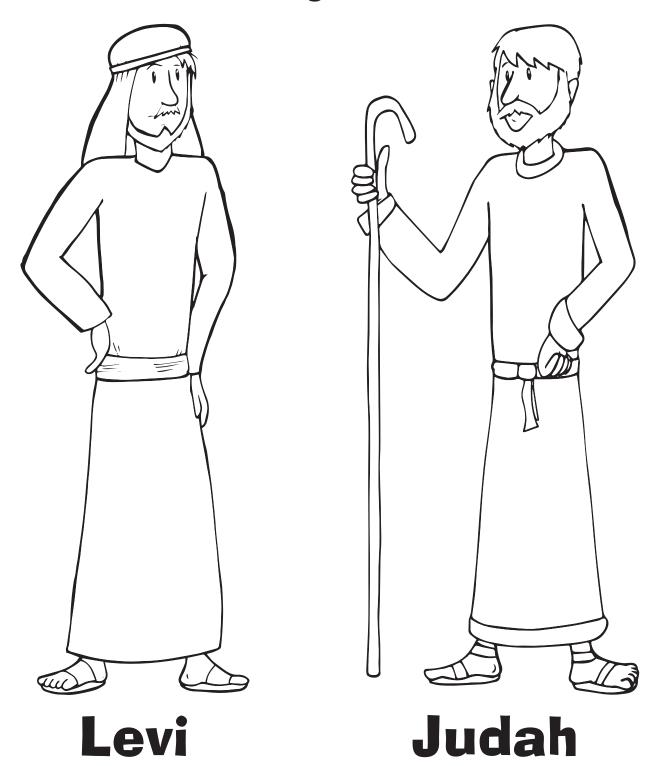


Reuben

Simeon

Leah named her first son Reuben, which means "son." Since she bore Jacob a "son," she hoped he would love her. She named her second son "Simeon," which means "heard," because she knew God had "heard" that she was unloved and blessed her with another son (Genesis 29:32-33).





Leah named her third son Levi, which means "attached," hoping that Jacob would become "attached" to her since she had borne him three sons. She named her fourth son Judah, which means "praise," because she praised the Lord when He gave her a fourth son.





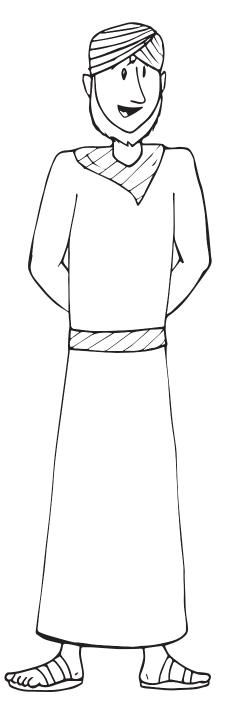


Dan

Naphtali

Rachel named her first child (through Bilhah) Dan, which means "judge," because she felt God had judged her case and decided to award her a son. She named her second child (through Bilhah) Naphtali, which means "wrestled for," due to her "wrestles" with her sister over having sons.





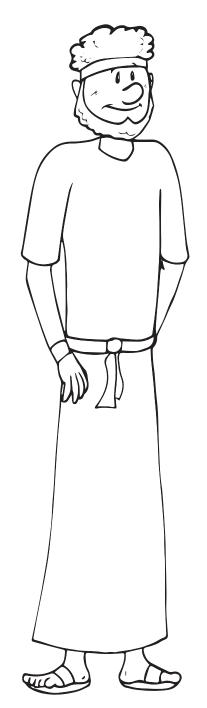


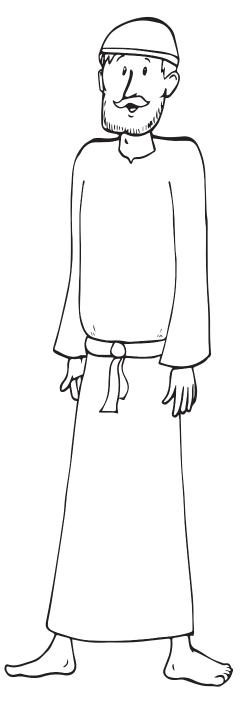
Gad

Asher

Leah named her fifth son (through Zilpah) Gad, which means "troop" or "good fortune," because she had been blessed with so many sons. She named her sixth son (through Zilpah) Asher, which means "happy," because she was happy that other ladies would call her blessed.







Issachar

Zebulun

Leah named her seventh son Issachar, which means "wages" or "reward," because she felt God was blessing or paying her for giving her maid to Jacob as wife. She named her eighth son Zebulun, which means "dwelling," because she thought Jacob would surely dwell with her now.







Joseph

Benjamin

Rachel named her third child (first child without Bilhah) Joseph, which means "He will add" as well as the idea of reproach being taken away, because she would no longer be mocked for not bearing a son, and because she hoped God would give her yet another child. She named her last child Ben-Oni ("son of my sorrow") since she was dying while giving birth to him, but Jacob renamed him Benjamin ("son of my right hand").