

POWER TO FORGIVE

• All In Group Discussion Guide •
Week of Feb 20, 2022

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Introductions:

- Share something about yourself with the group. How many siblings do you have? What is the birth order? What are their names?

Scripture Reflection:

- What do we learn about God (traits, personality, priorities) in this passage?
- What do we learn about people, and ourselves in particular, this week?

Sermon Reflection:

- Joseph looked back at his life and saw God's presence with him. Do you ever take time to reflect on how God is moving in your life? If so, what were those moments when God showed up? If not, what would it look like for you to practice looking for God's presence in your life?
- Joseph's story is about the power of forgiveness. How would you define forgiveness? How does this message feel counter-cultural to our world today?
- Pastor Josh says in his sermon that forgiveness is one of the hardest things to do. What's so difficult about it?
- Where have you seen the power of forgiveness play out in our world? Where has it played out in your own life?

Closing Question & Application:

- Given what we've discussed today, how might God want you to apply your learning in your life or in your community in the next week? Who might you share this with?

Closing Prayer:

- This week, we invite you to do an "agreement prayer." Have one person open and close in prayer. In the middle allow people space to pray "in agreement" about one topic: reconciliation. Where in your lives, communities, and world do we need to ask God to bring forgiveness and reconciliation?