

Genesis 47-50 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. From Gen 48:11-22 what surprising thing occurred (v13-14) and how did Joseph respond (v17-18)? What was Israel's blessing on each son (v15-16, 19-20) and on Joseph (v21-22)?

5. In Gen 49:1-12 describe Israel's blessing on Reuben (v1-4), Simeon and Levi (v5-7) and Judah (v8-12). Why was Judah blessed more than the other three (v4, 6, 10-12)?

6. Read Gen 49:13-21. What was prophesied for Zebulun (v13), Issachar (v14-15), Dan (v16-18), Gad (v19), Asher (v20) and Naphtali (v21)?

7. Looking at Gen 49:22-28 what does each element of Joseph's blessing mean to you (v22, 23-24, 25-26)? What was promised Benjamin (v27)? What was the basic thought behind the blessings (v28)? Apply.

8. Using Gen 49:29-50:3 what did Jacob make his sons promise (v29-32) and then what happened (v33)? How did Joseph react (v50:1-2) and how did the Egyptians react (v3)?

9. In Gen 50:4-14 what was Joseph's request (v4-5) and Pharaoh's response (v6)? Who went to bury Jacob (v7-14) and what was the funeral like (v10-11)? What does this show?

10. From Gen 50:15-26 what did Joseph's brothers ask and why (v15-17)? How did he respond (v17-21) and how is this a good example? How long did Joseph live (v22-23, 26) and what did he request (v24-25)?

11. Reflect on the impact of God's people in Egypt, especially Joseph and Jacob. Also, think about why Judah and Joseph received the greatest blessings in Gen 49? What can we learn from this?

Scripture to Remember

“The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.”

Genesis 49:10 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

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Life Group Questions—A Tale of Two Trees (Matt 1:1-17)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Some of you who have traced your family tree back share about that. How does it make us feel to know about our forerunners?
2. Read Matt 1:1. Why would this be an attention grabber for a first century Jew? Why was it important to establish that Jesus came through Abraham and David?
3. When you compare Jesus' genealogy in Luke 3:23-38 what is different? What does it mean to us that Jesus was physically born of Mary, but also the legal son of Joseph?
4. Name some of the unexpected inclusions in Jesus' genealogy in Matthew. How do these show that it doesn't matter where you're from or what you've done to be able to be in God's family and experience his grace? Apply specifically to your life.
5. Discuss some ways God's sovereign hand has worked in your life to make you who you are. How can this be used for His purposes, so that you can bless others?
6. Talk about how you get into the lineage of Jesus. What did He do to make this possible and what difference should it make in our lives? What family tree are you in—Adam's, or Jesus', too?
7. Discuss anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.



RIDING THE COATTAILS

Studies in the Genesis 37-50

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Because I Said So Introduction to Genesis 47-50

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

The answer, “because I said so”, often makes us feel like there is no good reason for the particular instruction. However, in this week’s study these words could justifiably be used by several of the key players—Joseph, Pharaoh, and Jacob. Each of these had earned the trust of those under their authority so they didn’t need to explain themselves—simple obedience was all that was required. In the first section we see Jacob’s family completing the story of his journeys. By presenting themselves as shepherds Jacob’s sons were allowed to live in Goshen where they would prosper for several hundred years. During this time Pharaoh also prospered due to Joseph’s oversight, gaining his people’s money, service, and taxes on their land. After a while Jacob’s

death drew near and Joseph wanted him to bless his two sons. Jacob had grown to the point of accepting this role and he blessed first Ephraim and then Manasseh, in reverse birth order, although Joseph tried to correct this. This was God’s plan, though, so he carried through, thus blessing Joseph as well with a double portion. Jacob then engaged in casting a vision of the future on all of his sons, prophesying according to what was appropriate to each of them. While some were notably not blessed—Reuben, Simeon, and Levi—others merely had their future foretold. However, Judah and Joseph received special blessings; Judah because he was the progenitor of Jesus, the true receptor of Judah’s blessings, and Joseph because he had been faithful to God to



God raises up key people to follow who change the course of history.

preserve His people. Finally, we see the closing of the book as first Jacob, and then Joseph die and are laid to rest. Jacob’s funeral was notable in that it revealed the high esteem with which he was held. Both of them revealed their faith by requesting to be buried in Canaan, not Egypt. Moreover, Joseph showed kindness to his brothers by reassuring them after Jacob’s death that he intended to care for them even though their father was gone. He repeated that God had been behind it all—it had all been done “because *God* said so”.

Daily Study Questions for Genesis 47-50

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com, small groups, abf)

<p>1. Read Genesis 47:1-12. What did Pharaoh offer Jacob’s family (v5-6)? Why (46:34-47:4)? How did Jacob and Pharaoh bless each other (v7, 10, 11-12)? How is Jacob a good example for us?</p>	
<p>2. From 47:13-31 how did Pharaoh prosper from the famine (v13-14, 15-17, 18-22, 23-26)? How did Israel prosper (v27) and what did Jacob make his sons promise (v29-31)? How old was he (v28)?</p>	
<p>3. Using 48:1-10 what was Jacob’s condition (v1-2) and what did Joseph do (v1)? What did Jacob tell him (v3-4, 5-6, 7) and what did he do (v8-10)? What does this show about Jacob’s growth?</p>	

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