

# The Grand Canyon of Reconciliation

## Genesis 42-45 | November 8, 2020

**Context:** Because of a severe famine, Joseph's brothers leave Canaan to secure food from Egypt, where their "long lost brother" is now second in command.

Genesis 42: \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 43: \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 44: \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 45: \_\_\_\_\_

If we rest in the providence of God,

### Discussion Questions:

1. Are there any aspects of this narrative that surprise, amaze or convict you?
2. What else does the Scripture teach about forgiveness and reconciliation?
3. Can you glorify God by giving a personal example of forgiveness or reconciliation?

**Questions for Parents to use with their children:**

1. Begin by having each person describe a time when they needed help with something they could not do on their own.
2. Next, take a moment to pray for the Lord to direct and lead your time together as a family.
3. Read Genesis 42:17-22. Why do you think Joseph's brothers thought they were in trouble with Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt?  
*Answer: Because they thought they were being punished for getting rid of Joseph in the past (verse 21).*
4. According to Genesis 43:14, what did Jacob pray about for his children as they went back to Egypt the second time? Did God answer his prayer?  
*Answer: For God to give them mercy in letting Simeon to come back to him with Benjamin (verse 14). Yes.*
5. Why did Judah want to stay in place of Benjamin in Genesis 44:33? Look back at Genesis 43:9 for the answer.  
*Answer: Because he had guaranteed the safety of Benjamin and wanted to fulfill his promise to his father (43:9).*
6. Read Genesis 45:9-11. What did Joseph do after he told his brothers who he was in verse 3?  
*Answer: He offered them a place to live, dwell, and provided for them in Goshen (verses 10 and 11).*
7. After Joseph offered forgiveness and started getting along with his brothers once again, what actions did Joseph take that showed he truly had forgiven them in Genesis 45:17-23?  
*Answer: Joseph gave them supplies for their journey back home (verse 21).*
8. What did Joseph discover about God and His plans that led him to be able to forgive his brothers? Look back at Genesis 45:5 for help.  
*Answer: He saw the providence of God at work to preserve and provide reconciliation for Joseph and his family (verse 5).*