



## Freedom In Forgiveness | Genesis 42:1-38, 45:1-28

Skim read Genesis 42 and 45 to remind yourself of the story.

1. What does the famine represent in this chapter, and how does it bring Joseph's brothers back into his life?
2. Consider how God can use challenging circumstances to bring reconciliation or address unresolved issues.
3. Why do you think Joseph accused his brothers of being spies (Genesis 42:9)? What, do you think, might this reveal about Joseph's strategy for seeking forgiveness (or maybe even his inner struggle)?
4. How do Joseph's brothers react when they are accused? How does their guilt from the past resurface? (Genesis 42:21-22). How can guilt affect a person's ability to seek or receive forgiveness?
5. Joseph wept privately (Genesis 42:24). Why do you think he responded this way?
6. Why do you think Joseph didn't immediately reveal his identity to his brothers? How does withholding forgiveness sometimes mirror this kind of delay in reconciliation?
7. When Joseph sends his brothers back home with grain and their silver, what does this act of grace symbolize? (Genesis 42:25). How does this reflect God's grace and the freedom that comes with forgiving others even when it isn't asked for yet?
8. In Genesis 45:1-2, Joseph finally reveals himself to his brothers. What emotions might Joseph and his brothers be experiencing in this moment? How does this moment demonstrate the freedom that comes with forgiveness?
9. Joseph reassures his brothers in Genesis 45:5, saying, "Do not be distressed... it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you." How does Joseph's understanding of God's plan free him to forgive? How can viewing our pain through the lens of God's greater plan help us to extend forgiveness?
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What did you discover about God in this passage?  
What did you discover about people in this passage?  
How will you commit to obey this passage this week?  
With whom will you share what you have learned?

