

Genesis Bible Study Assignment

July 29, 2021

Reading: Genesis Chapters 42-45

Discussion Questions

Genesis 42

1. How do you think Joseph recognized his brothers after 20 years?
2. What dreams about his brothers did Joseph remember (Genesis 42:9)?
3. What was the first test Joseph described to his brothers to prove they weren't spies? How does this compare with what Joseph actually required? Why do you think he changed his mind?
4. Why do you think Joseph wept (Genesis 42:24)?
5. What do you think motivated Joseph to "test" them? What was he trying to accomplish?
6. What does Jacob refuse to do after 9 of his sons return from Egypt? Why?

Genesis 43

7. How did the brothers respond to Jacob's question in Genesis 43:6? How did that response compare with the questions Joseph asked his brothers in Genesis chapter 42? Why do you think they responded to Jacob the way they did instead of telling him what actually happened?

8. How did Joseph upend the assumptions of birthright at the brothers' dinner table? How do you think the brothers interpreted this?

Genesis 44

9. Why do you think Joseph framed his brothers (especially Benjamin) by asking his steward to put his silver cup in Benjamin's bag?
10. How did the brothers respond to the accusations of Joseph's steward?
11. Reread Genesis 31:19-35. What is one similarity and one difference between this scripture and Genesis 44:1-13?
12. Why do you think Joseph chose to detain only Benjamin as his slave when all of the brothers (minus Simeon) offered themselves to be Joseph's slaves?

Genesis 45

13. Why do you think Joseph's brothers were dismayed when Joseph revealed who he was?
14. In Genesis 45:5, Joseph tells his brothers that their selling him into slavery allowed God to preserve life. If he felt that way, why do you think Joseph put them (and Jacob) through so much before revealing himself?

August 5 Assignment: Genesis 46-50 (the end!)