

JOSEPH

I am Joseph – Genesis 44 & 45

BIBLE STUDY



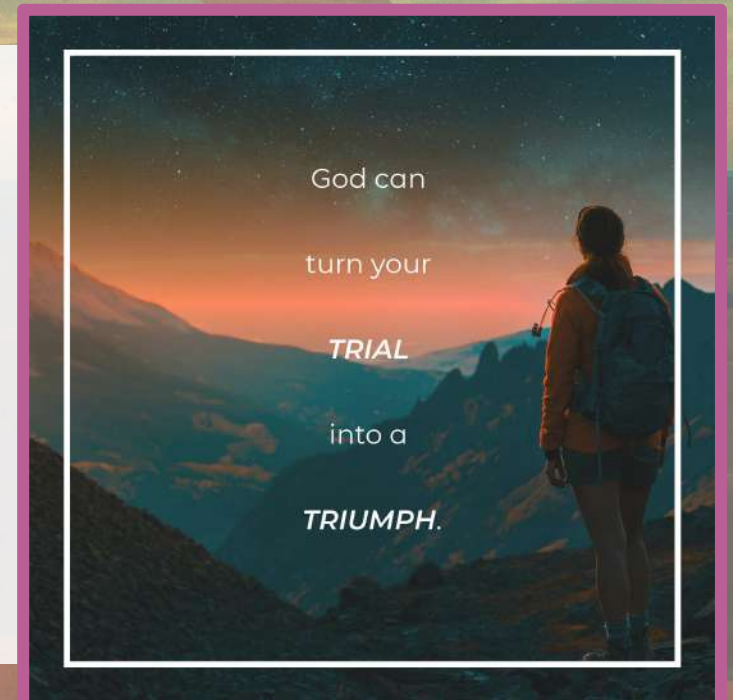
STARTER:

This is a starter and a finisher as we come to the end of our series....so you can decide when you spend time thinking about it in your group today.

What do you think you have come to appreciate most about God through the story of Joseph?

Read: Genesis 44: 1-21

- Do you think Joseph's brothers needed to be tested? Why?
- Can you think of other places in the Bible where God works through testing?
 - Why do we think he uses testing as a means to help our faith to grow?
Look at 1 Peter 1 : 6-7.
 - What are some practices that mean we pass our tests instead of failing them?



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Read: Genesis 44: 22-30

- We already know the details of this story from earlier in the book of Genesis.
 - Why do you think it is included again here?
 - What do you think we (and Joseph) learn about Judah from this story?



Read: Genesis 45: 1-15

- Looking at **verses 5-8**, how does Joseph bring God into the story of what has happened to him?
- Flick back through the chapters we have looked at in the last few weeks (**from chapter 37**). Think not only about the events going on in today's chapter but about the places where God has been mentioned in previous chapters.
 - Why is Joseph able to talk about God in these verses in the way he does, instead of feeling bitter for the years that have been lost?

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Read: Genesis 45: 25-28

Think about Jacob.

- He begins the final episode in the story of Joseph by asking the brothers to go and buy food **(at the start of chapters 42 and 43)**. Now, at the end of **chapter 45**, we see him preparing to be reunited with the son who he thought had been lost.
- Jacob is known as one of the great patriarchs of the Old Testament **(Abraham, Isaac and Jacob)**. When you consider his role in the story of Joseph, and his treatment of various members of his family, does this astonish you? What does it teach us about our never-changing God?



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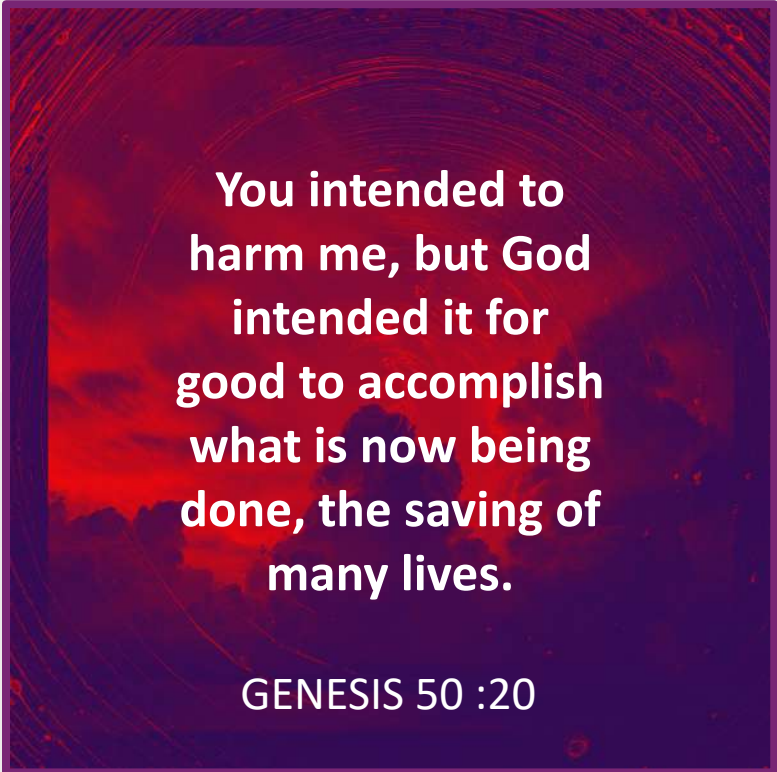
GOING DEEPER

Look forward to **Genesis 50 : 20**. This verse is a reminder of the great redemption plan of our God. Could you explain the gospel plan of redemption in simple language if someone asked you to do so?

Are you able to look back over your life and see places where God has **'redeemed'** that which seemed lost? How does he work redemptively in the lives of us as believers?

Talk about how sharing our testimony can be a blessing to others who are trapped in their past.

Thinking about redemption, how is Joseph a picture of Jesus in this part of the story?



**You intended to
harm me, but God
intended it for
good to accomplish
what is now being
done, the saving of
many lives.**

GENESIS 50 :20

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LISTEN | PRAY

LISTEN

I AM REDEEMED
Big Daddy Weave



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

PRAY

Thank God for his amazing plan of redemption that we see throughout Scripture, pointing us towards Jesus. Thank God for what Jesus has done to give us freedom from our past.