

Study Guide

Pray: Pray that God will show you something new in His Word and that you will be fully present as you consider these questions.

Read: Begin by reading Genesis 45 & 46 straight through, as you would read the chapters of any great book.

Questions:

1. Was there any specific detail or concept in the chapters this week that struck or impacted you personally?
2. How was Joseph impacted by Judah's speech (Genesis 44: 18-33) and what did he do?
3. Was Joseph angry with his brothers? What was his explanation for what had happened?
4. Did Joseph's explanation and forgiveness mean his brothers were not responsible for their actions?
5. What did Joseph say the brothers should do next, and why? Does this suggest that Joseph had been thinking this through?
6. Joseph's brothers arrived in Egypt on or leading donkeys (their most prized possessions). By what means are they returning to the land of Canaan?
7. What evidence convinced Jacob that what the brothers said was true and revived Jacob's spirit?

8. Aside from the practical packing and moving to a new location – Jacob is likely wary of leaving Canaan and moving his entire household to Egypt because of family history. How did the last family move to Egypt due to famine go? Genesis 12:10-20

9. Why do think God spoke to Jacob (Israel) in a vision at Beersheba? Genesis 46:1-4

10. Genesis 46:8-27 records the names and family groups of Israel. Does this remind you a previous summary or recording of family groups (Genesis 10 – Noah’s sons)? Why might the summary be important?

11. In Genesis 15 God makes a covenant with Abram. In Genesis 15:13-16 God tells Abram what will happen in the future. How does this move to Egypt fit with that information?

12. These chapters draw Joseph’s pit experience to a conclusion and we see it confirm God’s sovereignty, protection and provision. How does that make you feel? (....it may scare you, comfort you, encourage you.....there is no ‘right answer’)

Psalm 103 is a Psalm of David and refers to Joseph’s experience. Read it all in your own time, and be thankful that what God did for and through Joseph is a picture of what Christ did for us.

Psalm 103:1-7

- ¹Praise the LORD, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ²Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
- ³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
- ⁴who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
- ⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.