

Genesis Bible Study Assignment
July 8, 2021

Reading: Genesis Chapters 37 & 38

Discussion Questions

Genesis 37

1. How did Bilhah and Zilpah become Jacob's "wives"? How was Joseph related to their sons?

2. Name two reasons Joseph's brothers hated Joseph.

3. Give an example – from the Bible or otherwise – of sibling conflict. What was one result of this conflict?

4. Why do you think Joseph told his brothers about his dreams?

5. Why do you think Jacob kept the matter of Joseph's dreams in mind?

6. What two reasons did Judah give for not killing Joseph? What do you think was the real reason?

7. Do you think Jacob would have responded differently to losing Joseph if his brothers hadn't presented proof of his "death"?

8. How did Jacob's grief affect his relationships with the rest of his children?

Genesis 38

9. What reason did the author of Chapter 38 give for Er's untimely death? What might this imply about people who die young? Do you agree? Why or why not?

10. Levirate marriage is the obligation of a surviving brother to marry the widow of his brother if he died without having sired children. What are two purposes this tradition may have served?

11. Why do you think Onan didn't want to raise up sons for his brother, Er?

12. Why did Tamar feel justified in tricking Judah? Do you agree? Why or why not?

July 15 Assignment: Genesis 39-41