



# GENESIS HISTORY

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# Life Group Questions



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- Head: Let's endeavor to be proactive worshippers and less reactive worshippers.
- In life's greatest crises, God is CALLING, CONSOLING, and COMING alongside us.
- Disobedient God: What do you do with a God, Who goes off script...you follow Him. (Genesis 46)



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- ❖ **Heart:** (1) Are you primarily a reactive worshiper who only praises God when He does something for you, or do you worship God proactively simply because of who He is, and what would it look like to shift toward the latter?
- ❖ (2) Why do you think Jacob felt torn between his heart's desire to see Joseph and his head's understanding of God's command to his father Isaac to stay in the land, and how do we navigate similar conflicts between our desires and our understanding of God's will? (Genesis 46)



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- **Heart:** (3) What does it reveal about God's character that He identifies Himself as the God of the dead as well as the living, saying 'I am the God of your fathers' when Isaac had long been dead and how does this encourage your heart?
- (4) How does the concept that 'sometimes our blessings are just being possessed by somebody else' challenge our understanding of waiting on God's timing and the delays we experience in receiving His promises? (Genesis 46)



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- **Heart:** (5) In what ways does Judah's role in facilitating the reunion between Joseph and Jacob demonstrate God's redemptive pattern of using the very person who created a mess to be the one who fixes it?
- (6) What does Joseph's urgency in hitching his own chariot reveal about the priority of family reconciliation, and how might we need to personally 'hitch our own chariots' rather than waiting for convenient circumstances to pursue restoration? (Genesis 46)



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- ✿ **Heart:** (7) How does God's promise to make Israel into a great nation in Egypt rather than in the Promised Land challenge our assumptions about where and how God will fulfill His purposes in our lives?
- ✿ (8) What does it mean to serve a 'disobedient God who goes off script,' and how do we respond when God clearly leads us in a direction we never anticipated or planned for? (Genesis 46)



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- Hands: Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:
  - Option 1: **Proactive Worship** — Set aside time each day this week to worship God—not because of what He's done, but simply because of who He is. Journal about how this changes your perspective.
  - Option 2: **Trust in Crisis** — Identify one area where God seems to be "going off script" in your life. Write down your expectations versus what God seems to be doing. Pray daily: "God, I will follow You even when I don't understand." (Genesis 46)



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- Hands: Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:
  - Option 3: **Fear Inventory** — Make a list of your current fears. Next to each one, write "Do not be afraid" and a reason why God is trustworthy in that specific situation. Share your list with one trusted friend or accountability partner.

(Genesis 46)



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# Five Day Devotional

# Day 1: Proactive Worship

## Reading: Psalm 34:1-8; Genesis 46:1-4

[R] Devotional: Jacob broke his pattern at Beersheba. For the first time, he worshiped before God appeared to him—not after. His sacrifice wasn't reactive gratitude but proactive faith amid uncertainty. How often do we only praise God when He does something visible for us? True worship acknowledges God's worthiness regardless of our circumstances. When Jacob offered sacrifices before receiving direction, he demonstrated mature faith that trusts God's character more than His provisions. Today, consider: Are you waiting for a blessing to worship, or will you worship simply because God is worthy? Let your praise precede your breakthrough. Worship isn't just **response**—it's **relationship**. Make worship your first response to uncertainty, not your last resort after relief.

# Day 2: God Calls Us By Name

Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7; Genesis 46:2-4

[R] Devotional: "Jacob, Jacob," God called—using his birth name, not his earned title Israel. In moments of crisis, God speaks intimately, personally. He doesn't address our achievements or failures; He calls the core of who we are. Notice God's threefold ministry: He **identifies** Himself ("I am God"), He **inspires** courage ("Do not be afraid"), and He **instructs** with clarity ("I will go with you"). When you face life's crossroads, listen for God's personal call. He knows your name, your fears, your hesitations. His "fear not" appears 127 times in Scripture—the Bible's most frequent command—because He knows our tendency toward anxiety. God doesn't just give **precepts**; He gives His **presence**. Whatever transition you face, hear Him calling your name with compassion.

# Day 3: When God Goes Off Script

Reading: Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 55:8-9

Devotional: Jacob expected God to fulfill His promises in Canaan, not Egypt. God had told Isaac to stay in the land, so Jacob assumed the same script applied to him. But God declared, "I will make you into a great nation there"—in Egypt, not the Promised Land. Sometimes God's plan contradicts our expectations entirely. He doesn't follow our script; we follow His. The tension between **head** and **heart** that Jacob experienced is familiar to us all. Logic says one thing; God says another. What do you do with a disobedient God who refuses your agenda? You follow Him. Trust isn't **solidarity** with God's methods—it's **surrender** to His wisdom. Your detour might be His divine appointment.

# Day 4: Delayed Blessings, Divine Timing

## Reading: Habakkuk 2:1-3; Genesis 15:13-16

[R] Devotional: God told Abraham his descendants would suffer 400 years in slavery before inheriting Canaan. Why? "The iniquity of the Amorites has not reached its full measure." Sometimes your blessing is delayed because someone else currently possesses it—and they haven't forfeited it yet. This isn't about teaching you patience; it's about divine justice and perfect timing. The job, the home, the relationship you're waiting for may be occupied by someone who will eventually lose it through their own choices. God won't unjustly remove them prematurely, but He's preparing you for the moment they forfeit what He's destined for you. Your waiting isn't **havoc**—it's **strategic**. Trust God's timeline even when it seems unreasonably long.

# Day 5: Complete in His Presence

## Reading: Philippians 4:11-13; Genesis 46:28-30

[R] Devotional: "I'm ready to die now because I've seen your face," Jacob declared. After 22 years of grief, one embrace with Joseph made his life complete. Yet he had 17 more years to live. Sometimes our greatest moments aren't endings—they're new beginnings we can't yet see. Jacob thought reunion was the finale; God knew it was intermission before greater blessings. What moment are you treating as your **peak** when God intends it as your **platform**? Joseph wept on his father's neck for a long time—neither rushed the sacred moment. In our hurried culture, we must learn to linger in God's presence, to embrace what He's restoring without immediately moving to the next thing. Contentment isn't **resignation**; it's **recognizing** God's goodness in the now while trusting His plans for tomorrow.

# Closing Prayer Prompt

"Lord, You are **calling** us, **consoling** us, and **coming** alongside us in every crisis. Help us to trust You when You go off script. Help us to worship You proactively, not just reactively. Give us courage to follow You to our 'Egypt'—wherever that may be—knowing that You will be with us and will never forsake us. In Jesus' name, Amen."



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