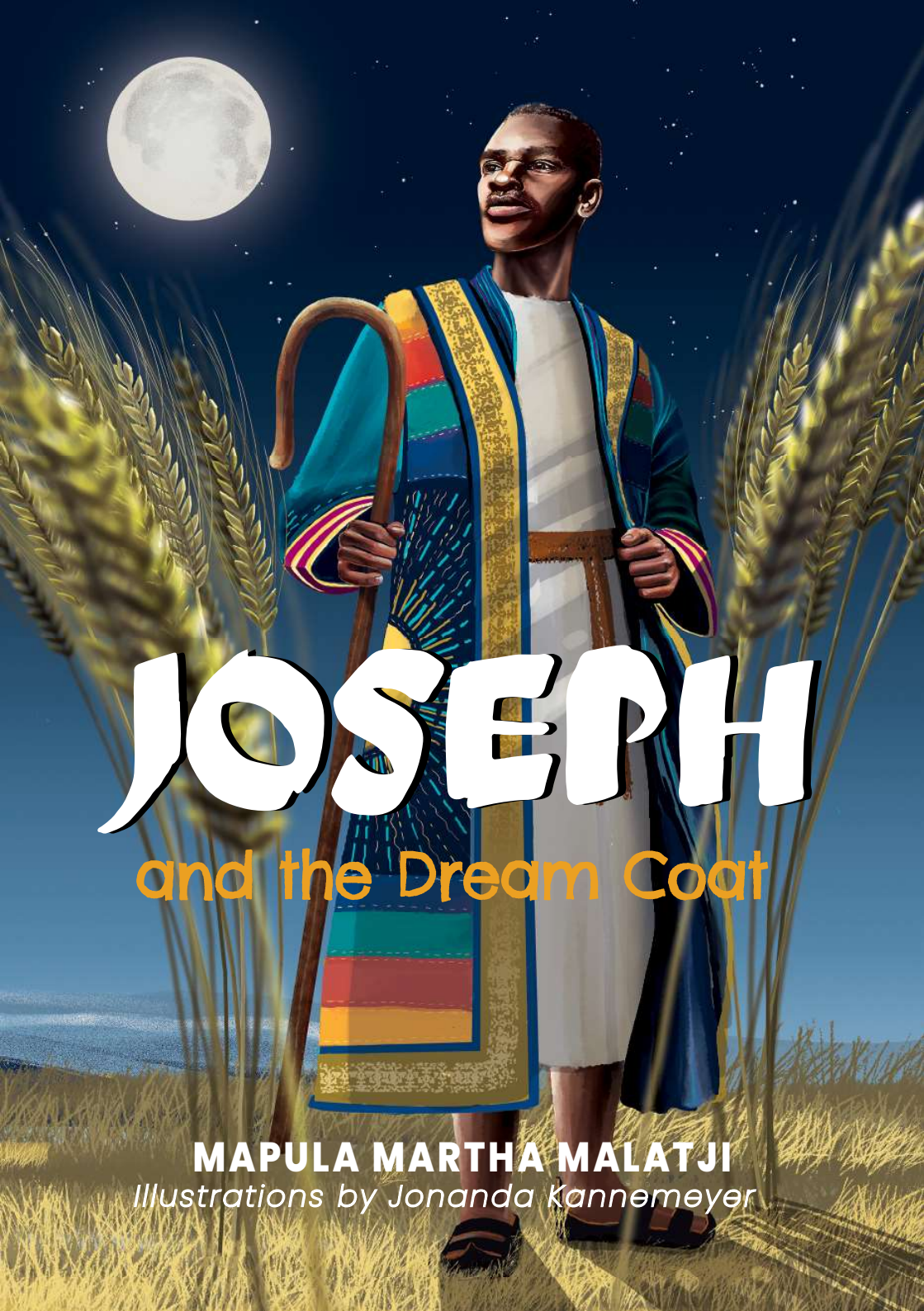
JOSEPH
and the Dream Coat
MAPULA MARTHA MALATJI
Illustrations by Jonanda Kannemeyer

JOSEPH AND THE DREAM COAT

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NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE STORY

GENESIS 37 and 39-47

JOSEPH

and the Dream Coat

Joseph lived in a land called Canaan and he had 11 brothers.

Jacob, Joseph's father, loved Joseph more than all his children, and he made Joseph a coat of many colors. When his brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more, they were jealous and hated him.

One night Joseph had a dream and he told his brothers about it. He said, "We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles bowed down to mine!" The brothers asked him, "Do you think you are going to be our King?"

Then Joseph had another dream. He told his brothers,
"The sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down before me!"

This made his brothers hate Joseph even more.

Soon after this, Jacob sent Joseph to see where his brothers were pasturing the sheep.

Joseph finally found them in a place called Dothan. When they saw Joseph they said, "Here comes the dreamer. Let's kill him." Joseph's brother Reuben said, "Let's not kill him. Why should we shed any blood. Let's throw him into this empty well."

The brothers finally decided to take Joseph's coat and sell him to Midianite traders, who then sold him to an officer of the King of Egypt.

The Lord blessed Joseph in Egypt, and Joseph worked hard and faithfully. Even so, he was falsely accused and thrown into prison. But God protected Joseph in prison and granted him favor.

One day the King got angry and threw two of his servants into the same prison. Both of them had dreams that Joseph interpreted for them.

Two years later, Pharaoh the King dreamed of thin cows eating fat ones and thin grain eating fat grain.

The servant remembered Joseph and told the King about him. So Joseph was called in to interpret the King's dreams.

Joseph told the King that God was telling him what would happen in the near future. There would be seven good years followed by seven years of hunger. The fat cows were the good years and the thin cows were the years of hunger.

Joseph said Pharaoh should collect crops during the seven good years and store them away so there would be food for the seven bad years. This pleased Pharaoh and he made Joseph the governor of Egypt.

When the years of hunger came, Jacob sent his sons to Egypt to buy grain, because they had no food.

When they arrived, Joseph said to them, “I am your brother whom you sold into slavery. Do not be upset for selling me into this place. It was God who sent me here to be an advisor to Pharaoh and to save your lives and the lives of many others.”

Prayer

Father God, I ask You to forgive me whenever I have been proud or wrong. Please bring Jesus into my heart and teach me to forgive those who have hurt me.

Questions

1. Why did Joseph's brothers hate him?
2. What did Joseph dream about?
3. How did Joseph end up in Egypt?
4. How did Joseph get out of prison?
5. What happened when Joseph's brothers came back to see him during the years of hunger?

Phuti and Phenyo

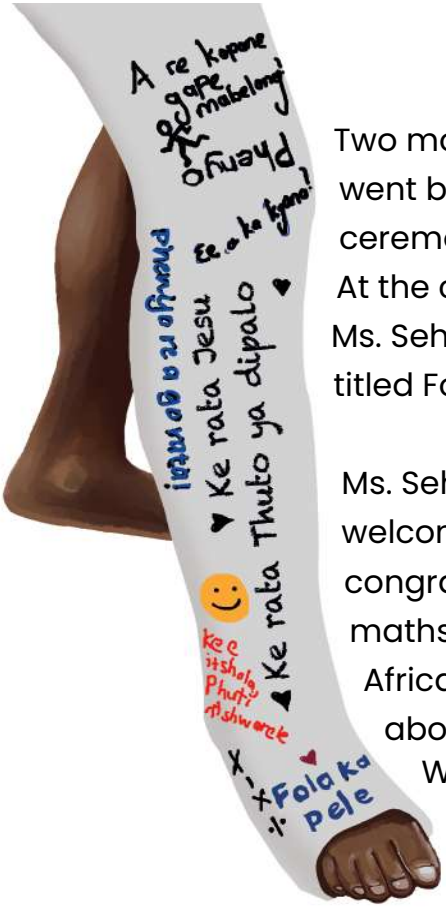
Phuti and Phenyo were Grade 5 learners at the Letlalolanku Primary School in Africa. Both boys were champion athletes and they excelled in many sports.

Phuti was jealous of Phenyo, and he wanted to win at any cost. One day, when they finished practice, Phuti poured water and oil in front of the classroom door. Phenyo came running and fell, breaking his leg. He was taken to the hospital.

After two days in the hospital, Phenyo asked his mother to bring his school books. He began to read and practice maths. If he needed help understanding something, he asked the nurses and doctors. He became famous as the boy who loved maths.

One day nurse Lethabo brought him an advert for a maths contest. The competitions were going to be held in their home town. Phenyo was very happy, and told the nurse that he would like to enter the competition.

Phenyo's mother visited, and he told her about the competition. She agreed that he should enter. Phenyo entered the Olympiad and won first prize.



Two months later, when Phenyo went back to school, a ceremony was held in his honor. At the ceremony, the Principal, Ms. Sehlapelo, gave a speech titled Forgiveness.

Ms. Sehlapelo said, “Phenyo we welcome you back and congratulate you as the Grade 5 maths champion of South Africa. Phuti told us the truth about what happened. We are sorry about the accident.”

"We know this happened because of jealousy, but God had other plans for you. Look, today our school is not only known for athletics but also for maths excellence."

As the principal said those words, the learners stood and clapped joyfully. Everyone was happy and celebrating.

After the ceremony, Phuti apologised to Phenyo, and Phenyo forgave him.

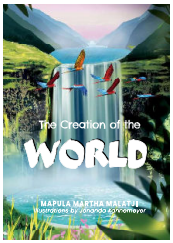
Prayer

Father God, I come to You in Jesus' name. From today, teach me to be free from envy and hatred. Please help me to walk in Your way.

Questions

1. Name the school in question.
2. Name the boys who like sports.
3. Why did Phenyo go to the hospital?
4. What do you think caused Phuti to hurt Phenyo?
5. At the hospital what did Phenyo become known for?
6. What would you do if you spent two months in the hospital?

Joseph and the Dream Coat *is one of 20 books featuring 10 Old Testament (OT) and 10 New Testament (NT) stories, each with a practical reflection story based on the Bible story.*



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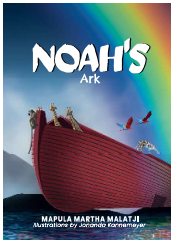

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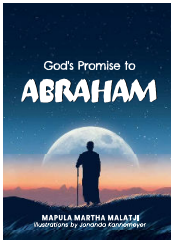

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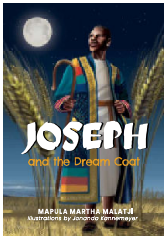

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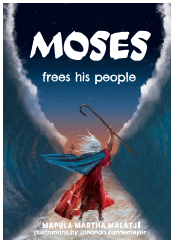

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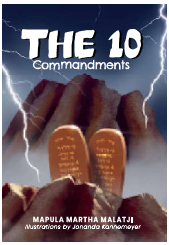

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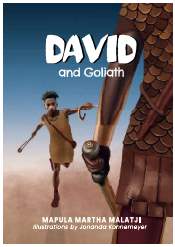

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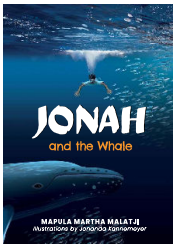

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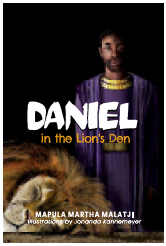

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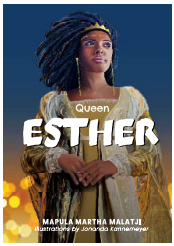

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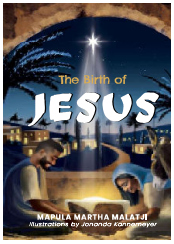

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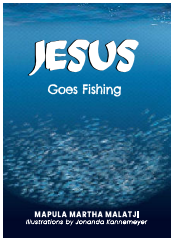

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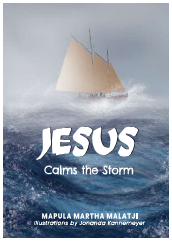

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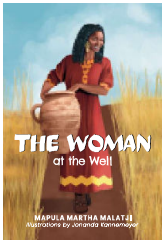

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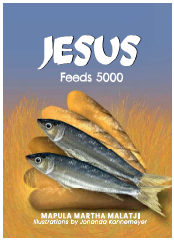

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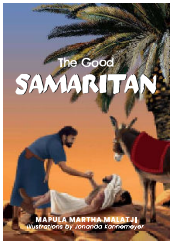

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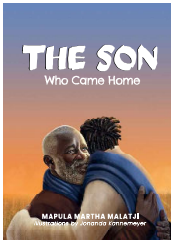

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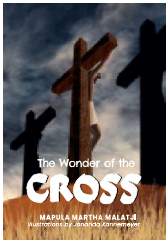

NT Book_9

NT Book_10

Joseph and the Dream Coat

In this book we will learn why Joseph's brothers were jealous of him, and how God protected him even after he was sold into slavery.

Phuti and Phenyo

We will also learn why sport-loving Phenyo ended up in the hospital and what happens when we work hard and learn how to forgive others.

9781776467204
English