



Glorious Reunion

Community Group Study Guide: Genesis 46 – Week of July 23, 2023

1. Israel Moves to Egypt (1-7)

Jacob begins the journey to be reunited with his son Joseph. He seems to do so with some trepidation. In order to counsel his concerns, Jacob stops at Beersheba to make a sacrifice to the Lord. To approach God, a blood sacrifice was required. At this significant location in the history of the lineage of Abraham, God responds to the Jacobs appeal. The Lord calls out to Jacob, and he answers. God give Jacob a promise. He tells him not to be afraid, because the Lord will go with Jacob. He will lead Israel into and out of the land of Egypt. We see, in this moment that will alter the direction of his family, that Jacob comes to the Lord for guidance. As Christian, we should likewise consult the Lord in our decision making. We are to present sacrifices and submit ourselves to His will. However, we do not bring animals for sacrifice, but ourselves. We are living sacrifices to God. Out of this process, we have our minds transformed, and then we can discern Gods will.

2. The Family of Israel (8-18)

From the beginning, God crafted humanity around the creation of family. He gives Adam and Eve a mandate to create a family and to grow in dominion over the earth (Genesis 1:28). We see an emphasis placed on the value of family throughout scripture, as it often records lineages. We see in this passage that the Holy Spirit enumerates the family that came from Jacob. We can see that children are a heritage and blessing from the Lord. Scripture tells us that "Blessed is the man who fill his quiver with them!" (Psalm 127:5).

3. Israel and Joseph Reunited (28-34)

After many years of separation, the father is finally reunited with his child. We see that Joseph is restored to his father, and it brings with it tears of joy. In this, we see a shadow of Gods relationship with us. That we were separated from the Father, far off in our sin and rebellion. Through the

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

God rejoices in reunification. He has intervened through out history, so that through the work of Christ relationships might be restored from the brokenness brought by sin.

Heart

We are to seek the Lord in humility, and trust that He will work His good will in our lives. He is using all things to bring about what is best for ourselves, and our futures.

Hands

Trust in the Lord sovereign goodness. We are to present ourselves as living sacrifices to the Lord, holy and acceptable. This worship allows us to test and discern the will of God, and know what is good, acceptable, and perfect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members Meeting
September 10 @ 1pm

work of Jesus, we now have the ability to repent of our sins, and to be reunited with our Father. In the redemption of children that were once dead, our father rejoices.

Read Genesis 46

1. What in your life often rivals God for lordship? What do you believe God would do in you if you begin to wholly sacrifice this area to Him?
2. **Read Romans 12:1-2** What does it mean to be a “living sacrifice?” How is this spiritual worship? How does acting as a living sacrifice allow you to be transformed and to know Gods will?
3. **Read Genesis 1:26-28** Gods instruction for His people were to be fruitful and multiple. How are both married and single Christians called to respond to this mandate? What objections do we encounter, and how might we answer them? How can you, personally, be faithfully and practically obeying this commandment?
4. Pastor Jan asked us “Are you religious about your relationship with God?” What does that mean? How does this apply to you?
5. Genealogies are kept throughout scripture. Why/What is the significance of this? What value can we gain by understanding what has come before us?
6. What is the significance of Judah’s role in this passage? What does it tell us about his history and the apparent work the Lord has done in him?
7. How does this passage compare to the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15)? What are the primary messages that we can learn from both passages?