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MESSAGE APPLICATION Guide

Joseph - BIG Faith in a BIG God Week 3 Genesis 42 & 45

ICE-BREAKER:

- Why do families have family reunions?

READ:

“Don’t be upset, and don’t be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives. This famine that has ravaged the land for two years will last five more years, and there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. God has sent me ahead of you to keep you and your families alive and to preserve many survivors.”
- **Genesis 45:5-7 (NLT2)**

DISCUSS: (Choose the questions that relate best to your Small Group)

When you are confronted with the pain you have caused others, how do you feel? Are you embarrassed, inclined to pretend it didn’t happen, willing to seek forgiveness, or afraid of being punished?

Why did Joseph wait so long to reveal his identity to his brothers? If you have been one of Joseph’s brothers, how do you think you would have felt after he revealed his identity?

How do you feel about Joseph’s perspective that God, rather than his brothers, actually put him through the things he experienced?

Does Joseph’s story change anything about how you feel regarding your own suffering?

Would sharing Joseph’s attitude change your attitude and/or relationship with God?

APPLY:

What set of adverse circumstances will you ask God to use to shape your character?

How can you extend forgiveness to someone who has wronged you?

What qualities do you see in Joseph’s life that you wish to possess in greater measure?

What has been the most meaningful part of this series for you?

What are you going to do with what you know now?