

Zaphenath-paneah, the Former Shepherd

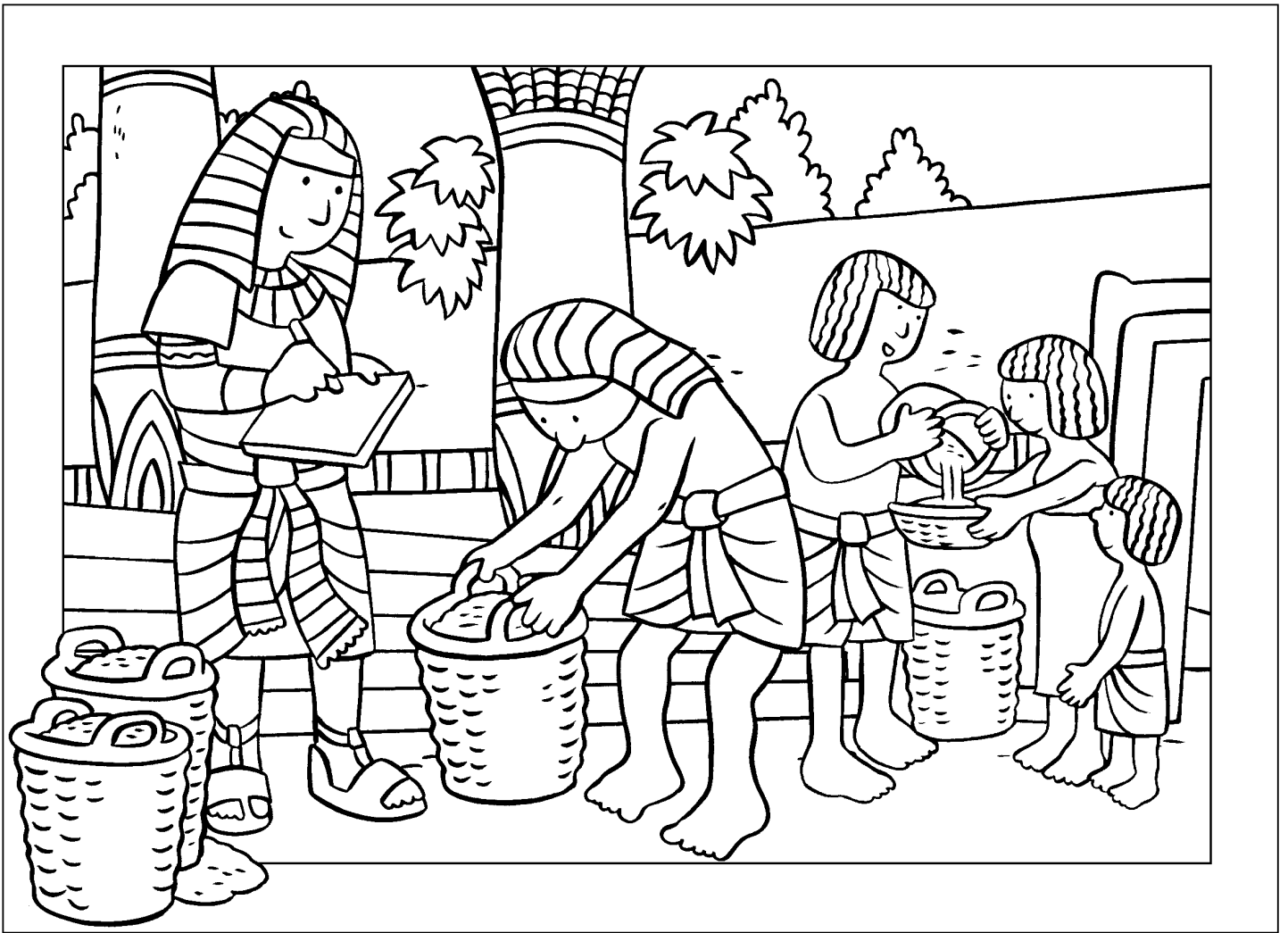
Based on Genesis 37 and 39–50.

Jacob (also known as Israel) had many sons, his favorite being the eleventh son, Joseph. The special attention Jacob showed him caused his older brothers to be jealous.

On one occasion, the older brothers were so upset with Joseph that they sold him as a slave to merchants traveling to Egypt. It was a terrible thing to do, but God didn't forsake Joseph. He had a special plan for his life.

Joseph worked diligently for his new master in Egypt, but at one point he was falsely accused and thrown into prison. Though this was very discouraging, Joseph kept his faith in God, even while in prison, and continued to diligently help others. God eventually brought Joseph to the attention of Egypt's Pharaoh, whose dreams Joseph was able to interpret.

Joseph was honored by Pharaoh and given the Egyptian name, Zaphenath-paneah. At the young age of thirty, he was promoted to be a vizier, the second in command under Pharaoh.



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