

Reconciliation of Israel's Family  
Lesson #25  
Genesis 45:1-46:27

Judah, Jacob's fourth son, had become a man of compassion. He addressed Joseph, whom he thought was an Egyptian official, with great respect as he presented his case that Benjamin was worthy of Joseph's compassion. Benjamin was the youngest son; his mother and brother were dead, and his father's life was bound up with him. If Benjamin did not return, his father would die. Judah offered himself in place of Benjamin knowing justice was due Joseph for the stolen cup.

**Joseph Reveals His identity - Genesis 45:1-28**

There was no longer any doubt in Joseph's mind that his brothers were changed men. He had subjected them to the most severe test, and they had shown true compassion. These men were truly aware of their own unworthiness and God's mercy.

1. Overcome with emotion, what did Joseph do? (Genesis 45:1, 2)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. When Joseph revealed his identity and asked about his father, what was their response? (Genesis 45:3)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Up to this point, the brothers had kept the respected distance from Joseph. What did he ask them to do? (Genesis 45:4a)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. To make sure they knew it was truly Joseph, what did he tell them? (Genesis 45:4b)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Although at the time Joseph had been so distressed, what was his new perspective on his brothers selling him into slavery? (Genesis 45:5)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What did Joseph tell them about the future? (Genesis 45:6, 7)

7. Giving God credit for preserving their family, what did Joseph say he had become to the ruling Pharaoh and the people in Egypt? (Genesis 45:8)
8. What were Joseph's instructions to his brothers? (Genesis 45:9 - 11)
9. Up to this time, Joseph had spoken to them in the Egyptian language and used an interpreter. Now he spoke in Hebrew to assure them of his identity. What did he tell them to do? (Genesis 45:12, 13)
10. Benjamin had been only two years old when Joseph was sold into slavery. What did Joseph do to Benjamin after he had revealed his identity? (Genesis 45:14)
11. Finally, what did Joseph do to all his brothers? (Genesis 45:15)
12. What was their response to Joseph?
13. How did Pharaoh and his officials take this news? (Genesis 45:16)
14. What were Pharaoh's instructions to Joseph? (Genesis 45:17, 18)
15. How were the brothers to transport their father, wives, and children? (Genesis 45:19)

16. What was Pharaoh's interesting statement to Joseph about their belongings? (Genesis 45:20)
  
17. Notice it was the "sons of Israel" who obeyed, indicating this was God's plan. What did Joseph do? (Genesis 45:21-23)
  
18. Joseph had been 17 when they last saw him. (Genesis 37:2) Now at 39, Joseph was a tested and seasoned world leader; he also knew his brothers. What did he tell them before they left? (Genesis 45:24)
  
19. When the brothers finally got back to Canaan, what news did they give their father? (Genesis 45:25, 26a)
  
20. What was Jacob's reaction? (Genesis 45:26b) Notice it is his human name of Jacob.
  
21. How did that change? (Genesis 45:27)
  
22. Now, called *Israel*, what did he finally say? (Genesis 45:28)

**Journey to Egypt - Genesis 46:1-17**

23. Who set out for Egypt? (Genesis 46:1a)
  
24. What did he do at Beersheba? (Genesis 46:1b)

25. What happened that night? (Genesis 46:2-4)
26. Notice once again it was Jacob going to Egypt with his family. What else did they take in spite of Pharaoh's generous offer? (Genesis 46:5-7)
27. A list of all those who traveled with Israel to Egypt was given. Only the men were listed indicating that, including wives and children, there were many more. How many of Jacob's direct descendants went? (Genesis 46:26)
28. Who else was included? (Genesis 46:27a)
29. What was the total number given? (Genesis 46:27b)

Remember, in the Bible the number seven and multiples of seven means complete. In this case, it was God's complete number that He would now begin to fulfill His covenant promise to Abraham and build His nation called Israel.

**Think about it!**

Go back over this story and try to imagine what you would be feeling and what it was like as:

- One of the brothers
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Father Jacob