



Genesis Lesson 36 Chapter 45

After another perplexing episode with the governor in charge of food in Egypt, Jacob's sons begin their journey back to Canaan. They are relieved that in this return trip to their father all the siblings are present. They still are unaware that the strange man they have been dealing with in Egypt is their brother Joseph. But, their relief is to be short-lived because Joseph has once again formulated a plan to bring his siblings back to Egypt. After having his personal silver cup placed in Benjamin's sack, Joseph sends his steward after the caravan to confront them with their apparent dishonesty. Being confident of their own innocence in the matter, they agree that if the cup is found with one of them, the guilty person will return to Egypt to be a slave to the

governor. They are shocked and distraught when the cup is found in Benjamin's sack. The brothers know they cannot return to their father without his beloved son so they begin the journey back to Egypt to once again deal with the bizarre governor. Upon arrival they approach Joseph with humility and sorrow. Though they continue to maintain their innocence in the matter, they also realize that they have no rational defense since the cup was found in their possession. Judah attempts to negotiate a trade of himself for Benjamin knowing that to return without the boy would result in certain death to his father. Their culpability regarding their sin in the demise of Joseph seems to be catching up with them.

READ CHAPTER 45

1. *Why do you think Joseph reacted so emotionally to his brothers after weeks or possibly months of dealing with them?*

7. Calculate on a map the distance between Hebron and the city of Rameses in Egypt. If they traveled 15-20 miles a day, approximately how long would the round trip take?
8. What were Joseph's departing words to his brothers?



The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament defines the word “quarrel” (NIV) or “become troubled” (NKJ) as “agitation growing out of some deeply rooted emotion.”

9. In light of this definition, what kinds of deep emotions would the brothers be experiencing and why?
10. Have you ever had an experience of being caught in a deception and had to face the consequences when the truth was revealed? What kinds of deep emotions did you experience?
11. What finally convinced Jacob that Joseph was alive?

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
