

The Story of Joseph: Seeing the Bigger Picture Evil to Good

1. Read Genesis 50:1-14.

- a. How have you personally seen the difference between grieving with hope and grieving without hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13)?
- b. Why is it significant that the Egyptians mourned Jacob for 70 days? Where have you seen quiet faithfulness have lasting ripple effects—either in your life or someone else's?
- c. Like Jacob requesting to be buried in Canaan, what is a past or present example of how God has asked you to honor him in obedience even before you saw his promise fulfilled?

2. Read Genesis 50:15-21.

- a. Where do you see the brothers projecting their own brokenness onto Joseph? How do we tend to project our brokenness onto God?
- b. Why is it so hard for many believers to rest in God's forgiveness? How does carrying forgiven guilt affect your spiritual rhythms, relationships, or worship?
- c. What does Joseph's statement of "Am I in the place of God?" teach us about forgiveness and releasing the right to revenge?
- d. Like Joseph's famous words in Verse 20 ("You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good"), where have you seen God redeem something painful for good in your story?

3. Read Genesis 50:22-26.

- a. Why is the message of "God will surely come to your aid" the one Joseph chooses to leave behind at the end of his life?
- b. Why do you think Hebrews 11:22 highlights Joseph's bones as the example of his faith instead of his dreams, leadership, or integrity?
- c. How does the embroidery analogy illustrate the tension between what we see (the backside) versus what God sees (the front side)?
- d. How does Joseph's story point us toward Jesus, "the greater Joseph"? What similarities do you see between Joseph's redemption story and the gospel?

Next Week: Luke 2:1-20 Reading Plan: Hebrews 12-13 & Galatians 1-3





