



South Sub Church

July 19, 2026

“When God Changes Hearts”

Genesis 43-44 [43:1-5 (NLT) listed]

But the famine continued to ravage the land of Canaan.² When the grain they had brought from Egypt was almost gone, Jacob said to his sons, “Go back and buy us a little more food.”³ But Judah said, “The man was serious when he warned us, ‘You won’t see my face again unless your brother is with you.’⁴ If you send Benjamin with us, we will go down and buy more food.⁵ But if you don’t let Benjamin go, we won’t go either. Remember, the man said, ‘You won’t see my face again unless your brother is with you.’”

Sermon Summary:

Life doesn’t always make sense in the moment. Betrayal, disappointment, temptation, loss, and waiting can leave us wondering where God is in the middle of it all. Yet the story of Joseph reminds us that even when all seems lost, God is still working behind the scenes - preparing us for purpose and revealing His greater plan. Join us as we walk through one of the most powerful stories in Scripture and discover how God can use every season of life to shape something bigger than we can see.

Fun, non-threatening Ice Breaker questions:

1. Have you ever had to rebuild trust with someone?
2. What’s a moment when someone showed you unexpected kindness?
3. Have you ever been tested in a difficult situation?
4. What’s one experience that revealed growth or change in your life?
5. How do you usually respond when you feel pressure or fear?

Objective Bible study questions (observation):

1. Why did Jacob finally agree to send Benjamin to Egypt?
2. Which brother guaranteed Benjamin’s safety before Jacob?
3. What gifts did the brothers bring to Joseph in Egypt?
4. How did Joseph react when he saw Benjamin?
5. Why were the brothers afraid when brought to Joseph’s house?
6. What surprising arrangement happened during the meal with Joseph?
7. Which brother received a larger portion of food at the feast?



8. What special item did Joseph place in Benjamin's sack?
9. What accusation was made against the brothers after they left Egypt?
10. Which brother offered himself as a substitute for Benjamin?

Interpretive Questions (meaning):

1. Why do you think Joseph continued testing his brothers?
2. What evidence shows the brothers had changed since selling Joseph?
3. Why is Judah's willingness to sacrifice himself so significant?
4. How do fear and guilt shape the brothers' actions throughout these chapters?
5. What do these chapters teach about repentance, transformation, and reconciliation?

Application questions (life response):

1. How can you demonstrate growth and repentance after making mistakes?
2. Are there relationships in your life where trust needs to be rebuilt?
3. What does sacrificial love look like in your everyday relationships?
4. How can God use difficult tests to shape your character?
5. In what area is God calling you to choose humility and responsibility?