

Genesis 44-45 — THE REVELATION

Warm-Up Question:

What were the biggest questions about life you thought about growing up (or have now)?

READ: 42:1-4; 44:30-45:9

I. THE GOD WHO RULES

- ▶ How would you define God's sovereignty and providence? How do you see them in this passage from the story of Joseph?
- ▶ How have you seen God's sovereign ruling over your life (or want to see it)?

II. THE GOD WHO RECONCILES

- ▶ Joseph meets with his brothers that tried to kill him and now has all power to do what he wants. What would you expect him to do to them? What would you do? What does he do instead?
- ▶ Read Matt. 5:23-24; 7:3-5 and Eph. 4:2-3, 32. Is there anyone with whom you don't feel reconciled? What do you these passages point you toward? Share why that might be difficult to do and a possible next step.

III. THE GOD WHO RESCUES

- ▶ How did God rescue his people through Joseph?
- ▶ Was there anything in the story that pointed to them deserving to be rescued? Do ever subtly think you've done something to deserve being rescued? (Do you think of God's love increasing when your good)?
- ▶ Judah offered his life for Benjamin. Discuss how Jesus did the same for you, how it guarantees our rescue, and what difference that should make.

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

God's *sovereignty* is his right and power to do all that he decides to do.

God's *providence* is his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures and all their actions.

"And finally, I would like Mr. Van der Boek to know that I offer him my forgiveness because Jesus Christ died to forgive. This was also the wish of my husband. And so, I would kindly ask someone to come to my side and lead me across the courtroom so that I can take Mr. Van der Boek in my arms, embrace him, and let him know that he is truly forgiven.

-South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission

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