

GENESIS 43

“OUR PERSISTENT + LOVING GOD”

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



LET'S TALK!

#1 NECESSITY + DESPERATION ARE GOD'S GIFTS

- Read Genesis 43:1-2. Why had the brothers not gone back to Egypt yet and what was now causing them to go?
- How are necessity and desperation gifts from God?
- Talk about this quote: "As long as we feel we are in control we think we can keep God and His standards at a distance. When we lose control, we are more inclined to acknowledge that it is God's world in spite of everything and that we must ultimately come to terms with Him."

#2 HONESTY + RESPONSIBILITY ARE GOD'S DESIRE

- Read Genesis 43:3-10. The brothers told Joseph about another son. Why does this cause Jacob frustration (v. 6)? Why were the boys so truthful with Joseph?
- How do we see the brothers beginning to step up and take responsibility (e.g. Genesis 42:22, 37; 43:8-10)?
- Why are honesty and responsibility essential in life?

#3 FAITH + SURRENDER ARE REQUIRED FOR GOD'S WILL

- Read Genesis 43:11-14. How do we see Jacob both struggle to trust God and begin to trust God in these verses?
- What does Jacob's prayer in v. 14 reveal?
- At the end of the day, we must seek for God's will to be done. Why is God's will always best and how do we pursue it?

#4 COMPASSION + MERCY ARE EVIDENCE OF GOD'S GRACE

- Read Genesis 43:15-34. How does Joseph show his brothers compassion and mercy?
- When judgment is deserved and mercy is shown, what does that reveal about the person showing it, and what does it often do for those receiving it?
- How did God ultimately show compassion and mercy (e.g. Ephesians 2:4-9)?