

Joseph: What To Do When Life Goes Wrong Week Four - "Thick Skin, Soft Heart" Genesis 44 and 45

- 1. When it comes to spiritual muscle (things like finding the good, maintaining integrity, steadfastness), how would you rank your strength level? What are some things you have done, or would like to do, to work on those muscles?
- 2. How thick is your skin? Are you easily offended or hard to offend?
- 3. How would you describe the difference between thick skin and a hard heart? How are they the same? How are they different?
- 4. In Genesis 44, why do you think Joseph tested his brothers before telling them who he was?
- 5. Read Matthew 10:5-16. What do you think Jesus meant by his instructions to the disciples to be "as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves?"
- 6. Think of a time when you had to balance, or navigate between, wisdom and compassion. What happened? Which is your more natural inclination?
- 7. What are some things you need to do to build a thicker skin, or protect yourself from being easily offended?
- 8. What are some things you need to do to maintain a heart that is eager and ready to love someone else?