

“Meant for Good” Small Group Guide (Week 4)

Week 4: The Face of Forgiveness


Main Scripture Passage:

 Genesis 42-45

Key Verse:

 Genesis 45:7-8

Main Idea:

 Forgiveness is the key to healing.

Key Points from the Sermon:

1. Joseph is confronted with past hurt in facing his brothers (42:1-28)
2. Joseph does not seem ready to forgive at first. He tests his brothers' intentions and attitudes (43-44)
3. Forgiveness is not forgetting, but foregoing.
4. Forgiveness transforms our hearts and can transform the hearts of others.
5. Forgiveness is the key to the restoration of God's people and God's creation.

Reflection Question: What stood out to you the most from this week's sermon?

Discussion Questions:

1. Begin by asking the group, “How is it with your soul this week?”
 2. Why do you think Joseph tested his brothers before revealing his identity?
 3. What makes forgiveness difficult? Have you ever struggled to forgive someone?
 4. What are the costs of forgiving? Of not forgiving?
 5. How does recognizing God's forgiveness of us help us to forgive others?
 6. How does Joseph's story point us to Jesus and his forgiveness?
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Prayer Focus:

- Pray for strength to forgive those who have hurt us.
 - Ask God to reveal any areas where we need to seek or extend forgiveness.
 - Pray for healing and restoration in broken relationships.
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Action Steps for This Week:

- Ask God to reveal any unforgiveness in your heart and take a step toward reconciliation if possible.
- Write a letter (even if you don't send it) to someone you need to forgive, expressing your decision to release the hurt.
- Pray for someone who has wronged you, asking God to bless them and work in their life.