

## **The Story of Joseph: Seeing the Bigger Picture**

### **Week 07: Brothers' Trip to Egypt**

#### *Discussion Questions*

How does Joseph's response to his brothers demonstrate the difference between justice and mercy, and when have you experienced God extending mercy to you when you deserved justice?

The brothers carried guilt for 20 years without addressing it. What unresolved guilt might God be trying to surface in your life so true healing can begin?

Joseph kept doing the right thing even when circumstances went from bad to worse. How do you maintain trust in God's bigger picture when daily obedience does not lead to immediate deliverance?

The sermon states that sometimes disappointment precedes deliverance. Can you identify a time in your life when God used disappointment to prepare you for something greater?

Why do you think God allowed Joseph's brothers to experience the same fear and distress they had inflicted on Joseph, and what does this reveal about God's process of bringing us to repentance?

The brothers did not recognize Joseph, yet he recognized them immediately. How does this parallel our relationship with God when we fail to see His hand at work in difficult circumstances?

The sermon notes that the only thing we contribute to our salvation is the sin that makes it necessary. How does this truth challenge our tendency to earn or negotiate our standing with God?

Jacob's favoritism and passivity created dysfunction that lasted for decades. What patterns in your family of origin still influence your relationships today, and how can God bring healing?

Joseph wept for his brothers even while testing them. How does this image of compassionate discipline reshape your understanding of how God deals with your own sin and rebellion?

The brothers were afraid when they discovered the money returned in their sacks, recognizing they were dealing with God. When has an unexpected act of grace made you aware of God's presence in your circumstances?