



## January 12: Hatred & Jealousy, Genesis 37:1-11

1. After reading Genesis 37:1-11, what stood out to you in this passage?
2. What emotions or reactions did you notice from the different characters in this story?
3. In Genesis 37:3-4, we see that Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons. How did this favoritism contribute to the conflict in the family?
4. Joseph shared two dreams with his family (Genesis 37:5-10). How did his brothers and father respond to these dreams, and why do you think they reacted this way?
5. What aspects of Joseph's character or actions might have intensified the conflict with his brothers?
6. Have you ever experienced or witnessed favoritism in a family or workplace? How did it affect relationships and create conflict?
7. Joseph's dreams seemed to elevate him above his family members. How can our personal ambitions or sense of destiny sometimes create tension with others?
8. In what ways can you relate to Joseph or his brothers in this story? Have you ever been on either side of a similar family conflict?
9. This week, identify a conflict in your life where favoritism or jealousy might be playing a role. What is one step you can take to address this issue?

### **Family Questions**

1. *What was interesting to you in the story about Joseph and his family?*
2. *Jacob (the dad) loved Joseph more than his other sons. How did this make the other brothers feel?*
3. *Did Joseph do anything that made his brothers upset with him?*
4. *Have you ever seen someone being treated as the favorite? Maybe at home or at school? How did that make people feel?*
5. *Think about a time when you felt jealous or when someone was treating another person as their favorite. What could you do to make things better?*



## January 19: Dreams & Schemes, Genesis 37:12-36

1. How would you describe Joseph's relationship with his brothers based on this passage?
2. In Genesis 37:18-20, we see the brothers' plot against Joseph. What motivations do you think drove them to such extreme actions?
3. How does Joseph's response to being sold into slavery (Genesis 37:28) compare to how you might react in a similar situation?
4. What role does Reuben play in this story, and how does his actions differ from the other brothers? (Genesis 37:21-22, 29-30)
5. Have you ever experienced betrayal or been wronged by someone close to you? How did it affect you emotionally and spiritually?
6. Joseph's brothers were driven by jealousy and hatred. Can you recall a time when negative emotions led you to treat someone unfairly? How do you feel about it now?
7. How do you think Joseph's faith in God might have helped him cope with this traumatic experience? How does that work?
8. How can we be more aware of our own emotions and prevent them from leading us to mistreat others?
9. What steps can we take to cultivate faith and forgiveness like Joseph?

### **Family Questions**

1. How did Joseph and his brothers get along? What kind of brothers were they to each other?
2. Joseph's brothers made a mean plan to hurt him. Why do you think they wanted to do that?
3. Reuben (one of the brothers) tried to help Joseph. What did he do differently from the other brothers?
4. Sometimes when we feel really jealous or angry, we might do mean things. Has that ever happened to you? What do you think about it now?
5. Joseph believed in God even when scary things happened. How do you think that helped him feel better?
6. What can we do when we're feeling angry or jealous...before we do something mean?
7. Joseph was able to forgive people who were mean to him. How can we learn to forgive others like Joseph did?



## January 26: Sins & Sons, Genesis 38

1. How would you describe Judah's character based on his actions in this chapter?
2. What role does Tamar play in this story, and how does her behavior compare to Judah's?
3. In Genesis 38:26, Judah says, "She is more righteous than I." What do you think led him to this realization?
4. Judah initially failed to recognize his own sin. Can you share a time when you struggled to identify sin in your own life?
5. How do you think Judah felt when he finally admitted his wrongdoing? Have you experienced similar emotions when confessing sin?
6. The Bible tells us, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). How does this promise impact your view on confessing sin?
7. In what ways can unconfessed sin affect our relationships with God and others?
8. This week, take time to reflect on areas in your life where you might be blind to your own sin. Ask God to reveal these areas to you.

### Family Questions

*\*PG13 passage. Use parental discernment. The questions will work without reading Genesis 38.*

1. *Have you ever realized you did something wrong, but you didn't think it was wrong when you did it?*
2. *Do you think it's possible to know deep down that something is wrong but pretend it's not wrong?*
3. *Why do you think it's important to know right from wrong? How do we learn that?*
4. *The Bible tells us, "If we confess our sins, he (God) is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). According to this verse, what should we do if we have done something wrong?*



## February 2: Wrong & Right, Genesis 39

1. Have you ever been falsely accused of something? Without sharing specifics, how did it make you feel?
2. What emotions do you think Joseph might have experienced as he was falsely accused and ended up in jail?
3. In Genesis 39:2, we read, “The Lord was with Joseph.” How do we see this playing out in the first part of the chapter?
4. Despite being wrongly accused and imprisoned, how does Joseph’s behavior change (or not change) in Genesis 39:21-23?
5. Joseph faced unfair treatment multiple times in his life. How do you typically respond when life seems unfair to you?
6. Genesis 39:9 shows Joseph’s strong moral conviction. He says, “How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?” How can we maintain our integrity like that even when facing difficult circumstances?
7. The phrase “the Lord was with Joseph” is repeated several times in this chapter. How might remembering God’s presence with you affect how you handle unfair situations?
8. Is there a situation in your life where you need to maintain your integrity, even if it’s difficult? What’s one step you can take this week to do that?

### **Family Questions**

1. *Has someone ever blamed you for something you didn’t do? How did that make you feel inside?*
2. *Imagine if you were Joseph and people said mean things about you that weren’t true. How do you think that would make you feel?*
3. *God was helping Joseph, even when things looked really tough. Can you see how God was taking care of Joseph?*
4. *Even when Joseph was treated unfairly and put in jail, how do you think he stayed kind and tried his best?*
5. *Sometimes life can feel super unfair. What do you do when something doesn’t seem right?*
6. *If you knew God was always with you, how might that help you when something scary or unfair happens?*





## February 9: Forged & Forgotten, Genesis 40

1. What reactions did you have while reading about Joseph's experiences in prison?
2. How does Joseph interpret the dreams of the cupbearer and the baker? What does this reveal about Joseph's character and faith?
3. In Genesis 40:23, we read, "The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him." How might this have affected Joseph's faith and patience?
4. Joseph had to wait two more years in prison after interpreting the cupbearer's dream. Have you ever experienced a time when you felt God was making you wait? How did you handle it?
5. How do you typically respond when God's timing doesn't align with your expectations? In what areas of your life do you currently find it challenging to trust God's timing?
6. Joseph continued to use his gift of interpreting dreams even while in prison. How can we remain faithful in using our gifts and talents even in difficult circumstances?
7. Write down or discuss three ways you can actively serve others or use your gifts while you're in a "waiting season."

### **Family Questions**

1. *Joseph helped understand what people's weird dreams meant. What does this tell us about how special Joseph was?*
2. *The cupbearer forgot about Joseph after Joseph helped him. How do you think that made Joseph feel?*
3. *Joseph had to wait a super long time in jail. Have you ever felt like you were waiting and waiting for something to happen? How do you feel when you have to be patient?*
4. *Even when Joseph was in a tough place, he kept using his special talent of understanding dreams. How can you be helpful and use your special talents, even when things are hard?*
5. *Think of three ways you can help others or do something good while you're waiting for something to happen.*



## February 16: Feast & Famine, Genesis 41:1-57

1. Joseph finally gets a dramatic change in his circumstances, from prison to palace in one afternoon. How would you describe Joseph's attitude throughout this chapter?
2. In Genesis 41:16, Joseph says, "I cannot do it, but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires." What does this tell us about Joseph's perspective on his abilities?
3. How does God use Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dreams to bless both Egypt and Joseph himself?
4. In Genesis 41:51-52, Joseph names his sons Manasseh and Ephraim. What do these names signify about Joseph's view of his past and present circumstances?
5. Joseph experienced extreme highs and lows in his life. How do you typically respond to good times after going through difficult periods?
6. In what ways have you seen God turn challenging situations in your life into blessings?
7. Read James 1:17. How might viewing good times as blessings from God change the way you celebrate or appreciate them?

### **Family Questions**

1. *Joseph goes from being in jail to being super important really fast! How do you think he felt about all these big changes?*
2. *God helps Joseph understand Pharaoh's dreams and saves lots of people from being hungry. Do you think God helps us do good things? How does He help?*
3. *Joseph had some really tough times and then some really good times. How do you feel when things get better after being difficult?*
4. *Have you ever seen something good come out of something that seemed bad at first? Why is it important to thank God for the good that comes our way?*



## February 23: Bitter & Better, Genesis 42

1. If you could choose to be fearless in one area of your life, what would it be and why? If you could have a “do-over” button for one relationship in your life, which one would it be and why?
2. As we read through Genesis 42, what stands out to you about Joseph’s interactions with his brothers? How would you describe the emotions Joseph might have been experiencing during this encounter?
3. Looking at verses 21-22, what do we learn about the brothers’ state of mind regarding their past actions towards Joseph?
4. How does Joseph’s treatment of his brothers in this chapter compare to how they treated him years earlier (as referenced in Genesis 37:23-28)?
5. Joseph had the power to take revenge on his brothers but chose not to. Can you share a time when you were tempted to seek revenge but decided against it? What was that experience like?
6. The theme of this story suggests that “holding on to relationships is better than revenge.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why?
7. This week, identify one relationship in your life that needs healing or forgiveness. What is one concrete step you can take towards reconciliation?

### **Family Questions**

1. *If you could go back and fix one friendship or relationship, which one would you choose? Why?*
2. *Joseph meets his brothers after a really long time. How do you think he might be feeling inside?*
3. *Joseph could have been mean to his brothers after they were mean to him before. But he chose to be kind. Why do you think he did that?*
4. *Do you think it’s better to try to fix a friendship or to try to get back at someone who hurt you?*
5. *Think about one relationship in your life that needs some healing. What’s one small thing you could do to make things better?*



## March 2: Questions & Answers, Genesis 43

1. If you could travel anywhere in the world to reconnect with a long-lost friend or family member, where would you go and why?
2. In Genesis 43, we see Joseph's brothers returning to Egypt. What circumstances led them to make this journey, and how do you think they felt about it?
3. Think about Judah's story arc in the recent chapters in Genesis. How does Judah's offer to be held personally responsible for Benjamin (Gen. 43:8-9) demonstrate a change in his character compared to earlier chapters?
4. When Joseph sees Benjamin, Genesis 43:30 says, "His heart yearned for his brother, and he sought a place to weep." What does this reveal about Joseph's emotions and the complexity of mending relationships?
5. Joseph's brothers had to face their past actions to move forward in their relationship with him. Can you think of a time when you had to confront your past mistakes to repair a relationship?
6. The brothers were willing to risk their freedom by returning to Egypt with Benjamin. What sacrifices have you made or would you be willing to make to mend a broken relationship?
7. Joseph showed hospitality to his brothers despite their past actions. How challenging do you find it to show kindness to those who have hurt you, and why?
8. This week, identify a relationship in your life that needs mending. What is one concrete step you can take to begin the reconciliation process?

### **Family Questions**

1. *If you could go visit someone far away that you miss, where would you go and why?*
2. *When Joseph sees his brother Benjamin, he feels so many feelings that he wants to cry. Have you ever missed someone so much it made you want to cry?*
3. *Sometimes we have to say sorry for things we did wrong to make a friendship better. Can you think of a time when you had to do that? How did it go?*
4. *Joseph's brothers were brave and risked a lot to try to fix their family. What would you do to help someone you love?*
5. *Joseph was kind to his brothers even though they were mean to him before. Is it hard to be nice to someone who hurt you?*
6. *This week, think about one friendship or family relationship that needs some help. What's one small thing you could do to make it better?*





## March 5: Manipulate & Mediate, Genesis 44

1. Can you share a time when you had a falling out with someone and later reconciled? What was that experience like for you?
2. In Genesis 44:1-13, Joseph sets up a test for his brothers. What do you think he was trying to accomplish with this plan?
3. How does Judah's response to Joseph in Genesis 44:18-34 demonstrate a change in his character compared to earlier parts of Joseph's story?
4. Judah offers himself as a substitute for Benjamin (Gen. 44:33). How does this sacrificial act reflect the gospel message, and what does it teach us about true repentance?
5. How has the process of repentance led to restoration in your own relationships, either with God or with others?
6. This week, reflect on any unresolved conflicts in your life. Is there someone you need to approach in a spirit of repentance?
7. If you're struggling with guilt from past actions, spend time meditating on scriptures about God's forgiveness, such as 1 John 1:9 which says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

### **Family Questions**

1. *Have you ever had a big fight with a friend and then made up later? How did that feel?*
2. *Judah used to be a not-so-great brother, but now he's trying to do the right thing. How has he changed?*
3. *Judah offers to take Benjamin's place and protect him. Have you ever seen someone be really brave and try to help someone else like that? What did you think about it?*
4. *When we say sorry and really mean it, good things can happen. Can you think of a time when saying sorry made something better?*
5. *Is there someone you might need to talk to and make things right with this week?*