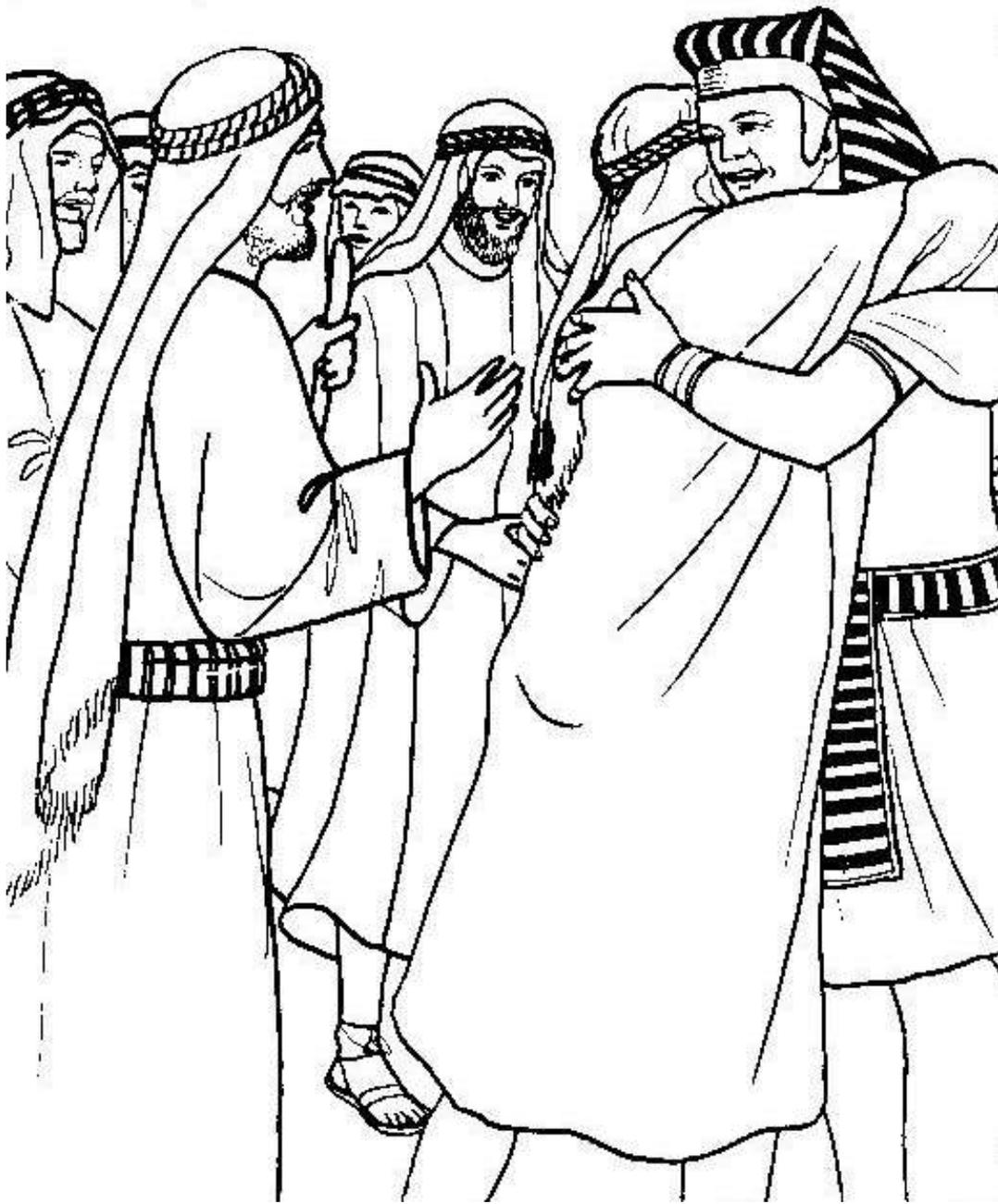


St. James Episcopal Church
A Moment for Kids—of All Ages!
SEPTEMBER 17, 2017—THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PROPER 19)
OH BROTHER!



Joseph's brothers had been mean and hurtful to Joseph. But now, Joseph wanted to bring his family back together again. The brothers were afraid the Joseph would not forgive them. But Joseph did forgive them when they asked. He said "Don't be afraid of me! I will take care of you and your families." Joseph was kind and loving to his brothers and they all were reunited as a big family.

Based on Genesis 50 24:13-35

THE BIBLE AND REAL LIFE

SOMETIMES FAMILIES FIGHT

The Old Testament story today is near the end of the long story about Jacob and his 12 sons. Joseph was the favorite son and the others were jealous of him. Hurt followed hurt, and the brothers were separated. After many years they were finally brought back together. This is a long and winding story, with an ending of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Even the best, most loving families have differences, hurt feelings and fights. The important thing is that we have to forgive each other. No one is perfect, and everyone makes mistakes and these mistakes lead to hurt and anger. We've all been there! God wants families to be loving. That isn't always easy, but it is worth the effort.

WHAT DID JOSEPH DO?

R ¹	G ²	C ³	H ⁴	E ⁵
A ⁶	O ⁷	N ⁸	W ⁹	B ¹⁰
I ¹¹	V ¹²	T ¹³	D ¹⁴	S ¹⁵
S ¹⁶	K ¹⁷	F ¹⁸	N ¹⁹	U ²⁰

When he was young, Joseph's brothers were very unkind and hurtful to him. When Joseph saw his brothers years later, how did he react?

He _____ them.
18 7 1 2 6 12 5

BRINGING THE BIBLE HOME: THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS

Do your kids fight? Of course they do! It is a part of growing up and becoming individuals and learning how to navigate relationships. It can be painful for parents and other family members when brothers and sisters fight. You love them equally, and you want them to love each other, just as you do. It is the same way with God. God loves us equally, and God wants us to love each other. Just as parents are hurt when their children fight, so God is hurt when God's children fight. Talk to your children about forgiveness, about talking through disagreements and anger. Remind them that God's love is all about forgiveness and reconciliation. We are forgiven, so we must forgive each other. Talk to them about how you understand that forgiveness can be difficult, but that the rewards are so much greater than the effort.

Dinner Table Conversations:

Have you had a fight with someone you like or love? Why do you think that happens?

Have you "made up"? Did you forgive the other person? Did they forgive you? Why is that important?

This insert is prepared by Mother Bonnie. If you have any questions about it, please let me know.
It is posted weekly on www.stjamesbatavia.org