

REDEEMED

LIFE NOTES

Genesis 45:4-11; 50:16-21
February 18, 2018

QUESTIONS

1. The story of Joseph is about a fifth of the book of Genesis, which is significant. He, like many of us, does not come from a perfect family. Take the time to read and discuss the following passages about his background. What are these dysfunctions and can you relate to any of them? Genesis 25:27-34; 29:14-25; 31:4-7; 33-35; 37:3-4, 8, 10, 11, 31-32.

2. Joseph is not defined by his circumstances but refined by them. Please read the following passages and describe where he is at in each stage of his journey. In his youth (Gen. 37:2 and 5-11; 19-20); as a slave (36; 39:1-6a; 6b-20); in prison (39:20-40:8, 23); as an Egyptian official (41:33-40). Our past experiences should not determine our future; what can you apply from Joseph's life?

3. God has used some painful experiences in Joseph's life to complete his purposes. Joseph, in the natural, could have been angry and bitter. How does he respond to meeting his brothers for the first time beyond his official demeanor (cf. 42:24 and 43:30)? How is he able to forgive them (45:5-8; 50:19-21)? How can this help you in your difficult circumstances?

4. Not only did God save the children of Israel from their immediate circumstances (famine), according to 50:24 there was a bigger picture. What was God's bigger purpose? How can God's faithfulness in your circumstances be related to His overall mission?

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