

TAKEAWAY



Joseph and the Triumph of Grace: Part 8

Genesis 50:15-26

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- To see that God can - and has - use what was intended for evil to bring about good.
- To consider the bigger story which makes sense of our lives, and be encouraged to joyfully live in God's ways.

INTRODUCTION

Joseph's life is one of huge ups and downs; fallouts, faith and forgiveness. In this week's passage, we see his later years, following the passing of his father Jacob. Joseph is able to reflect on his life – which includes many things he would not have chosen – and see the hand of God.

SHARE

If you could be remembered for three things, what would you like them to be?

READ

Genesis 50:15-26

EXPLAIN

After Jacob passes away, Joseph's brothers fear he will seek revenge on them for what they did to him many years earlier (selling him into slavery). But Joseph has an incredible perspective – he sees what happened as something that God used to save millions (which happened through Joseph's leadership of Egypt as Prime Minister). Joseph lives to a good old age, seemingly in peace in Egypt, and requests that upon death his bones are taken 'home' to the land that would later be called Israel.

DISCUSS

Looking at Joseph's final days....

Why do you think he was able to have such a gracious perspective towards his brothers? What helped him to see things in this way?

Can you think of any things that have happened to you in the past that were bad but that with hindsight you can see good has come from?

What would help you to have a grace-based perspective on the bad things that befall you?

Why do you think Joseph was so concerned that his bones would be looked after? What does that tell us about how he saw himself?

Looking at Joseph's story as a whole...

Think back over the story of Joseph, which we have covered in the last 8 weeks. What are the highlights?

There are many parallels between Joseph and Jesus - how many can you think of? Why do you think God gave us the story in this way?

How does the story of Joseph give you hope or encouragement?

What one or two things do you want to take from the story that have resonance or application in your own life?

PRAY

What has emerged from your discussion that would be worth praying into?