Judah's Sacrificial Appeal

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The Seed: Sovereignly Preserved / Redemption; Atonement / Genesis 44

Children's Discussion Questions

Ages 2–4

Who had the silver cup put in Benjamin's sack?

Where was the cup found?

Were the brothers happy or sad when the cup was found?

Did the brothers leave Benjamin behind?

Who spoke to Joseph for Benjamin?

Did Judah want to help Benjamin?

Who changes sinful hearts?

Who gave His life to save sinners?

Can we trust God when we are afraid?

What can we say when we sin?

Ages 5–7

Why did Joseph put his cup in Benjamin's sack?

What happened when the cup was found?

Why did all the brothers return to Joseph instead of leaving Benjamin behind?

How do we know Judah was different from the man he had been earlier?

Why was Judah worried about his father, Jacob?

What did Judah offer to do for Benjamin?

What does it mean to take another person's place?

How did Judah show love through his actions rather than only through his words?

Why do we need more than simply saying, "I'm sorry," when we have sinned?

How is Jesus greater than Judah?

What should we do when we do not understand what God is doing?

Ages 8–10

What was Joseph trying to discover about his brothers by testing them?

How was Benjamin's situation similar to Joseph's situation many years earlier?

What choices could the brothers have made after the cup was discovered?

What did their decision to return to Joseph with Benjamin reveal about them?

Judah said, "God has found out the iniquity of your servants." What past sin may have been on his conscience?

Why did Judah focus so much on the grief Benjamin's loss would cause Jacob?

What differences do you see between Judah in Genesis 37 and Judah in Genesis 44?

What is repentance? How is repentance different from merely feeling sorry after being caught?

Why was Judah's willingness to become a slave important evidence of his changed heart?

What does this story teach us about God's ability to change sinful people?

In what way does Judah's offer remind us of Jesus?

Why is Jesus a much greater Substitute than Judah?

What can we remember when God allows something difficult or confusing into our lives?

Ages 11–13

What was Joseph's test designed to reveal about his brothers, particularly Judah?

Why was Benjamin the ideal person through whom to test whether the brothers had changed?

How did Joseph recreate the basic circumstances of the brothers' earlier betrayal?

What does the brothers' refusal to abandon Benjamin reveal about their growing unity and loyalty?

Why does Judah confess that God has uncovered their iniquity when they did not steal the cup?

How can unresolved guilt affect the way someone interprets later hardships?

What specific evidence demonstrates that Judah's repentance was genuine?

How had Judah's attitude toward Jacob's suffering changed since Genesis 37?

What is meant by the statement that true repentance produces "transformed affections"?

Can someone genuinely repent without making any effort to change? Explain your answer.

What did Judah mean when he said that he had become Benjamin's "guarantee"?

How did Judah's willingness to become a slave anticipate Christ's substitutionary sacrifice?

Where does the comparison between Judah and Jesus fall short?

How does God's sovereignty operate through Joseph's actions without removing Joseph's responsibility?

How should a Christian respond when God's providence seems painful or impossible to understand?