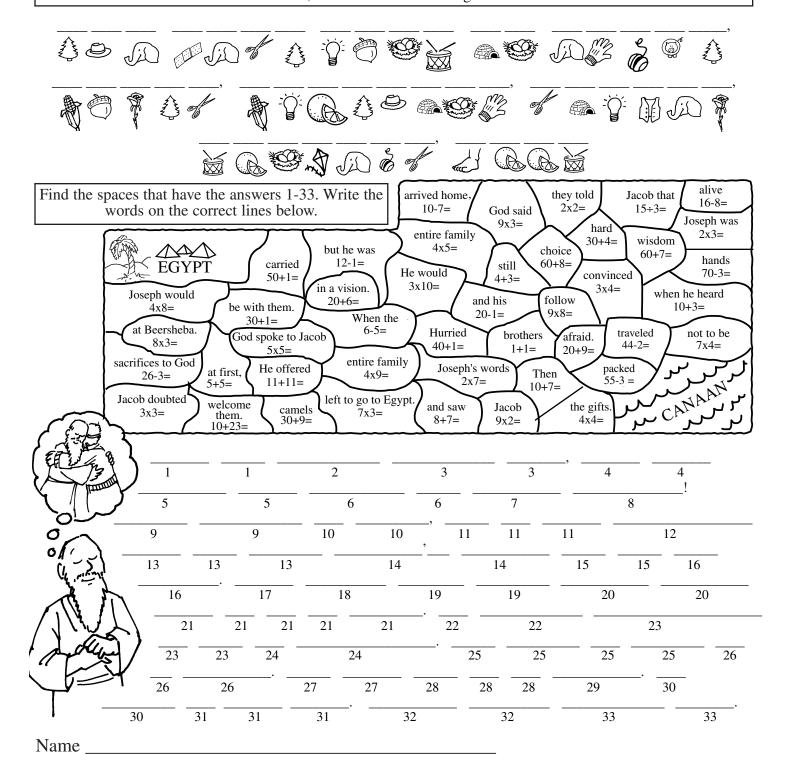
When the brothers arrived home, they told Jacob that Joseph was still alive! Jacob doubted at first, but he was convinced when he heard Joseph's words and saw the gifts. Then Jacob and his entire family left to go to Egypt. He offered sacrifices to God at Beersheba. God spoke to Jacob in a vision. God said not to be afraid. He would be with them. Joseph would welcome them.



fter the first shock of seeing Joseph, his brothers were happy to be reunited with him.

Find some things here that Joseph and Pharaoh gave them for their trip home and return to Egypt.

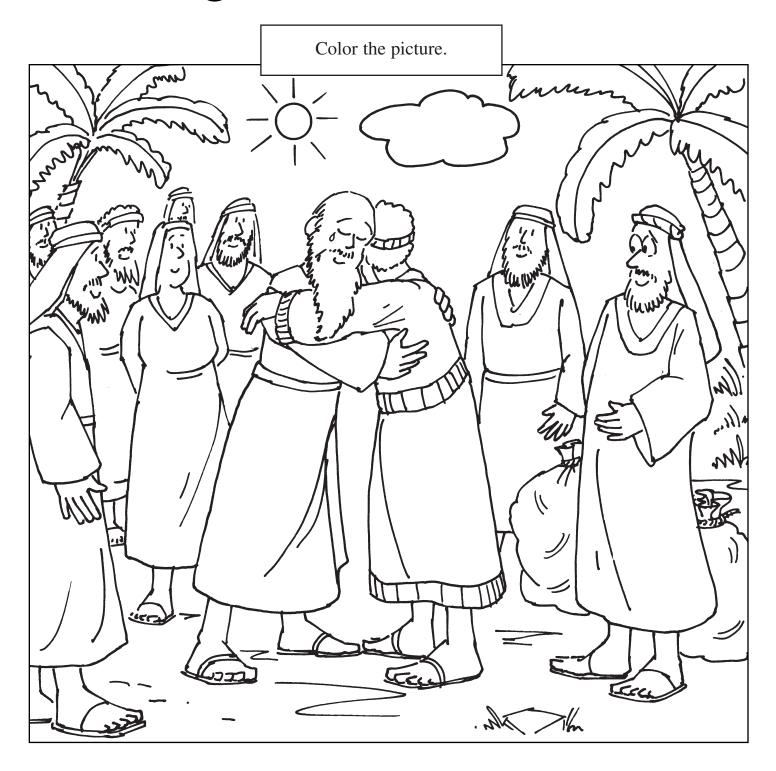
On the lines, write the letters that begin each word.





J

acob moved all his family and things to Egypt. He finally got to see Joseph again.



Name _____