
ROOTS
A Study in Genesis



LESSON 22 GENESIS 41-45

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study will help you trust in God's presence and timing through difficult situations?

2. As you read or skim **Genesis 41-45**, pray and ask God to reveal ways to develop your faith and the character of forgiveness.

3. Read **Genesis 41:1-13**. How much time had gone by before the Cupbearer remembered Joseph, and under what circumstances did he remember?

4. Pharaoh was considered a god in Egypt; when he needed help to interpret his dreams, he called for Joseph, a prisoner and slave. From **V14-16**, what were Joseph's first words to Pharaoh, and what do they reveal of Joseph's character?

5. a) After hearing the interpretation of his dreams and Joseph's recommendations(**V25-36**), Pharaoh immediately recognized Joseph's God-given divine discernment and wisdom (**V37-39**).
 - a) Where and how did Joseph cultivate these qualities?

 - b) What qualities have been developed in your life as a result of a season of adversity? Explain.

6. Read **V40-45**. Joseph had persevered from the pit to the prison, and now found himself in the palace. List all of the perks he received in his new position.

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7. If you had been promoted like Joseph, what steps would you take to guard against the temptations that come with a such an elevated position or title? (Use scripture that comes to mind if possible.)

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8. Read how Joseph managed the plentiful and famine years in **V46-57**. What is revealing about the names Joseph chose for his sons? What tangible reminders have you surrounded yourself with to remind you of God's faithfulness in your life?
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9. From **Genesis 42:1-9**, give details from the first encounter between Joseph and his brothers.
10. a) Read **V10-21**. How did the brothers describe themselves? What do you think Joseph was trying to accomplish in this exchange with them?
- b) Re-read **V21**. What were the brothers struggling with, and how do you think the unresolved guilt of their actions 25 years earlier might have affected them? (See **Psalms 32:3-4** for some of the consequences of un-confessed sin.)
- c) Read **Psalms 32:3-4**. What are some of the consequences of un-confessed sin?
11. After the brothers returned a second time to Egypt (**Chapter 43**), they presented themselves to Joseph, and he extended an invitation that took them by surprise (**Genesis 43:16, 24**). What is so amazing about that action or any other details of these events?
12. a) The story continues in **Chapters 44 and 45** culminating with Joseph revealing who he is to his brothers. Read **Genesis 45:1-14** and imagine being present at this event. What strike you most about Joseph's interactions with his brothers and everyone's emotions?

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- b) Re-read **V5-8**. What do Joseph's words reveal about his understanding of God's plan in his life in spite of the painful experiences he had endured, and how does this inspire you?

13. Joseph responded with grace, compassion, and a heart full of forgiveness. What qualities would you like to have God grow and deeply **ROOT** in you while enduring hardship and why?

“GOSPEL GLIMPSES”: Throughout the Book of Genesis, we will see previews of Jesus, and a foreshadowing of the Gospel (the Salvation Story).

1. A great synopsis of Joseph's story thus far is found in **Psalm 105:16-22**. Pick out any words or phrases that link Joseph's life to Jesus from this psalm.

2. What do **John 3:17** and **1 John 4:10** tell us about Jesus' purpose for being sent to earth, and what is striking about the similarities of Joseph's words to his brothers in **Genesis 45:5,7**?

3. Compare Jacob's reaction upon hearing that Joseph was alive (**Genesis 45:25-26**) to that of the disciples' in **Mark 16:11**?

4. Remembering Judah 's lineage is the one through whom Jesus would come, re-read **Genesis 44:16-34**. What parallels to the gospel do you find? How has Judah changed given some of his unrighteous actions in **Chapters 37** and **38**?

5. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **John 3:17**

b) Pray with thanksgiving for God's presence during the dark seasons of your life, and ask Him to show you the greater purpose.

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PRAYER REQUEST