



South Sub Church

July 26, 2026

“When Grace Breaks Through”

Genesis 45 [45:1-5 (NLT) listed]

Joseph could stand it no longer. There were many people in the room, and he said to his attendants, “Out, all of you!” So he was alone with his brothers when he told them who he was.² Then he broke down and wept. He wept so loudly the Egyptians could hear him, and word of it quickly carried to Pharaoh’s palace. “I am Joseph!” he said to his brothers. “Is my father still alive?” But his brothers were speechless! They were stunned to realize that Joseph was standing there in front of them. “Please, come closer,” he said to them. So they came closer. And he said again, “I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into slavery in Egypt.”⁵ But don’t be upset, and don’t be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives.

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. What’s one powerful reunion or reconciliation you’ve experienced?
2. Have you ever received forgiveness you didn’t expect?
3. What’s something difficult God later used for good in your life?
4. What qualities make reconciliation possible in relationships?
5. Who is someone you’re grateful God placed in your life during a hard season?

Objective Bible study questions (observation):

1. Why did Joseph send everyone out of the room?
2. How did Joseph reveal his identity to his brothers?
3. How did the brothers respond when Joseph revealed himself?
4. What explanation did Joseph give for being sent to Egypt?



5. How many years of famine remained?
6. Where did Joseph invite his family to live?
7. What did Pharaoh provide for Joseph's family?
8. What gifts did Joseph give his brothers?
9. What instruction did Joseph give his brothers before returning home?
10. How did Jacob respond when he heard Joseph was alive?

Interpretive Questions (meaning):

1. What does Joseph's forgiveness reveal about his understanding of God?
2. How does Joseph balance human responsibility and God's sovereignty?
3. Why might the brothers have struggled to accept Joseph's forgiveness?
4. What makes reconciliation difficult but valuable?
5. How does this chapter point to God's ability to redeem suffering?

Application questions (life response):

1. Is there someone you need to forgive or seek reconciliation with?
2. How can trusting God's sovereignty help you release bitterness?
3. What painful experience has God used to shape your faith?
4. How can you become a peacemaker within your family or relationships?
5. What does Joseph's example teach you about grace and forgiveness?