

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

Scripture

Genesis 42:1-6; 45:4-8; 50:15-21

Session Summary

The famine affected everyone, including Jacob and his family. But he heard there was grain in Egypt, so he sent his sons to buy grain. Little did they know, Joseph was the one in charge of both storing up and distributing the grain. Through a series of events, Joseph revealed himself to his brothers and they returned to Canaan for their father. Pharaoh gifted Israel (Jacob) and his sons with the best land. Israel remained there with his family until he died. When their father died, Joseph's brothers thought Joseph would punish them. So, they offered themselves as slaves, but Joseph pointed out once again that what his brothers had intended for evil, God intended for good.

Conversation Questions

- When has our family found it difficult to forgive someone who has offended us?
- What steps can we take to respond more like Joseph, with grace and forgiveness?
- When has God used a situation for good in our family's life that others intended for evil?
- How can we, like Joseph, recognize God's goodness in the midst of our struggles and pain?

Family Challenge

Spend time in prayer, specifically praying for people who have wounded your family. Ask God to help you respond wisely and to see His hand in every situation. Pray that He will give you the strength to forgive and keep loving despite any past offense.

If one of your family members (or family) needs to apologize for wounding someone, pray with them over how they might pursue reconciliation in that relationship. Pray for wisdom and grace for all involved.