

# MESSAGE NOTES

July 24, 2011

Joseph: A Character Study  
Forgiveness  
Genesis 42-46  
Pastor Jeff Nelsen

- Un-forgiveness \_\_\_\_\_ my character, forgiving \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- If forgiving is \_\_\_\_\_ God develops character, am I \_\_\_\_\_ it? Isa 64:8

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt!" Genesis 45:4

## JOSEPH'S BROTHERS COME TO EGYPT

- ① A famine brings \_\_\_\_\_ of Joseph's \_\_\_\_\_ brothers to \_\_\_\_\_. Gen 41:54-42:5
- ② As his brothers \_\_\_\_\_, Joseph remembers his \_\_\_\_\_. Gen 42:6,9
- ③ Joseph recognizes \_\_\_\_\_, but they do not recognize \_\_\_\_\_. Gen 42:8
- ④ Joseph accuses them of being \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ them. Gen 42:14-20
- ⑤ A famine brings \_\_\_\_\_ of Joseph's \_\_\_\_\_ brothers to \_\_\_\_\_. Genesis 43:1-15
- ⑥ Joseph gives \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities to show \_\_\_\_\_. Gen 44:8-9
- ⑦ Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ himself to them & \_\_\_\_\_ them. Gen 45:1-15
- ⑧ God uses him to \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ lives. Gen 46:27-50:15-21

## HOW JOSEPH CHOOSES CHARACTER

- ① Doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ what they did, but 3x says, "\_\_\_\_\_ sent me." Gen 45:5-8
- ② Determines to \_\_\_\_\_ instead of \_\_\_\_\_. Lk 23:34; 1 Pet 3:9; Rom 12:17-21
- ③ After \_\_\_\_\_ years, he shows God's \_\_\_\_\_. Gen 43:13; Matthew 5:7; 9:13; 18:33

## A CHARACTER MOMENT

- Is my ultimate goal—my own \_\_\_\_\_ or Godly \_\_\_\_\_?

# Forgiveness

Doesn't necessarily mean:  
● *Condoning or excusing wrongdoing.*

- *Ignoring justice.*
- *Being a doormat.*
- *Forgetting what happened.*
- *Or that reunion will take place.*

*But teach me, LORD, how to show Your character to those who've hurt me.*

## SO LORD, I ASK YOU TO SHOW ME...

### Who?

Is there someone You want me to forgive?

Any names or faces You want to bring to mind as I seek You?

### How?

How should I convey Your forgiveness—in person, by letter or silently through action  
Are healthy boundaries still necessary?

### When?

Are You telling me to go & reconcile right away or to wait humbly & wisely?  
Am I postponing what You are asking me to do right away?

**Genesis** 45:4-15; 50:15-21; **Matthew** 5:23-26,43-48; 6:12-15; 18:15-18,21-35;  
**Mark** 11:25; **Luke** 17:3-5; 23:34; **Acts** 7:59-60; **Romans** 12:17-21;  
**Ephesians** 4:30-32; **Colossians** 3:13-14; **Hebrews** 12:14-15; **1 Peter** 3:8-9

Forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another.  
Forgive as the LORD forgave you. **Colossians 3:13**