



The Beginning of God's People

6. JOSEPH THE DREAMER

Abraham's great-grandson, Joseph, had a special gift from God. He had special dreams and could interpret dreams, but his brothers were jealous because he was their father's favorite. God gives each one of us gifts, and He has a plan for our lives.

1 Jacob lived in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan.

2 These are the generations of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

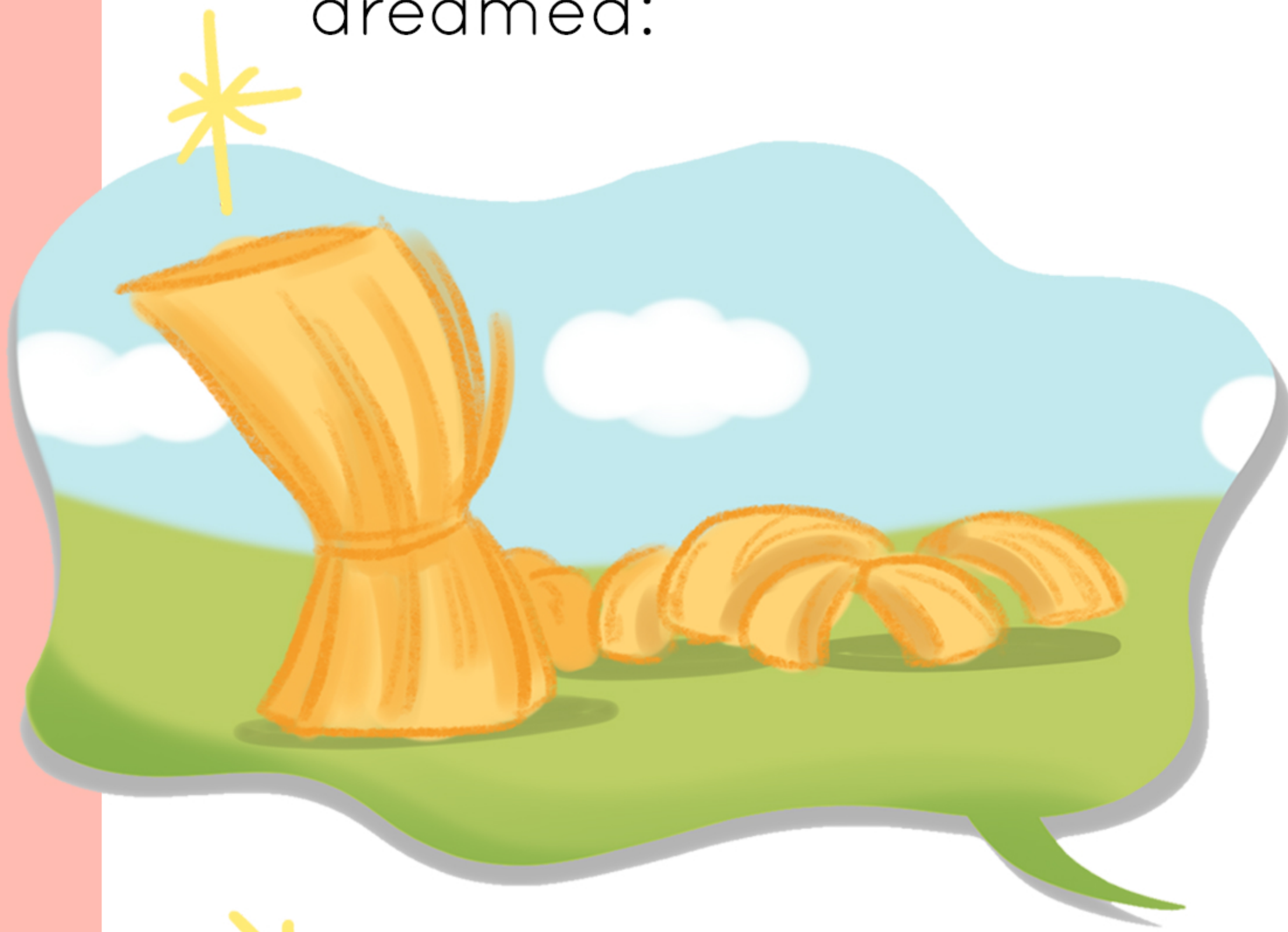
3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors.

4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.



5 Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more.

6 He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed:



7 Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf."

8 His brothers said to him,

Are you indeed to reign
over us?
Or are you indeed to
rule over us?

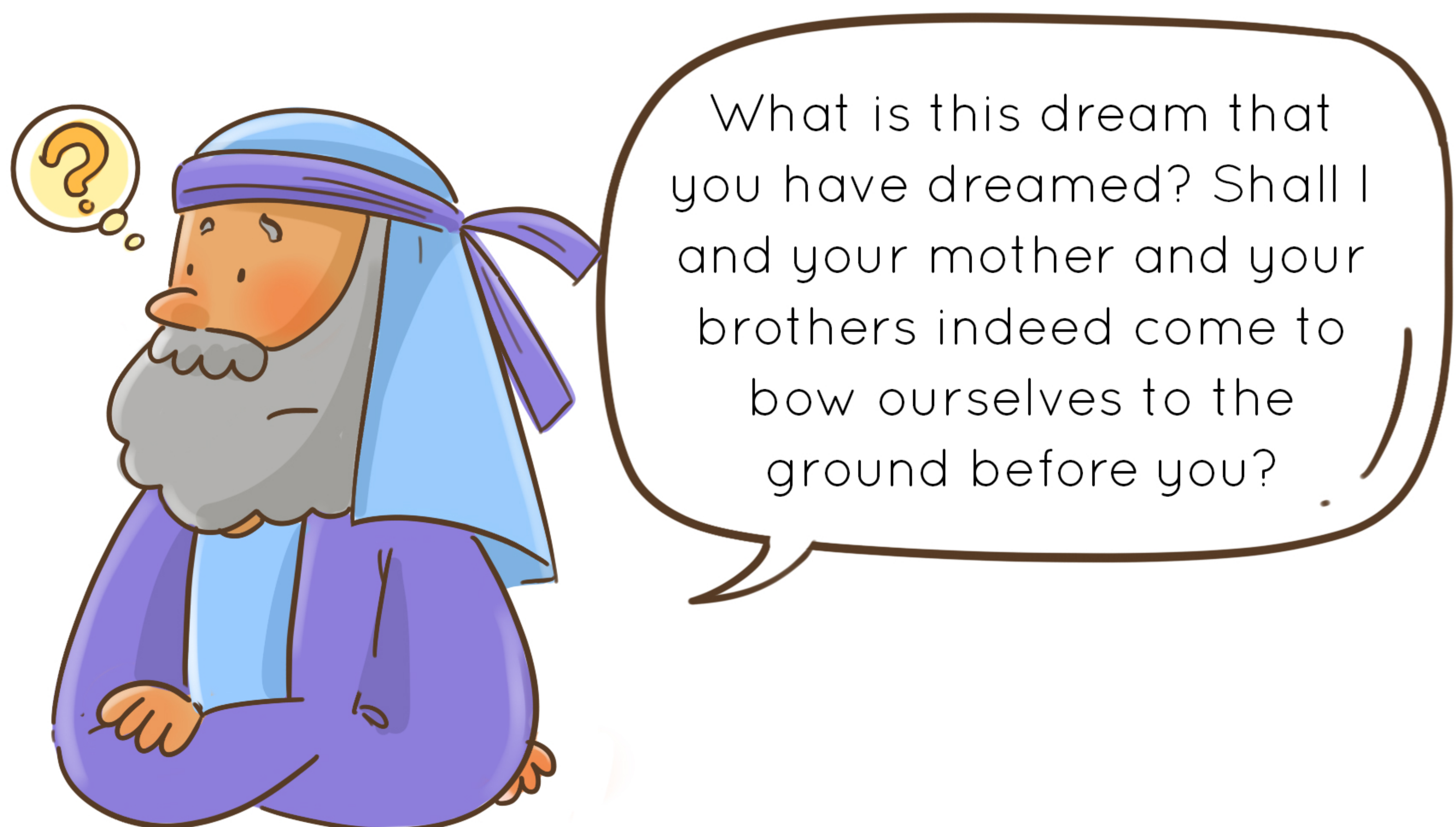


So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

- 9 Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me."



- 10 But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him,



- 11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

✓ END OF READING

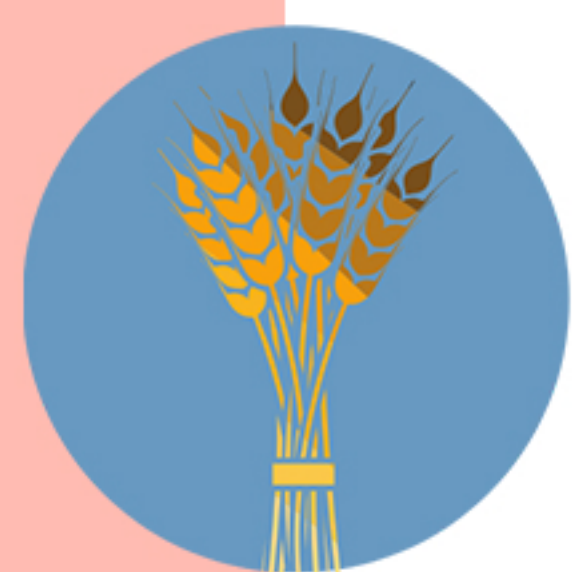
DID YOU KNOW



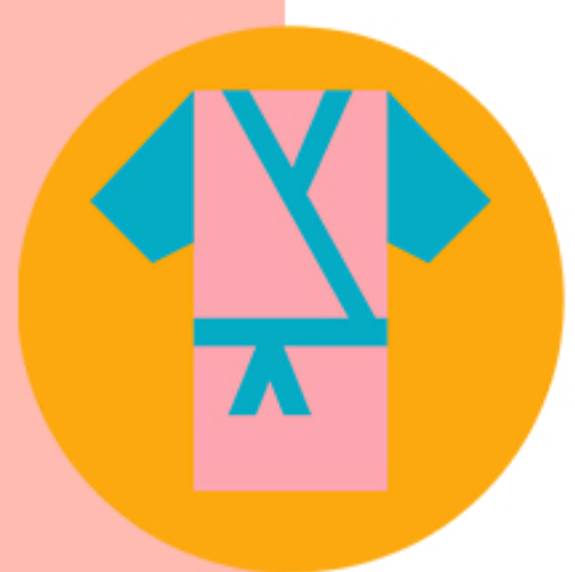
Joseph's story points to Jesus. Joseph had special favor and authority from his father, and his brothers were jealous. Jesus had authority, and the Pharisees were jealous (Mark 1:17; Matthew 27:18). The Bible always points to Jesus.



After this, Joseph was betrayed by his brothers and sold as a slave for 20 pieces of silver (Genesis 37:28). Jesus was betrayed by one of His disciples for 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14-15). Jesus understands the pain of betrayal.



Joseph's dream of the sheaves of wheat showed how he would rule over his brothers in connection with food. Years later, they came to Egypt to buy grain, and Joseph was in charge, so they bowed to him (Genesis 42:6-7). Dreams from God come true!



Joseph's robe representing his father's love and favor was ripped off him by his brothers (Genesis 37:23), but God's favor was still with him (Genesis 39:2-4). Nothing can rip God's favor and love away from you in Christ (Romans 8:38-39).

Read Isaiah 41:10 in your Bible and write it below.
The Lord is with us like He was with Joseph!

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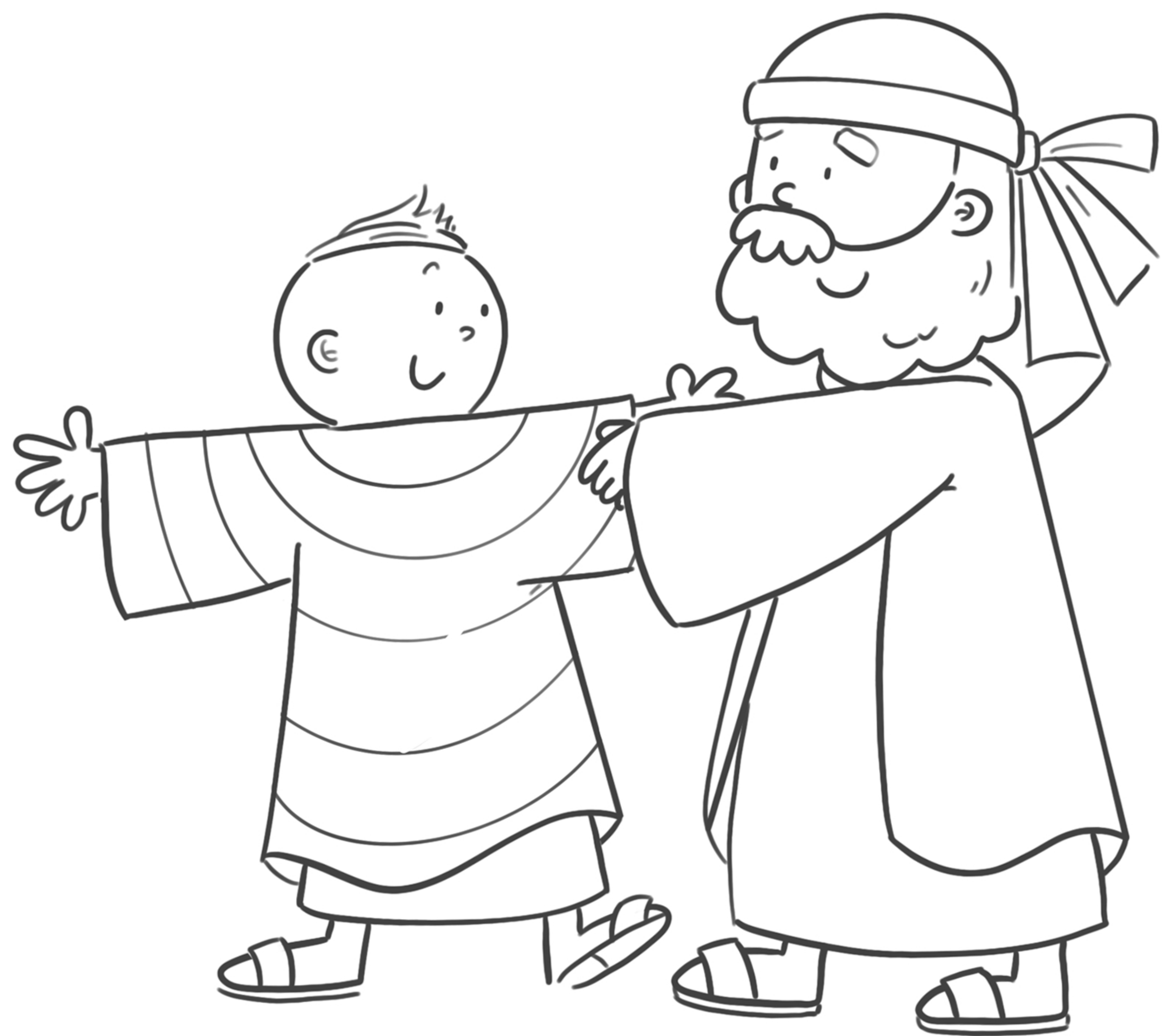
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LET'S HAVE FUN

Color Joseph and Jacob. What color is his special coat?



Can you draw Joseph?

