Community Group Questions (Genesis 47:27-48:22)

- 1. Read Genesis 47:28-48:22. What did you find most helpful or encouraging from this week's passage and message?
- 2. Our passage begins by saying, "the time drew near that Israel must die."
 - O How does Scripture's bluntness about death challenge the way our culture speaks about it?
 - Why do you think we avoid thinking about our own mortality?
 - o What spiritual benefits come from regularly reflecting on death?
 - o Read Hebrews 9:27 and Psalm 90:12. What would change in our lives if we lived more consciously aware that we have an appointment with death and that our days are numbered?
- 3. Jacob insists on being buried in Canaan—the land of promise.
 - What does this tell us about his faith and hope?
 - What would a similar expression of faith look like in our context?
- 4. Jacob ends his life in a posture of worship
 - o Why do you think maintaining faith into old age can be difficult?
 - o What pressures, disappointments, or temptations in later years can pull someone from the Lord?
 - o How do we cultivate a long-term faithfulness in our lives?
- 5. Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh and recounts his own testimony.
 - Why is sharing our personal stories of God's grace powerful for the next generation?
 - o Read Psalm 78:5–7. What practical habits help families, churches, or communities consistently pass on the faith?
- 6. Pastor Lee mentioned "gospel drift"—from believing \rightarrow assuming \rightarrow denying.
 - Where do you see this pattern happening today?
 - How do we guard against assuming the gospel in our homes and churches?
- 7. Ephraim (the younger son) is given a greater blessing than Manasseh (the older son), and Joseph is given a blessing not given to his brothers
 - Why do you think God continually reverses expectations in Scripture?

• How do you typically react when God's plan for someone else seems "better," "easier," or more fruitful than His plan for you?

8. Read John 21:18–22.

• What does Jesus' response to Peter ("What is that to you? You follow me!") teach us about comparison and calling?