

Small Group Study Guide, Week of June 22, 2025

Genesis 47:13-27, "Joseph's Wise Stewardship"

Ice Breaker: If you needed to pawn something for quick cash, what would be one of the first things you would consider pawning? Why?

Dig:

1. Just how severe did the famine get? Compare this to Pharaoh's dreams (Gen 41:17-24) and Joseph's interpretation (Gen 41: 25-32) beforehand. What do you find most interesting about the warning and the outcome?
2. As steward of Pharaoh's resources, what steps did Joseph take to "save" the people from starvation? What were the political and economic impacts of Joseph's policies? How did the people accept Joseph's interventions? What were the consequences by the time of Exodus 1?
3. At this point, what is the status of the Abrahamic covenant regarding his offspring? (Gen 12:1-3) Of the covenant regarding the land? (Gen 15:17-21)

Apply:

4. What lessons do you take away for wise stewardship of the resources God has placed in your own hands?
5. What lessons do you take away for how you treat your family/relatives? Your governmental authorities? Those who are subject to you in some way? Those around you who are starving or in crisis?

Adapted from Serendipity Bible (1988), This Morning with God (1978), Search the Scriptures (1978)