ROOTS A Study in Genesis

LESSON 25 GENESIS 49:29-50:26

- 1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of Genesis 48-49:28 has been helpful to you?
- 2. As you read **Genesis 49:29-50:26**, pray and ask God to help you live in full confidence of His promises and plans for you.
- 3. In **Genesis 49:29-32**, Jacob gave his sons specific instructions regarding his burial. What were they, and why do you think he was so specific about them?
- 4. From V33, what do you think it means to be "gathered to his people" (see also Genesis 25:8, 17, 35:29)?
- 5. What does God say about the death of His children in **Psalm 116:15**? How does this give you a different perspective on the death of a loved one who is a follower of Jesus?

- Jacob enjoyed the first 17 years of Joseph's life and enjoyed his last 17 years of life with Joseph. Read Genesis 46:4, and list what promises were fulfilled at Jacob's death? (See also 47:28-31, 50:1.)
- 7. Just as God made promises to Jacob that were fulfilled, what is promised to us in **Psalm 37:4-6**? What is our part and what hope do these verses bring?

- 8. In **Genesis 50:1-11** we see the impact of Jacob's death and the plans for his burial. What strikes you as interesting or significant in the events surrounding Jacob's funeral service?
- 9. a) Once Jacob's funeral was over and Joseph and his brothers returned to Egypt, a terrible thought gripped the brothers' minds. Of what were they afraid (**V15**)?
 - b) What was their course of action (V16-18), and what might this reveal about their heart condition?
- 10. a) Read **V19-21.** What warms your heart about Joseph's response to his brothers especially as you compare his words in **V20** to **Romans 8:28**.
 - b) What are the two conditions that must be met in order for the promise in **Romans 8:28** to be fulfilled in your life? Is this convicting or comforting to you? Explain.
- 11. a) In your own words, how did God turn evil around for good in Joseph's life? How is this similar to what God did through Christ's death?
 - b) Have you experienced something like this in your life or witnessed it? Explain.

12. How are we to respond to opportunities to "get even" according to Romans 12:17-21?

- 13. We have reached the end of the book of **Genesis** and the end of Joseph's life in **50:22-26.** Describe the content and tone of his last words and request to his family. What phrase is repeated twice, and what gave Joseph the certainty of that promise?
- 14. Although faced with adverse circumstances, Joseph obeyed God and trusted in His plan and promises. Can you point to a time in this past year that you have established deeper **ROOTS** as you trusted in God's plan and promises, even through challenging times? Describe.

"GOSPEL GLIMPSES": Throughout the Book of Genesis, we have seen many previews of Jesus and the gift of Salvation He brings to us, and Joseph's story has provided some of the most compelling parallels to the gospel.

- 1. a) Read **John 14:1-3**. In your own words, what did Jesus say to His disciples just before His death, and what are some similarities to Joseph's final words.
 - b) What assurance do you have from these words of Jesus?
- In Genesis 47:25, God used Joseph's life to save many people to exemplify radical forgiveness (50:19-21). Share your favorite verse about Jesus in how He radically forgives us and graciously saves us.
- 3. As believers, what encouragement can we take regarding our eventual death, or that of fellow believers according to **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**? How are you living in this hope and encouragement?
- 4. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: Genesis 50:20 or 50:24c
 - b) Pray and ask God to **ROOT** you more deeply in the hope of Jesus. Including anything from our study in Genesis that has been the most convicting and encouraging for you.

<u>NAME</u>

PRAYER REQUEST