

GENESIS (45:1-28)
Week's Reading: Genesis 42-45
Discussion Guide, October 10, 2021

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. – James 4:7

- In what ways did you submit to God and resist the devil this past week?

OPEN:

- What stood out to you from this past week's reading?
- What stands out to you most about the life of Joseph?

READ and ASK: Genesis 45,

- Why do you think Joseph waited so long to reveal his identity to his brothers?
 - o How would you have felt if you were one of his brothers?
 - o How do you think Joseph was able to embrace his brothers after what they had done to him?
 - o What evidence is there that Joseph has truly forgiven his brothers? (his brothers apparently doubt, see 50:15). Why do you think Joseph's brothers would doubt Joseph's authenticity?
- Why do you think Joseph's parting words were, "don't quarrel on the way!"?
- What impressed you most about Joseph? Why?
- How does this text fit in God's redemptive plan? (see 45:7)
- Based on Joseph's story, how would you define "divine providence"?

APPLY:

- What do you usually do when someone close to you hurts you? How do you think you would have responded if you were in Joseph's position after what his brothers had done to him?

- Joseph saw God in control of every aspect of his life. How much is this your attitude in relation to trials in your life?
 - o How have you seen God's providence at work in your life?

- If you have a severed or strained relationship in your life, what will it take for you to take the initiative and reach out in forgiveness like Joseph did?
 - o NEXT STEP(S): Who do you need to extend forgiveness to this week?
 - o How do you need prayer from the group in relation to anything we have studied in life of Joseph?

Memory Work:

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. - Romans 8:28

Next Week's Reading:

Genesis 46-50