

GENESIS 43-48

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE



WEEK IN REVIEW

As we near the end of Genesis, we continue to see God sovereignly working through the life of Joseph. God knew exactly what was happening and was in control each step of the way. God was using all of Joseph's circumstances for Joseph's good and for His glory. Last week, we read about Joseph's brothers coming to Egypt because there was a big famine in the land, which means there was not a ton of food. Pharaoh's dream that Joseph interpreted became true. Joseph's brothers come back to Egypt, but this time with their brother Benjamin. Benjamin is important because both he and Joseph have the same mother (Rachel). They brought him a gift, and Joseph accepted the gift and provided a feast for them. It was a good time!

Joseph tests his brothers again. He fills their sacks with food and the money they brought, but places a silver cup in his brother Benjamin's sack. His brothers are chased down by a servant. The servant called them out, but the brothers said that they were innocent of theft. Benjamin is on the hook, however, because the cup was found in his bag. Judah and the other brothers fall to the ground before Joseph (not knowing his true identity), and Judah pleads to stay in Egypt in place of Benjamin. Judah wanted to be his substitute for the consequence. They know it would deeply hurt his father Jacob if he lost another son. Remember, Judah is the same brother that convinced his other brothers to sell Joseph into slavery back in Genesis 37 to the Ishmaelites. Joseph saw his repentance which means turning away from sin.

Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers, but they did not believe him at first. The Lord speaks to Jacob and says, "I am God, the God of your father," he said. "Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there." Jacob goes to Egypt and is reunited with Joseph and the rest of the brothers. This section ends with Jacob's last days. Jacob remembers his life and praises God for His faithfulness. Jacob says to Joseph, "I am about to die, but God will be with you and take you back to the land of your fathers." God was going to be with them every step of the way. God's presence was a promise to them, just like He is with us today through the Holy Spirit!

FAMILY GUIDE

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| BIG IDEA: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● God is working all things for our good! |
| KEY STORIES: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bros back to Egypt● Joseph's test● Identity Revealed● Welcomed in Egypt |
| KEY VERSE: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <u>Genesis 45:8</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt." |
| PEOPLE/ WORDS TO KNOW: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Substitute<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ In place of another● Repentance<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Turning away from sin and going the other direction |

Reflection Questions

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| 1. | How does Joseph test his brothers? |
| 2. | What is Judah's response to the consequences of this? |
| 3. | What is repentance? |
| 4. | What does God promise Jacob in his final days? |