



Series: Genesis

Passage: Genesis 42:25- 43:14

Title: Joseph, God Builds a Man, Part 7

Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 7/2/2023

Discussion Starter – What are some of the things you have learned from the life of Joseph that inspire you to ask God to show you and help you reconcile some of your broken relationships?

Read Genesis 42:25-38

- 1) Joseph had previously spoken roughly and accused his brothers of being spies. Now he is showing a tremendous amount of grace. What do you think prompted this behavior and how is it connected to the gospel of Jesus Christ?
- 2) As followers of Jesus, how are we to go about the process of reconciliation? Read Romans 5:8-10 and Matthew 6:11-15. Discuss the insights these verses give us on how to go about the reconciliation process?
- 3) How was Joseph's plan, a patient plan of reconciliation? Why is it important to have a patient plan when we seek to restore relationships? Read James 1:19-20 and Romans 8:28. What additional insights and wisdom do these verses impart to us as we go about the process of restoring relationships?
- 4) What do you think Joseph's had in mind in as part of his plan of reconciliation, by restoring his brother's money back to them without telling them he did it?
- 5) What is going on in the mind and heart of the brother that finds Joseph has restored their money that cause him to say and react this way and actually blame God?
- 6) What do we learn about Jacob's leadership by his reaction to Joseph's plan? What two types of leadership are on display here and how are they different?
 - a) What are some of the things God has blessed you with that you were not expecting Him to provide?
 - b) Read Matthew 5:3-10. How are these character traits crucial to leading others in to restoring relationships?

Read Genesis 43:1-14

- 7) How long do you think it was before the brothers decided to return to Egypt? What prompted their return?
- 8) Describe in your own words the relationship between Jacob and his son's, and the differences in their plan to return to Egypt to buy more grain? Which one of his son's is now emerging as a leader and why?
- 9) What don't Jacob and his son's talk about? How might this be effecting their relationship?
 - a. What is God using in the lives of Israel and his son's that at this point do not seem to be for their good? Reflect on you own life and look at some similar circumstances you have faced or are currently facing that do not seem to be good at the time.