



**“Deliver me
from my enemies,
O my God; protect me
from those who
rise up against me.”**

Psalm 59:1

PRAY



Compassion Makes A Difference

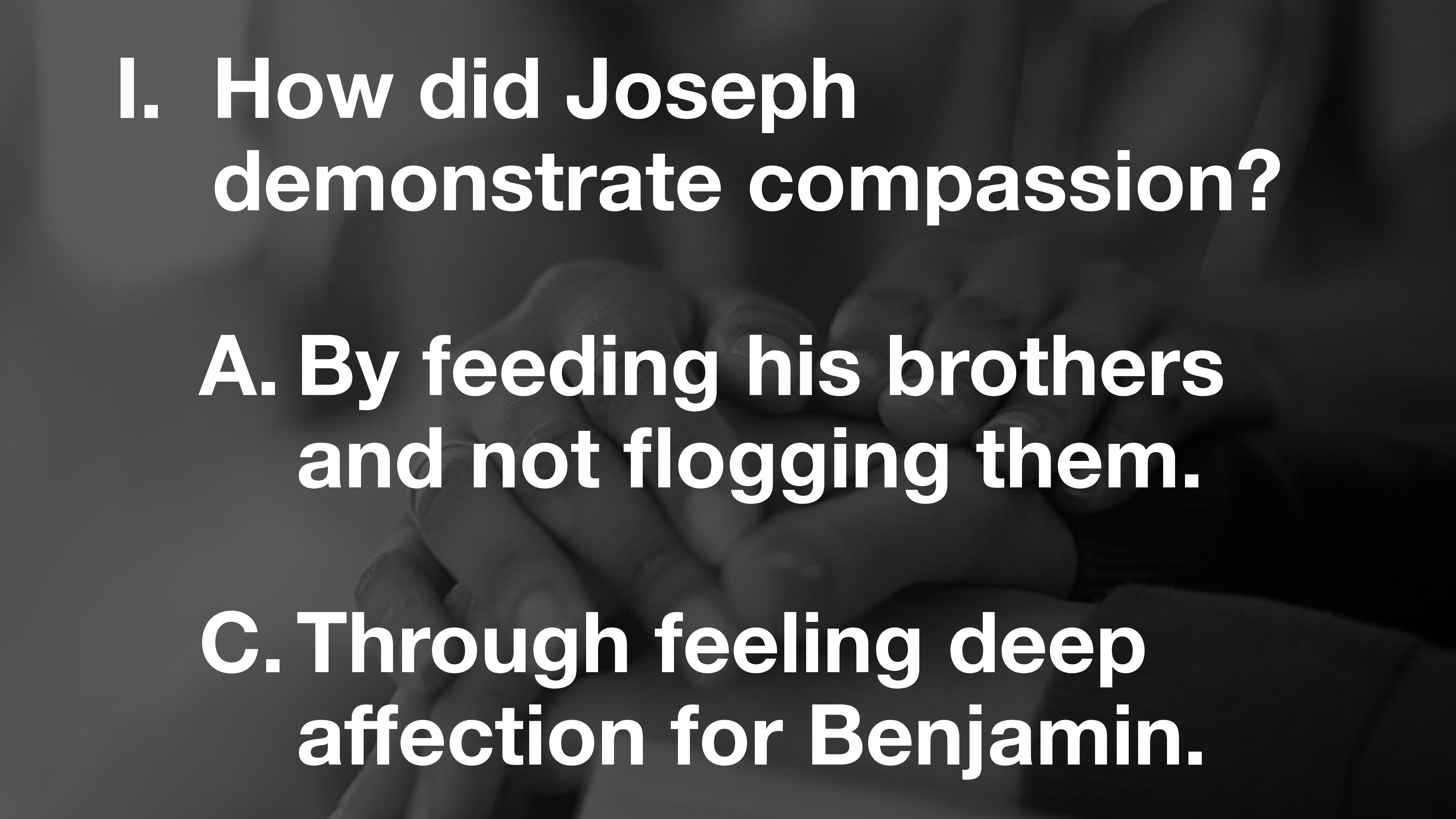
Genesis 43-44



Genesis 43:1 Now the famine was severe in the land.
2 And when they had eaten the grain that they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, “Go again, buy us a little food.” 3 But Judah said to him, “The man solemnly warned us, saying, ‘You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.’ 4 If you will send our brother with us, we will go down and buy you food. 5 But if you will not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, ‘You shall not see my face, unless your brother is with you.’” 6 Israel said, “Why did you treat me so badly as to tell the man that you had another brother?” (ESV)

Genesis 43:7 They replied, “The man questioned us carefully about ourselves and our kindred, saying, ‘Is your father still alive? Do you have another brother?’ What we told him was in answer to these questions. Could we in any way know that he would say, ‘Bring your brother down?’” 8 And Judah said to Israel his father, “Send the boy with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live and not die, both we and you and also our little ones. 9 I will be a pledge of his safety. From my hand you shall require him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever. 10 If we had not delayed, we would now have returned twice.” (ESV)

Genesis 43:26 When Joseph came home, they brought into the house to him the present that they had with them and bowed down to him to the ground. 27 And he inquired about their welfare and said, “Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?” 28 They said, “Your servant our father is well; he is still alive.” And they bowed their heads and prostrated themselves. 29 And he lifted up his eyes and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother’s son, and said, “Is this your youngest brother, of whom you spoke to me? God be gracious to you, my son!” 30 Then Joseph hurried out, for his compassion grew warm for his brother, and he sought a place to weep. And he entered his chamber and wept there. (ESV)



I. How did Joseph demonstrate compassion?

- A. By feeding his brothers and not flogging them.
- C. Through feeling deep affection for Benjamin.

Genesis 44:18 Then Judah went up to him and said, “Oh, my lord, please let your servant speak a word in my lord’s ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant, for you are like Pharaoh himself. 19 My lord asked his servants, saying, ‘Have you a father, or a brother?’ 20 And we said to my lord, ‘We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother’s children, and his father loves him.’ 21 Then you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.’ 22 We said to my lord, ‘The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.’ 23 Then you said to your servants, ‘Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall not see my face again.’ (ESV)

Genesis 44:30 “Now therefore, as soon as I come to your servant my father, and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy’s life, 31 as soon as he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die, and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. 32 For your servant became a pledge of safety for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father all my life.’ 33 Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the boy as a servant to my lord, and let the boy go back with his brothers. 34 For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the evil that would find my father.” (ESV)

II. How did Judah demonstrate compassion?

- A. By assuring Jacob of Benjamin's safety. ch.43

- C. By advocating for Benjamin as his substitute. ch.44

III. How does Jesus demonstrate compassion?

Matthew 20:29 As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed Jesus. 30 When two blind men who were sitting by the roadside heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, “Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!”

31 When the crowd told them harshly to be silent, they shouted even louder, “Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!” 32 Jesus stopped and called them, saying, “What do you want me to do for you?” 33 They told him, “Lord, we want to be able to see!” 34 Then Jesus, deeply moved with compassion, touched their eyes, and at once they could see again. So they followed him. (ISV)

III. How does Jesus demonstrate compassion?

Mark 1:40 A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said.

41 Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” 42 Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed. (NLT)

III. How does Jesus demonstrate compassion?

Matthew 9: 35 Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. 38 So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.” (ESV)

Jesus' compassion always leads to action.

IV. How can we demonstrate compassion?

JUDE 1:22

KJV - And of some have compassion, making a difference:

ESV - And have mercy on those who doubt;

CEV - Be helpful to all who may have doubts.

YLT - and to some be kind, judging thoroughly,

WEB - On some have compassion, making a distinction,

IV. How can we demonstrate compassion?

- A. Think through how we forgive: self-sacrificially.
- B. Compassion makes a difference because it is rooted in forgiveness. Psalm 65:3 "***Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.***" (KJV)
- C. Forgiveness is not a one and done.
- D. Showing compassion is needed even towards the irresponsible, the weakened, those we perceive as dead wrong, in a word - THE LOST. John 3:16 "***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.***" (KJV)



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