

Community Group Questions

Genesis 44:1-45:15

Read this week's passage (Genesis 44:1-45:15). How did this week's passage and message challenge or encourage you?

1. God's People Are Often Slow to Make Progress

- Why do you think it's so hard for people to take responsibility for their sin instead of shifting blame or making excuses?
 - Judah says, "God has found out the guilt of your servants." What do you think changed in Judah's heart from Genesis 37 to this point?
 - How can confession—truly owning our sin—be a form of progress rather than defeat?
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2. In Spite of Poor Beginnings and Stumbles Along the Way, Real Progress Can Be Made

- Compare Judah's attitude in Genesis 37 (selling Joseph) with his actions in Genesis 44 (offering himself for Benjamin). What does this reveal about God's work in people over time?
 - What does Judah's offer to take Benjamin's place teach us about true love and sacrifice?
 - How does Judah's willingness to substitute himself for another foreshadow Jesus' work on the cross?
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3. In Spite of Progress Made, We Still Need Mercy and Grace

- Joseph forgives his brothers, but he doesn't ignore what they did. What does this teach us about *true forgiveness*?
 - How does Joseph's statement, "You sold me here, but God sent me here," help us understand how God's providence and human responsibility can coexist?
 - Have you ever seen God bring good out of something that was clearly meant for harm? What did that teach you about His sovereignty?
 - Joseph not only forgives—he *blesses* his brothers with food, land, and favor. How does this picture God's grace toward us?
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Application

- What part of this story most encourages you about God's patience and purpose in your life?
- How can this passage shape the way you respond to people who have wronged you—or to those you've wronged?
- Take a moment to thank God for His providence in your life—how He's worked through both your progress and your failures.