

Let's Worship God

27th March - 1st April 2023
Genesis



Genesis

YOUR
JOURNEY
STARTS HERE

YOUR JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Monday - Genesis 43:15-25 - Return to Egypt

Joseph's brothers' first trip to Egypt proves disastrous when they are accused of being spies, thrown into prison, and their brother, Simeon, is kept as a prisoner. They have been ordered not to return to Egypt without their younger brother Benjamin, an idea their father isn't too pleased about. But now faced with the choice of starvation or returning to Egypt, they gather up gifts to take along with Benjamin and set out on their journey.

When they arrive in Egypt, Joseph gives his steward orders that the men are to be taken to his house and a meal prepared. Even though he probably sees Benjamin there, he will not leave his work at working time or trust another with it.

Joseph's brothers are very afraid at being taken to his house. Their guilty consciences and their experience of how he treated them last time lead them to expect nothing good. They are afraid they are going to be accused of stealing the money that they have found in their sacks, so they go to the steward to explain that they have brought the money back. The steward encourages and comforts them. Even though he probably doesn't know why Joseph is treating the men this way, he is confident that his master means them no harm. He urges them to look to their God as the one who has provided them money in their sack. This comment about God seems to indicate that Joseph sees it as his responsibility to teach all in his household about the Lord.

Questions

1. Why do the brothers have to return to Egypt?
2. Where does Joseph send them when they get there?
3. What are they afraid of?
4. Why might the steward have heard about the true God?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for all the good things God has given us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"So it was not you who sent me here, but God." Genesis 45:8a

Praise: Psalm 25 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Your JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Tuesday - Genesis 43:26-34 - A Family Feast

As Joseph's brothers bow low before him, referring to their father, Jacob, as being Joseph's servants, Joseph's dreams of his youth are being fulfilled right before his eyes. Joseph graciously asks after his own father and takes notice of Benjamin, praying that God will deal graciously with him. Joseph understands that his help and love is worth nothing, if Benjamin doesn't have the help and love of the Lord God.

Joseph is so moved by seeing his younger brother, all grown up and standing before him, that he has to leave the room, so he can weep privately and not give himself away yet. He would have been especially close to Benjamin, as they are full brothers, both sons of Rachel. Now, after many years and much concern, he sees that God has taken care of his brother and his whole family.

Joseph then treats his brothers with very great hospitality, which might have confused them, especially as they are seated in order of oldest to youngest. They wonder how this Egyptian ruler knows their order of birth. Joseph is very generous in sharing a feast with them. These are times of famine, and perhaps this is the best meal Joseph's brothers have had in quite some time. Joseph sits by himself, not prepared to admit that he is a Hebrew and not wanting to be classed as an Egyptian. But Joseph is very clear that Benjamin is special in his eyes, giving him five times as much as his brothers.

Questions

1. How are Joseph's dreams fulfilled?
2. What does Joseph pray for Benjamin?
3. Why does Joseph give special treatment to Benjamin?
4. Why didn't they all eat at one big table?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that our friends and family would have the blessing of being in a good relationship with the Lord.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

"So it was not you who sent me here, but God." Genesis 45:8a

Praise: Psalm 26 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Your JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Wednesday - Genesis 44:1-17 - A Missing Cup

Perhaps Joseph's brothers are breathing a sigh of relief after the big feast. They have turned from Egypt for home, and so far nothing has gone wrong. It looks like everything has worked out. But Joseph has other plans. He heaps further kindness upon his brothers by returning their money in their sacks again, but he has one more test to carry out upon them. He wants to see what they will do when faced with the situation of Benjamin being in trouble. Will they leave him to suffer on his own? Or will they help him?

The steward pursues the brothers, and when he catches up with them he accuses them of ingratitude in stealing Joseph's cup. They protest that they are innocent, using as an example the fact that they brought back their money that was found in their sacks the last time. Then they promise that if a thief is found among them, he will die, and they will become Joseph's slaves. But when the cup is found in Benjamin's sack, they are left speechless. There is nothing for them to do, but to return and throw themselves on Joseph's mercy. When they return to Joseph, they admit the righteousness of God in punishing them for their sins, probably referring to the sin they had committed against Joseph, that has now come back to haunt them. God is always righteous in His dealings with us, and we deserve nothing but punishment for our sins against Him. In His mercy and grace, though, He not only forgives our sins but heaps blessings upon our head.

We cannot judge what men are by what they have been or what they will do by what they have done. God may use age and experience to make men wiser and better. Those that had sold Joseph as a slave will not now abandon Benjamin.

Questions

1. Why does Joseph put the cup in Benjamin's sack?
2. What kind of treatment do we deserve from God, and what do we get?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's mercy and grace.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"So it was not you who sent me here, but God." Genesis 45:8a

Praise: Psalm 27 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Your JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Thursday - Genesis 44:18-34 - A Substitute Offered

The time has come to see how Joseph's brothers will react to the trouble that has come upon Benjamin. Joseph has offered to let them go and keep only Benjamin as a slave. Will they leave Benjamin to the mercy of Egyptian slavery as they did Joseph, or have they changed?

At this point Judah speaks up. He has given his word to his father that Benjamin will be safely returned, or he will bear the blame. So, now he respectfully addresses Joseph and begs that he will listen patiently to him. He urges Joseph to show compassion to Benjamin for a variety of reasons, one of which being that his only brother (meaning Joseph) is dead. Now Judah knows that Joseph was sold as a slave, but he probably has told the lie of Joseph being killed by wild beasts so often, he has begun to believe it. His main argument for Benjamin's release, though, is the terrible grief it will be to Jacob if they don't bring Benjamin back. He pleads with Joseph not to inadvertently cause Jacob's death by keeping Benjamin.

Judah truly loves his father and does not want to see him die from grief. He also truly loves Benjamin, more than his own life, for he willingly offers himself up in Benjamin's place to satisfy the demands of justice. This is another picture of our Lord Jesus Christ, who willingly, out of His great love for His Father and us, offered Himself, in our place, to bear the punishment we truly deserved and offered up His life in exchange for ours.

Questions

1. Who speaks up for Benjamin?
2. Why does Judah ask Joseph to release Benjamin?
3. How is Judah like Jesus Christ?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our substitute.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"So it was not you who sent me here, but God." Genesis 45:8a

Praise: Psalm 28 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

YOUR
JOURNEY
STARTS HERE

Friday - Genesis 45:1-15 - The Truth Revealed

Judah and his brothers are waiting for a response from the powerful Egyptian ruler, but instead of a judge, they find in him a friend and brother. Sending his servants away, he can restrain his emotion no longer, but reveals himself to his brothers. He is full of love and compassion towards his repentant brothers, anticipating the fear and guilt the knowledge of who he is might cause them.

Joseph shows his brothers that regardless of what their intentions were, God meant and used everything that happened for good. Sinners must grieve and be angry with themselves for their sins, but God through His power brings good out of evil. This does not excuse our sin, but it can encourage us and help us not resent others who sin against us, but like Joseph have a forgiving attitude.

Joseph tells his brothers that the famine is going to last five more years, and he is in a position, put there by God, to help his family. God is looking out for His people, and His plans and timing is perfect. He is able to turn all events and people to the fulfilling of his purposes. God's control over all things is a comfort to us when we do wrong and a humbling reminder when things go well.

Questions

1. Why are Joseph's brothers afraid of him?
2. Who does Joseph say was in control of everything?
3. How did God use what happened to Joseph for good?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's control over all circumstances.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“So it was not you who sent me here, but God.” Genesis 45:8a

Praise: Psalm 29 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Your JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Saturday - Genesis 45:16-24 - Sent Away

Pharaoh shows great kindness to Joseph's family for Joseph's sake, even though it is a time of famine and extra people to care for are a burden. Pharaoh tells Joseph to send for his father and promises to provide whatever they need to relocate to Egypt and the best of the land once they get there. What they have in Canaan, Pharaoh considers as nothing in comparison to what is waiting for them in Egypt. Those who believe and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ should see the best things of this world as nothing in comparison to what is waiting for them in heaven.

Joseph provides everything his brothers need to go back to Canaan and then return to Egypt. He gives his brothers clothing and money, and he sends presents along to his father. Finally, he gives his brothers a warning not to quarrel along the way. He knows his brothers too well and realises that as they think back over what they have done to him, they might start arguing with each other and accusing each other. Joseph has forgiven them, and he wants them to be at peace with each other, just as our Lord forgives us and tells His Church to love one another. Why? We are brothers, we all have one Father. We are Jesus' brothers and sisters, and we shame Him when we fall out with each other. We are guilty, very guilty, and instead of fighting with each other, we have good reason to be angry with ourselves. We have been forgiven by God whom we have offended, so we should be ready to forgive others. Finally, we shouldn't give unbelievers any excuse to find fault with Christ's Church.

Questions

1. What does Pharaoh offer Joseph's family?
2. How are Christians to view this world?
3. Why is Christ's Church to love each other?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"So it was not you who sent me here, but God." Genesis 45:8a

Praise: Psalm 30 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

If you have any queries please contact - rpchurchscotland@gmail.com