

{ Dinnertime Devotionals }



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Weekly Theme: Joseph: Part 11

Verse #1: Genesis 42:26-28

(I use the ESV Bible for these devotionals. Questions are based on that text.)

All Ages Discussion Starter: I consider this a hidden gem in the account of the life of Joseph and his brothers. What do you think they meant when they said, “What is this that God has done to us?” Put this in the context of their thoughts about the events from earlier in Gen. 42.

Verse #2: Genesis 42:29-34

All Age Discussion Starter: How did the brothers do? Did they give a fairly accurate account of the events in Egypt to Jacob? What details did they leave out?

How do you think the brothers were filling at this point? They would have had days (probably weeks) of travel time to think about what they were going to tell Jacob and what they would do. What do you think Jacob’s reaction will be? (We will find out for sure tomorrow.)

Verse #3: Genesis 42: 35-38

All Age Discussion Starter: I find it interesting that the other brothers had not check their bags for money after one discovered his had been put back. Why do you think this struck them with fear?

Jacob was not sending Benjamin, the youngest, back to Egypt with his brothers. When Jacob said, “...he is the only one left.” (Hint: think of who Benjamin’s mother was.) How do you think this impacted the other brothers?

Verse #4: Genesis 43:1-5

All Age Discussion Starter: How long had God foretold Joseph through the interpretation of Pharaoh’s dream that the famine would last?

There was no holding out. If the family wanted to survive they were going to have to risk sending Benjamin to Egypt. How much time do you think has passed that they have left Simeon in Egypt?

The family is in a pickle.

Verse #5: Genesis 43:6-10

All Age Discussion Starter: Jacob asked his boys why they divulged so much information about their family to this stranger in Egypt. Why was Joseph asking all these questions about the family and their well being?

Now which brother is stepping up and pledging safety for Benjamin? According to the text, about how much time has passed since their first trip to Egypt?