

## Everyone Gets a Blessing! Genesis 47-50

Open –

### 1. Jacob Blesses PHARAOH

(47:7-12)

- Reminder of just how powerful and important Pharaoh is
- Yet Jacob blesses *him*
- Ancient Near East customs (may the king live forever, etc)
- Covenant with Abraham – to be a blessing to the nations

*No one is too important to need a blessing from God,  
no one is too unimportant to bear the blessing*

### 2. Jacob Blesses His GRANDSONS

(48:8-20)

- The odd hand switcheroo
- Reinforcing the Genesis theme of older serving the younger (Cain, Ishmael, Esau, Reuben)
- Establishes the theme of the upside-down kingdom (first shall be last...)

*The difference in God's people from other people is the honoring of the least*

### 3. Jacob Blesses His SONS

(49:1-28)

- Reuben's Story
- Simeon and Levi's Story
- Prophecy Over Judah – David's fulfillment – Jesus' fulfillment
- The blessings match the tribal behavior in Joshua, Judges, and following

*The Brothers 12 carry the plan of Jesus and His people*

### 4. As Representatives of the KING, We Have the AUTHORITY to give blessings

- #1 – Not just “being nice”, a pronouncement of God's favor upon them
- #2 – Instructions to the 72 (Luke 10)
- #3 – Bless those who curse us (Luke 6:28)
- #4 – We are a Kingdom of Priests (1 Peter 2:9)

*If you have the power to bless in God's name, who would you bless first?*

Questions for reflection, study, and small groups:

- 1) When was the last time someone blessed you? What was the message?
- 2) What does it mean to have the authority to bless on God's behalf?
- 3) Take a moment to pronounce a blessing on someone else (or each one bless one in your group).
- 4) How is this different than the ways blessings have become common ("Bless this food", "Bless their heart", "Bless you" for a sneeze, etc.)?
- 5) Are there moments or stories from this series that you found particularly helpful or compelling? Which one(s)?
- 6) What are your main take aways from the Jacob & Joseph story in Genesis?
- 7) Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you be a blessing and bear blessings to others.