

Read Genesis 37:25-30

**25** Then, just as they were sitting down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of camels in the distance coming toward them. It was a group of Ishmaelite traders taking a load of gum, balm, and aromatic resin from Gilead down to Egypt.

**26** Judah said to his brothers, “What will we gain by killing our brother? We’d have to cover up the crime.

**27** Instead of hurting him, let’s sell him to those Ishmaelite traders. After all, he is our brother—our own flesh and blood!” And his brothers agreed.

**28** So when the Ishmaelites, who were Midianite traders, came by, Joseph’s brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him to them for twenty pieces of silver. And the traders took him to Egypt.

**29** Sometime later, Reuben returned to get Joseph out of the cistern. When he discovered that Joseph was missing, he tore his clothes in grief.

**30** Then he went back to his brothers and lamented, “The boy is gone! What will I do now?”

**What did the brothers see when they sat down to eat lunch (v. 25)?** A caravan of traders was coming down the road.

**Where were they going?** They were taking a load of their goods to Egypt to trade for Egyptian things.

**What was Judah’s idea (v. 26)?** Instead of killing Joseph, let’s sell him to the traders and get some money for him.

**Why didn’t he want to kill Joseph (v. 27)?** Because Joseph was part of their family.

**What did they do when the Midianite traders came by (v. 28)?** They pulled Joseph out of the cistern and sold him to the traders.

**How much did they sell Joseph for?** Twenty shekels of silver.

**What did the traders do with Joseph?** They took him to Egypt.

**What happened when Reuben returned to the cistern (v. 29)?** He was shocked to find that Joseph was missing. That he had been sold.

**What do you think Reuben was so worried about Joseph (v. 30)?** Probably because Reuben was the oldest of the brothers and was responsible for the safety of the others. He didn’t want to have to tell his father Jacob the bad news. Especially since Joseph was his favorite.