



PART 8  
**Joseph**

**GENESIS**  
GROWTH GUIDE



**PART 8: JOSEPH**  
**Art by Andrew England**  
**Medium: Acrylic painted lino-cut block print**

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**A note from our Communications Director:** Thank you to the artists who have contributed their time and talents to create visuals to go along with our Genesis series. Your work is a beautiful reflection of our creator God. You can see the original art displayed in the hallway between the Foyer and the Education Wing.



# Genesis: Trusting God's Grace in a Fallen World

We continue reading through Genesis, meeting the Creator, the God of Israel, as He makes Himself known to His people. We come to know God better and better as He interacts with Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Joseph and the rest of Jacob's family, who come to be known as Israel. We see His faithfulness to keep His promises, and His kindness to keep reassuring His people of those promises. We see His sovereign hand through the life of Joseph as God sends Joseph to Egypt ahead of his family to save many lives. Our prayer for all of us as we continue hearing sermons from Genesis, studying Genesis on our own, and discussing it in our Growth Groups, is that we would all be moved to love the Lord with all of our hearts day by day as we know Him better!

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## SCHEDULE

Genesis 41 - Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams	February 22, 2026
Genesis 42 - Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt	March 1, 2026
Genesis 43 - Seeking Mercy	March 8, 2026
Genesis 44 - Judah's Sacrifice	March 15, 2026
Genesis 45-46 - Joseph is reunited with his family	March 22, 2026
Genesis 47 - Jacob's family in Goshen	April 12, 2026
Genesis 48 - Jacob blesses Ephraim & Manasseh	April 19, 2026
Genesis 49 - Jacob's Last Words	April 26, 2026
Genesis 50 - Jacob dies, Joseph encourages his brothers	May 3, 2026

# How to Read the Books of Moses

## 1. Observe the Biblical text

- Where does the scene begin and end? What happens before and after?
- Notice the elements of the story/scene: setting, characters, events, dialogue.
- How is God making himself known through this story, through the characters, events and dialogue?

## 2. Interpret the Biblical text

- What is the meaning of this text for the original audience?
- What does this text teach us about God, people, and their relationship with God?
- Connect to Christ: Is there a promise Jesus fulfills or a command He obeys? Do we see how much we need a Savior?
- What are the differences between the original audience and us now in the church (culture, context, covenant)?

## 3. Apply the Biblical text

- Is there a truth about God to believe and praise Him for?
- Is there a truth about people that I can personally confess?
- Is there a principle about the relationship people have with God that I can apply?
- Is there a behavior or attitude I can put on or put off?
- Is there something I should pray?
- If there is a law given in the Old Testament, what is the impact of the New Covenant in Christ on that law? Is the law retained, retooled, or retired?

# Lesson 1: Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams

*Genesis 41 - Sermon on February 22*

## Central Teaching and Application

God lifts up Joseph as he interprets Pharaoh's dream and uses him to save the whole world from the famine.

\*Trust God to accomplish salvation through those He speaks to and raises up to bring deliverance. Walk in the good works that God has prepared beforehand for you.

## Genesis 41

1. What are the main events of Genesis 41? What is impressive or surprising to you?
2. Describe the radical change that happens to Joseph from the beginning to the end of the chapter.

## God's Providence

"These final events of Joseph's imprisonment were arranged by God to make Joseph an extraordinary instrument for the preservation of his people. Amidst the disappointment and delay of being forgotten by the cupbearer, Joseph's trust in God had been further tempered and deepened. Joseph had become a radically God-centered man who believed that his God-given dreams would come true in God's good time. God would remain at the center of his vision through everything that was to come. At last Joseph was ready for the great work of his life." Hughes, R. Kent. *Genesis: Beginning and Blessing* (Preaching the Word) (p. 475).

## Discussion Questions

3. How does Joseph give glory to God and point to God's role in all of this?
4. What do you learn about God's sovereignty and rule over nature and nations?
5. What series of events in the life of Joseph did God use to make him the second most powerful person in the world and to save the world from a famine?
6. What do we learn about God and His care for Joseph through the names that he gives his two sons?

## Have a Big View of God

“Through these wrenching extremes Joseph maintained at least three distinctives. At the base he had a transcending belief in the greatness of God. Joseph’s understanding of God was that he controlled all of life, including the day-in, day-out events of life. He believed that God was at work in the rich compost of sinful life. In his day, Joseph maintained the greatest concept and understanding of God of any living soul. And he heroically declared that to Pharaoh (the pseudo-god man)—telling the king that God, not Pharaoh, controlled the destiny of the Nile.

Along with this Joseph believed God's word that had been revealed to him through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He believed in God's covenant promises. He also believed in his God-given dreams. And he believed all this without exception as he stood alone in Egypt contra mundum. That is how Moses would stand before Pharaoh, that is how Daniel would stand before the King of Babylon, and that is how the Apostle Paul towered before the courts of Rome. That is how Martin Luther stood before the world. They all believed God's word. Joseph believed God's word as did no other soul in his day.

Furthermore, Joseph believed that Yahweh was with him both in the pit and at the pinnacle. That is why—in the face of every political, social, and spiritual force in Egypt—he gave his boys Hebrew names. Joseph's belief in God's greatness, more than any other man—Joseph's belief in God's word, as no other man—Joseph's belief that God was with him, more than any of his contemporaries, is a template for every soul in every age.

Christians, this is the age of affluence. And it is possible for a middle-class person to live with greater ease and independence than did Pharaoh in Egypt—insulated from the economy, insulated from the vicissitudes of nature, insulated from illness—so that he or she never looks up to God for anything. So be warned and made wise by the God-given example of Joseph" Hughes, R. Kent. *Genesis: Beginning and Blessing* (Preaching the Word) (pp. 490-492).

## Application

7. God spoke to Joseph and raised him up to bring about the deliverance of the world from this famine. God spoke to Moses and raised him up to bring about the deliverance of Israel from Egypt. God has spoken to and through Jesus Christ and has raised Him up to save the world. Consider Hebrews 1:1-4 and John 3:14-18 and share how God has delivered you through Jesus Christ.
8. Spend time praising God for the things you see about Him in this chapter.
9. Is there a specific sin and or trial you are facing right now that you need to depend on Jesus to deliver you from? What steps do you need to take to trust in Him and experience His deliverance?

10. Consider Ephesians 2:8-10. God has saved you for good works that He has prepared beforehand in His sovereignty and love. What are some of those good works that you are walking in right now or seeking to do as you see God putting them in your path?

### **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 2: Joseph and his brothers

*Genesis 42 - Sermon on March 1*

## Central Teaching and Application

God uses Joseph's actions with his brothers to produce guilt, fear and sorrow that leads eventually to them being reconciled with Joseph.

\*Cultivate godly guilt, fear and sorrow over your sin so that you can be reconciled to God and others through the grace of Christ.

## Genesis 42:1-5

1. What does Jacob do in response to the famine in the land of Canaan? What do we learn about what he values the most?

## Genesis 42:6-17

2. What does Joseph find out from his brothers?
3. What does Joseph accuse his brothers of and then what does he ask them to do to prove themselves?

## The Need of the Ten Brothers

"These ten needed to be confronted with their guilt. They needed an awakening of conscience. They needed to mourn. They needed to genuinely repent. And they need rapprochement with Joseph if they were to be preserved during the worldwide famine. Truly their future rested upon such changes...The brothers desperately needed grace, though they did not know it."

Quoted from *Genesis, Beginnings and Blessings* by R. Kent Hughes, p.493. Hughes' writing in this section of his commentary prompted my focus on conviction of sin in this lesson.

## **Discussion Question**

4. Why do you think Joseph asks his brothers to bring Benjamin to him? What is he seeking to learn about them?

## **Genesis 42:18-25**

5. What happens next and what does it reveal about Joseph and about his brothers?

## **Genesis 42:26-38**

6. What is the response of the brothers to finding their money in their sacks with the grain? What do they think is happening to them? What is being produced in the brothers?

## **Discussion Questions**

7. What truths about God are displayed by this chapter?
8. We see here guilt, fear and sorrow over their sin in the lives of the brothers of Joseph. What is the value of godly guilt, fear, and sorrow related to our sin? Consider 2 Corinthians 7:10-11.

9. What is Joseph wanting to see from his brothers? Do you think he is seeking revenge on them or is he testing them to see where their hearts are now?

## Guilt, Fear and Sorrow

“...This initial experience with their unrecognized brother was a redemptive grace to their souls.

*Guilt.* Their admission of guilt, the acceptance of responsibility for their sins, this real guilt, this godly guilt, put them in the way of forgiveness.

*Fear.* Next their godly fear, the realization that God was afflicting them, focused their souls on the only source of forgiveness and help.

*Sorrow.* And their godly grief and sorrow then paved the way for repentance.

They had meant to do evil to Joseph, but God meant it for good - to preserve His people (cf. 50:20).

And now godly guilt and godly fear and godly sorrow were going to effect a trio of graces on these impossible men.”

*Genesis, Beginnings and Blessings* by R. Kent Hughes, p.499.

## Application

10. What does true repentance look like when you have sinned against someone? Are there any people you have sinned against that you need to seek forgiveness from?
11. What sins or situations in your life require godly guilt, fear and sorrow? How can you cultivate this kind of response to your sin? What do you need to put on and what do you need to put off?
12. Fear of God and love for God are the virtues that produce godly guilt, fear and sorrow. How can you faithfully cultivate your fear of God and love for God?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 3: Seeking Mercy

*Genesis 43 - Sermon on March 8*

## Central Teaching and Application

God answers Jacob's prayer (Genesis 43:14) and shows mercy and compassion to Jacob's sons through Joseph.

\*Trust God for His mercy that He shows us through Jesus.

### **Genesis 43:1-14**

1. What is the quandary that Jacob finds himself in at the beginning of Genesis 43?
2. What assurance and responsibility does Judah (who had been responsible for treachery in Genesis 37 with Joseph) take regarding his brother Benjamin and Jacob's concern?
3. What is Jacob's response to Judah and his prayer to the Lord?

## Jacob's Prayer for Mercy

"The opening phrase - 'May God Almighty grant you mercy' - is not perfunctory rhetoric, because mercy is the narrative key of this entire episode. In fact, the events that would take place on the day of the brothers' arrival in Egypt were a demonstration of God's mercy. Near the conclusion of this section, in verse 30, when Joseph sees Benjamin, we read, 'Then Joseph hurried out, for his compassion (or mercy) grew warm.' It is the exact Hebrew word that is translated 'mercy' in verse 14. So we see that mercy frames the account from beginning to end."

Quoted from *Genesis, Beginnings and Blessings* by R. Kent Hughes, p.503.

## Genesis 43:15-34

4. It was commonly known that high ranking Egyptian officials had their own private dungeons in their houses. When Joseph's steward tells the brothers that they are to meet Joseph at his house, they are very afraid of what he is planning for them. What are they afraid might happen to them and why are they feeling guilty? What do they tell the steward?
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What does Joseph's steward tell the brothers and how is God's mercy on them expressed in what he says?
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Joseph asks if it is well (*shalom*, the Hebrew word for peace) with their father. The steward had already told them, "*Shalom* (peace) to you." What does Joseph say and do that expresses his mercy and compassion on them?

## Discussion Questions

7. Jacob expresses his hope in God Almighty (*EI Shaddai*, the all-sufficient God who keeps His covenant promises and provides for His people) in his prayer in Genesis 43:14 and in the fact that he sent his beloved son Benjamin to Egypt. What has happened so far in the story to cause Jacob to trust God to have mercy on them?

8. Joseph gave Benjamin five times the portion that the rest of the brothers received. What might Joseph be testing his brothers to find out through showing favor to the new favored son of Jacob? What would their response be if they had not changed since Genesis 37 where their jealousy led them to sell Joseph into slavery?
9. What is the basis of Joseph's mercy and compassion on his brothers? How is this similar to the way that God the Father shows those who trust in Christ mercy and compassion? In what ways does this story point forward to the mercy that all who trust in Christ receive?

## Application

10. God is a God who shows mercy and compassion, who gives peace to His people even though we have sinned against him and against each other. Spend time praising God for His mercy that He has shown you in Christ.
11. What situations in your life right now are leading you to pray to God for mercy? What trials or temptations are you facing?
12. What promises has God made to us in His Word that you are trusting in related to those trials or temptations that you are facing?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 4: Judah's Sacrifice

*Genesis 44 - Sermon on March 15*

## Central Teaching and Application

Joseph's brothers, especially Judah, demonstrate true repentance and a willingness to sacrifice themselves to do what is most loving.

\*Trust in Jesus who has sacrificed Himself to save us and live a life now of sacrificial love.

### **Genesis 44:1-13**

1. What does Joseph do to test (or deceive) his brothers? How do they respond?

## Changed Hearts

"No words are recorded, but the brothers' actions tell all: 'Then they tore their clothes' (v.13a). Wenham remarks, 'When Joseph disappeared, it was only Jacob who tore his clothes (37:34); now all the brothers do, the first sign of fraternal solidarity.' Something new was taking place. They were changing. What would they do now? Would they surrender Benjamin and save themselves? No; they would not abandon their father's favorite son. They were not the same men who once so blithely sold their favored brother into Egypt. So it was that the brothers tore their clothes and went back weeping to the house from which they had just departed rejoicing." *Genesis - Beginnings and Blessings*, R. Kent Hughes, p. 511.

### **Genesis 44:14-34**

2. What is Joseph's response to what Judah says initially?

## The Test: Betrayal or Loving Sacrifice?

“The reconstitution of the original situation of the favored brother had been achieved. Joseph had restored the original grouping of the earlier betrayal. There the breach had taken place between the father, the brothers and the youngest son. The conditions were perfect for a second betrayal, but at a more enticing price than twenty pieces of silver. The lure was their liberty. For men who had valued their own well-being above all else, the temptation to walk away was appallingly tantalizing.”

*Genesis - Beginnings and Blessings*, R. Kent Hughes, p. 512.

3. What are the main points of Judah's speech that he gives after Joseph says that all of the brothers can go home, except Benjamin?

## Discussion Questions

4. What does Judah's speech show us about how his heart and character have changed since the days when he sold Joseph into slavery and lied to his father about it?
5. How does Judah's willingness to stay in custody with Joseph so that Benjamin can go free picture the substitutionary sacrifice that Judah's descendant, the Lord Jesus Christ, made for His people?

# Application

6. What did the Lion of the tribe of Judah do according to Revelation 5:5-10? Spend time praising Him for His sacrifice.
7. The Lord had transformed Judah and his brothers through the conviction of their sin against Joseph, Jacob and the Lord. We read in Romans 12:1-2 that each of us is to offer ourselves to the Lord as living sacrifices, being transformed through the renewal of our minds. We see in 2 Corinthians 3:18 that as we behold the Lord we are transformed into his image. In what specific ways are you seeking to be transformed to be like Christ? What specific steps can you take to pursue that transformation?
8. What sins, attitudes or actions that are not like Christ do you need to repent of? What is the thing you are putting off and what do you need to put on instead?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 5: Joseph is Reunited with His Family

*Genesis 45-46 - Sermon on March 22*

## Central Teaching and Application

God sent Joseph ahead to make a way for the family of Jacob to be saved. Joseph's family is amazed at God's providence through Joseph. God promises to go with Jacob to Egypt and to bring Jacob's family back to the promised land in the future. God provides a place for Jacob and his family to live in Egypt.

\*Trust God who makes a way for salvation through the suffering and victory of Jesus!

\*Trust God to keep His promises and to go with you through all of life.

## Genesis 45:1-15

1. What stands out to you about this scene where Joseph reveals himself to his brothers?
2. What is the initial response of the brothers in 45:3? How do they interact in 45:14-15?
3. Observe Joseph's speech to his brothers in 45:4-13? What are the main points that Joseph makes? What are the things that he says God has done? Make a list.

## **Genesis 45:16-28**

4. What do Pharaoh and Joseph do for Jacob and his family, and how does Jacob respond?

## **Genesis 46**

5. The Lord appears to Jacob again at Beersheba in 46:1-4. What does He promise Jacob?
6. What happens when Jacob arrives in Egypt?

## **Discussion Questions**

7. Joseph tells us much about God's sovereign actions in his life in Genesis 45:4-13. What attributes of God and truths about God are explained by Joseph and displayed by his life?
8. Describe the radical transformation of Joseph's brothers and of Joseph's relationship with them from Genesis 37 to Genesis 45. What was necessary in Joseph's life and in the lives of his brothers for this kind of reconciliation and transformation to happen?

9. How does this passage point us to the Lord Jesus? Consider how Joseph gave them all new clothes as he sent them away after they had stripped him of his clothes when they threw him in the pit. How is this a picture of what Jesus does for us? In what ways is Joseph's story a foreshadow of what Jesus would do to save His people?

## **God's Sovereignty and Joseph**

"Just as Joseph had been given insight about the divine plan in the dreams of Pharaoh, he knew the divine plan in the affairs of his brothers. So now Joseph stripped away the superficial surface of human activity to reveal the hand of God. Most revealing were his four references to God: 'God sent me before you to preserve life' (v.5b); 'God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant' (v.7a); 'So it was not you who sent me here, but God' (v.8a) and, 'God has made me lord of all Egypt' (v.9b). These lines are a magisterial, theological declaration of divine providence - that God works his will in and through the actions of all people, whether good or bad. Providence is explicit in Joseph's juxtapositions, 'you sent me...God sent me' (v.5) and 'not you...but God' (v.8). Joseph understood that every episode in his life's story, and that of his brothers, was under God's direct rule." Quoted from *Genesis - Blessings and Beginnings*, R. Kent Hughes, p.519.

## **Application**

10. Consider what you wrote in question #7. Spend time praising God for who He is and what He does as you see illustrated in these chapters. Write a prayer.
11. What painful providence or difficult circumstances have you gone through? How can you trust God in the midst of those hard things? Are there people who have sinned against you that you need to be willing to forgive?

12. How do you want to grow in being a more loving person towards others? Think about the list in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Is there anything on that list that you want to take specific steps to work on this week?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 6: Jacob's Family in Goshen

*Genesis 47 - Sermon on April 12*

## Central Teaching and Application

God provides for Jacob and his family through Joseph as the Pharaoh gives them the land of Goshen. Joseph procures all of the money, livestock, land and people as servants of the Pharaoh in return for keeping them alive with grain.

\*Trust God who always keeps His covenant promises to His people!

## Genesis 47:1-12

1. What is the context of what is happening here? What happened in Genesis 46:28-34?
2. What do you observe in this scene where Pharaoh interacts with Joseph's brothers and with Jacob?

## Genesis 47:13-26

3. As the famine progresses, how does Joseph manage the distribution of grain? What do you learn about his business strategy and model? How did the people respond to Joseph?

## Genesis 47:27-31

4. How does Moses describe the blessing of the Lord on the Israelites?

## Discussion Questions

5. What truths about God are displayed in this chapter? What promises that God had made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob do you see God fulfilling?
6. How would the Israelites in the wilderness be encouraged by what they hear from Genesis 47 and these ways that the Lord provided for His people?
7. Joseph leads his family to a secure place and provides for them bountifully. How does this point forward to the greater Joseph, Jesus Christ, and how He leads His family and provides for them? In what ways does Jesus provide for His people? *Consider John 6:35, John 10:11 and John 14:6.*

## Application

8. Spend time praising God for what you see about His character and faithfulness to His covenant promises in this section. Write out a prayer of praise.
9. Consider Matthew 6:25-34. How has Jesus promised that He will care for His people? For what situations in your life are you looking to Jesus to provide for you?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 7: Jacob Blesses Ephraim & Manasseh

*Genesis 48 - Sermon on April 19*

## Central Teaching and Application

God's blessing on Jacob is passed on to Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh.

\*Trust God for His blessing to His children in and through Christ.

## Genesis 48

1. What promises and blessings had God given to Jacob?
2. What statements does Jacob make about God and what God had done for him?
3. How does he pass those blessings on to Joseph and his sons?
4. What unique thing does Jacob do that is similar to what happened with him and his brother Esau in Genesis 27?
5. What promise does Jacob restate at the end of the chapter and what does he give to Joseph?

## Discussion Questions

6. What attributes of God are emphasized in this chapter?
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How would these statements about God's care and blessing have encouraged the Israelites in the wilderness with Moses?
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Considering the statements that Jacob makes about God in 48:15-16, how does Jesus continue fulfilling those roles with His people through His first and second coming?

## Application

9. Write a prayer of praise to God for the things you see about Him in this chapter, both what He does for Jacob and what Jesus does for His people now and what He will do in the future.
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Who are you praying for and seeking to share the blessings of God with as you share the gospel and God's word with them? What are the next steps for you in ministering to them?
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. What situations in your life are requiring you to trust the things you see about God here? What steps are you taking to walk by faith in the Lord and to trust Him more?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 8: Jacob's Last Words

*Genesis 49 - Sermon on April 26*

## Central Teaching and Application

Jacob tells each of his twelve sons what will happen to them.

\*Trust God to fulfill the prophetic blessings (and judgments) spoken through Jacob, especially to Judah, through whom would come the Messiah.

### Genesis 49

1. What is the prophecy given to each of the sons of Jacob? Record a brief summary of what you see in Genesis 49.

Reuben

Simeon

Levi

Judah

Zebulun

Issachar

Dan

Gad

Asher

Naphtali

Joseph

Benjamin

2. Are there any prophecies that you do not understand? Write down the aspects that you do not understand and look them up in your study Bible if possible and write down what you find out.
3. What stands out to you from the blessing given to Judah and to Joseph?

## Discussion Questions

4. Judah's sin was the focus of Genesis 38 and he figured very prominently in the sin against Joseph and Jacob in the end of Genesis 37. What happened through the course of the Joseph story in the life of Judah? How did he repent and change?
5. Consider how each of the sons of Jacob are part of God's people and are recipients of the blessings given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. What do these blessings show us about God's character and ways?
6. How does Jesus fulfill the promises made to Judah? Which aspects of the blessing for Judah are directly referring to Jesus and what He would do?

## Application

7. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. Spend time praising God for the blessings that He gives His people through Christ.

## The Church and Israel

The blessings that God gives to Israel through the promises He makes to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and now to the sons of Jacob all fall under the big heading of being God's covenant people. The biggest blessing is to belong to God as His children, to be His people. Many other promises relate to the land that God promised to Israel and to the promised King who would rule over God's people. Romans 11:17-32 and Ephesians 2:11-13 teach us that God has grafted the Gentile nations into His people. Israel and the nations are made into one new person in Christ, one great people of God. All of the people of God in the church receive the blessing of being God's people, of belonging to God. We receive the blessing of a new heart and forgiveness through Christ. We also all have a new ruler, a new King, the Lord Jesus. However, the promises made to Israel regarding the land will still be fulfilled to the nation of Israel. The church does not replace Israel as a nation, although the church has been grafted into all the spiritual blessings of Israel and the blessing of having the Lord Jesus as our King. When King Jesus returns, the believers from the nation of Israel will dwell in that land God promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The other redeemed people from other nations will have their own lands to live in, although all nations and peoples will come to worship King Jesus in Jerusalem.

8. What is the significance for your life right now of Jesus, the lion of the tribe of Judah, reigning right now at the right hand of the Father?
9. Consider what Paul tells the Philippians in his letter to them in Philippians 4:4-13. What is the key to contentment and joy for the Christian? What is the relationship of temporal blessings to our ability to be content and rejoice?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

# Lesson 9: Jacob dies, Joseph encourages his brothers

*Genesis 50 - Sermon on May 3*

## Central Teaching and Application

God's glory and greatness is displayed through the celebration of Jacob and through Joseph's continued trust in God's sovereign care through his brothers' affliction of him.

\*Live your life for God's glory, trusting that all He does is for His glory and the good of His people.

### Genesis 50:1-14

1. When Jacob died, what was done for his burial? What unusual things happened that pointed to the greatness of Jacob, or rather the greatness of his God?

### Genesis 50:15-21

2. What was the concern of Joseph's brothers and what did they say to Joseph?

3. What was Joseph's response to His brothers?

### Genesis 50:22-26

4. How did God show kindness and favor to Joseph according to these last verses in Genesis 50?

## Discussion Questions

5. Consider where Jacob started as a laborer for his uncle Laban. How does this celebration of Jacob at his death point to the greatness of God who elevated and prospered Jacob?
6. Consider Jacob's offspring, the people of Israel, waiting in the wilderness with Moses. How many of them were there according to Exodus 12:37? How did God continue to keep His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob?
7. Genesis 50:19-20 is a beautiful statement of trust in God and His sovereign care in the face of sin and mistreatment from others. How can we follow Joseph's example and trust in God's grace to enable us to forgive others who sin against us and to trust His sovereign care for us?
8. Consider Acts 2:22-24. How does Jesus follow the pattern of Joseph in suffering under the hands of wicked men for God's sovereign purposes?

## Application

9. Spend time praising God for His sovereign care and salvation with His people Israel in the Old Testament and with His people, the church, now through Christ.
10. How can you cultivate a heart that trusts in God in the midst of trials?
11. How can you cultivate a forgiving heart? Consider Matthew 18:21-25 and Ephesians 4:31-32?
12. What lessons have you learned from Genesis over the last two years?

## **Prayer Requests and Sermon Notes**

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