

Chapter 50

Read and meditate on Genesis Chapter 50 this week
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class

Joseph mourned over the physical death of his beloved father. A long lost, but graciously restored relationship, had come to an end as all earthly relationships must. Grief is a natural part of living. The righteous and unrighteous must all be touched by it, but God promises to be our comfort as we cling to Him.

1. When walking through personal grief, what promises of God helps you through that valley?

2. Can you recall what promise was kept that God made to Jacob in Chapter 46?

“And Joseph commanded his servants, the physicians, to embalm his father,.... Which he did, not merely because it was the custom of the Egyptians, but because it was necessary, his father's corpse being to be carried into Canaan to be interred there, which would require time; and therefore it was proper to make use of some means for the preservation of it, and these men were expert in this business, which was a branch of the medicinal art” From Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible

Because of Joseph's high position, the physicians were at his disposal to prepare Jacob's body in a way that allowed his final wishes to be observed. He would return to Canaan and be entombed at Machpelah, with his family.

Read Verses 2,3

What a beautiful picture of God's Sovereignty! Jacob, a humble shepherd, was honored and mourned in the manner of Egyptian prominence. God has no limits that he must adhere to!
Read Proverbs 21:1

The seventy days mourning consisted of the 40 days for the embalming process and thirty days afterwards- the period of mourning for the Israelites. Read Numbers 20:29

As much care as was taken to preserve Jacob's earthly body, he will be given an imperishable, perfect body.

Read 2Corinthians 5:2

3. What other verses can you find about our receiving a new body, or how Jesus will clothe us when we are with Him for eternity?

Read verses 4-9

Joseph seeks Pharaoh's blessing to take Jacob's body to his burial place. He receives not only his blessing but his protection by sending a multitude of Egypt's best to go along with him.

"The funeral procession of Jacob must have been truly grand. Joseph, his brethren and their descendants, the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders-all the principal men, of the land of Egypt, with chariots and horsemen, must have appeared a very great company indeed... ? Here was no conqueror, no mighty man of valor, no person of proud descent; here was only a plain man, who had dwelt almost all his life long in tents, without any other subjects than his cattle, and whose kingdom was not of this world. Behold this man honored by a national mourning, and by a national funeral!... But because he (Joseph) had saved men alive; because he was the king's faithful servant, the rich man's counsellor, and the poor man's friend. He was a national blessing; and the nation mourns in his affliction and unites to do him honor." From Adam Clark Commentary

God truly had used "all things" in Joseph's life not only to further *his* walk and trust in God but for the blessing and saving of many lives. This is a strong example of Romans 8:28.

4. In your own life, consider why God has you on your particular path, even a difficult one. In what ways does He want you to be blessing to others? In what ways is He working all things for good through your life?

Read verses 10-14

Once they neared the Cave of Machpelah, a seven-day mourning period was observed. This would be in line with an early traditional Hebrew burial. In Egypt, Jacob was mourned in the Egyptian manner. Now, he is honored in the manner of the Hebrews. It's interesting to note that a seven-day period was also observed for weddings. The number 7 in the Bible seems to represent completion or perfection.

5. What significant truths do you find in the Bible regarding the number seven?

Read verses 15-18

It is not thought likely that Jacob did, in fact, tell his sons to approach Joseph as they say he did. It would have been more likely that Jacob himself would've approached Joseph before passing, if in fact this was the case. However, the one thing we do know for sure is they were still afraid of Joseph and his power to retaliate now that their father was gone.

6. Joseph's brothers are fearful...and fear often comes when we are guilty! What do you suppose was their greatest fear? What do you do when you're drowning in fear? What should you do?

7. Our sin, when repented of, is always forgiven. You need not fear God's wrath if you are His child. Find Scripture verses that assures you of this Truth.

Read verses 19-21

"Am I in the place of God?"

What a fabulous example Joseph is to us! He understood that it was God alone that they should concern themselves with. He saw God's hand directing his whole life to bring him to the place he was currently in. He could've been bitter and resentful, but he was not. God meant it all for the good of saving many lives.

8. Mercy instead of judgment is a supernatural virtue. As humans, it is not something we naturally possess. God, through mercy shown to Joseph's brothers, shows us His incredible compassion to all who come to Him. In what ways have you experienced God's mercy?

9. In what ways have you been given the opportunity, like Joseph, to shower mercy on someone who brought harm to you?

Read verses 22-26

Joseph lived to see and be vitally active in the raising of his great grandchildren. After years of hardship...the rejection of his brothers, being sold into slavery, being accused of indiscretions towards his master's wife, and years of being forgotten in prison, he is finally free of the earthly struggle. For Joseph, his prior years of testing lead did lead to latter years of great blessing. He was a faithful steward of God's calling on his life. Read Luke 16:10

Joseph finished his life recalling the promise of God to the nation of Israel, "*God will surely visit you.*" Because he had experienced God's faithfulness over and over in his own life, he knew God would be faithful again.

In verse 25, Joseph makes his wishes known to his family. "*Carry my bones up from here.*"

Read Exodus 13:19 for the fulfillment of that desire.

Who carried his bones out of Egypt and when? _____

Genesis by Chapter

What an awesome beginning of God's love letter to us. Genesis is a remarkable book with so much to study. Have you been with us for the entire study? If not, the teaching videos and homework will remain on the Calvary Rio Rancho website, available for you to go back and dig into the whole book. We encourage you to do so. Or share it with other women.

God is in every Chapter of the Bible. Here is a brief look at finding God in each chapter of Genesis.

Chapter 1- God is the Creator of nature.

Chapter 2- God Created Man in His image.

Chapter 3- God had a redemption plan after Man sinned against Him.

Chapter 4- God warned Cain that sin was tempting him.

Chapter 5- God blessed and grew Adam's family.

Chapter 6- God cannot let sin go unpunished.

Chapter 7- God is a merciful refuge for those that love Him.

Chapter 8- God *remembered* Noah.

Chapter 9- God created the rainbow as a reminder of the Covenant with Noah.

Chapter 10- God grew the nations from Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Chapter 11- God confused the languages of the prideful at Babel.

Chapter 12- God called Abram from a pagan land.

Chapter 13- God promised Abram and his descendants the land.

Chapter 14- God sent Melchizedek to bless Abram.

Chapter 15- God promised Abram a son.

Chapter 16- God sees Hagar.

Chapter 17- God gives Abraham the covenant of circumcision.

Chapter 18- God promises the birth of Isaac.

Chapter 19- God rescues Lot and his daughters from the destruction of Sodom.

Chapter 20- God protects Abimelech from sinning with Sarah.

Chapter 21- God's promise of Isaac fulfilled.

Chapter 22- God provides "himself" a sacrifice to spare Isaac.

Chapter 23- God takes Sarah home.

Chapter 24- God confirms Rebekah as Isaac's bride.

Chapter 25- God ordains that Jacob, not Esau is favored.

Chapter 26- God gives Isaac the promise of his father Abraham.

Chapter 27- God confirms Jacob over Esau.

Chapter 28- God's promise to be with Jacob.

Chapter 29- God chooses Leah to birth Judah.

Chapter 30- God blesses Jacob with family and flocks.

Chapter 31- God sends Jacob back home.
Chapter 32- God wrestles with Jacob.
Chapter 33- God restores Jacob and Esau's relationship.
Chapter 34, 35- God uses the sin of Jacob's sons to move him to Bethel.
Chapter 36- God blesses Abraham's grandson, Esau.
Chapter 37- God gives Joseph dreams.
Chapter 38- God uses Tamar to carry the seed of the Messiah.
Chapter 39- God is with Joseph in Egypt.
Chapter 40- God interprets dreams through Joseph.
Chapter 41- God places Joseph in a position of authority.
Chapter 42- God sends Joseph's brothers to him during the famine.
Chapter 43, 44- God reveals the hearts of Joseph's brothers to him.
Chapter 45- God reunites Joseph with his brothers.
Chapter 46- God moves Jacob and the family to Egypt.
Chapter 47- God separates the Israelites from the Egyptians, in Goshen.
Chapter 48- God gives Joseph a double portion of blessing over his brothers.
Chapter 49- God reveals details of the 12 tribes through Jacob's prophesy.
Chapter 50- God returns Jacob to the Promised land for burial.