

JOSEPH

Hidden favour – Genesis 42

BIBLE STUDY



STARTER:

Think about crossroads moments in your life, which have changed its direction.

Today's chapter is a 'crossroads' moment in Joseph's life. Many years have passed since he last saw his brothers. Then circumstances interweave with God's overseeing of events to bring about a meeting between them.

Read Genesis 42

(If it has worked well for your group to read these passages in dramatized parts, you could do so here)

- Look at **verse 6**. What do you think was going through Joseph's mind as he recognised his brothers?
- Look at **Gen 37 :7**. How did his dream from **chapter 37** come true before Joseph's eyes?
- Remember the second dream? (**Gen 37 : 9**). Do you think this may have influenced what Joseph asked of his brothers? (**v12 & v20**).



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- Does it surprise you that Joseph was so harsh with the brothers he had not seen for about 20 years? When did they last see each other – what were the circumstances? (**Gen 37: 28**).
- Do you think we see ways in this chapter that Joseph had it in mind to forgive his brothers?
- In **verse 21**, we are given a detail missing from what happened in **chapter 37**.
 - What did the brothers confess that has not been revealed to the reader before?
 - Why do you think they were remembering this episode from their past, since they did not recognise Joseph?
- What do you think it might have meant to Joseph to hear them talking about this painful episode in the way they did?
- How did Jacob and the brothers react to the returned silver? Why had Joseph returned it?



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GOING DEEPER

- One commentary says ‘Joseph’s brothers were trapped by their past’.
- Look at **Matthew 7 : 2** and **Galatians 6:7**.
- What do these verses teach us about the consequences of our actions? Can you think of any examples where this has been shown to be true – in the news or in our personal lives?
- We have been thinking about how Joseph is a ‘type’ of Jesus. Can you see places here where Joseph and Jesus walk similar paths?



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LISTEN | PRAY

LISTEN

AUDREY
ASSAD :

IT IS WELL
WITH MY
SOUL



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zY5o9mP22V0>

PRAY

Thank God that he delights to redeem situations that appear hopeless and commit any such situations in your lives to him today in trust.