



“you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good” Genesis 50:20

Bible Study for Preparation:

Read Genesis 46-50. All the mega-themes of scripture are highlighted in these chapters. We see reuniting of father and son (Jacob and Joseph), restoration of relationships (Joseph and Brothers), God's powerful hand at work in being faithful to His promises – to make Israel into a nation that will bless the entire world. These point to the grand story of God restoring creation to Himself. Though His means for doing so aren't necessarily how we might expect, we can be certain that He is Mighty enough to fulfil His promises

The gospel in the story:

God's mercy, grace AND sovereignty are all displayed in this story. Sovereignty: He preserved His people by providing a place for them in a foreign land where they could prosper. Mercy and grace: what the brothers meant for harm, God meant for good. Joseph recognized this, and was able to forgive his brothers. And that is a core message of the Gospel, that God has good planned for those who love Him, and that plan cannot be thwarted.

*Application**Head:* **What did we learn?**

Q: Why did Jacob move his family to Egypt? A: There was a famine in all the land, including Canaan. He moved to Egypt so they wouldn't starve

Q: How is Jacob's family received by the Egyptians? A: They are welcomed because of Joseph's position as a leader in Egypt

Q: Where does Jacob's family settle? A: In the best land for shepherds, a place called Goshen

Heart : **Memory verse**

“you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good”
Genesis 50:20

Hands: **How does this affect the way I live?**

Though we cannot trust people to always do what is best, and we can't even count on circumstances to always go the way we want, GOD is faithful and trustworthy in all things.

Home: **How does this affect my household?**

Jacob's household showed their trust in God by moving from Canaan (the promised land) to Egypt (not the promised land). Jacob trusted God that He would deliver the Israelites out of Egypt when the time was right. That is a picture of a household that trusts God with everything. We must be just as trusting.

Heaven: **How does this help me share my faith?**

Jacob's family prospered in their new home, and they also blessed the people of Egypt. Just as God raised up a people who would reflect His goodness and grace to everyone around in Joseph's day, He continues to do that today!