

OCF Small Groups: *passionately pursuing God, healthy relationships with each other, and people who don't know Jesus, as part of a Gospel Community.*

Genesis 46 – 47

(Sunday, June 20)

1. a. If you had to move to a new country to live, which one would you choose? Why?

b. What would you be afraid of the most? What would you miss most about your roots?

2. a. God tells Jacob to not be afraid and encourages him in the present and for the future about moving down to Egypt (Ch. 46: 1 -4). In what ways does God encourage you presently?

b. What hope has God given you for the future?

3. a. In what respects is Jacob a broken man as a result of the 22 years since the events of chapter 37? Besides having more grandsons, how else has he aged and matured?

b. In what ways do certain events over the span of time humble us?

c. As we get older, do we automatically mature spiritually? Why or why not?

4. a. In what ways does Joseph's skill as a planner and administrator continue to be demonstrated as he arranges for his father's family (Ch. 46: 28 – 34)?

b. How does God use your skills for his glory and the good of others?

5.
 - a. Loyalty and kindness were two strong suits of Joseph, but they were played inconsistently “on the job.” Do you think Joseph was acting justly with the Egyptians when he took their money, livestock, and land in exchange for food? Why or not?
 - b. Of loyalty and kindness, which is your strong suit? In what settings are you more loyal or more kind?
 - c. In what area does Joseph's story urge you to demonstrate loyalty, or kindness, regularly in your life?

6.
 - a. In what ways was Jacob's desire to be buried in the Promised Land a witness to others about his faith? How can such a witness impact the lives of others?
 - b. What do you want your lasting witness to say to others? If you knew you were about to die, how would you prepare that witness so others would know of your faith?
 - c. What can we do every day to ensure our final days are a witness to God?

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION Genesis 46: 3 - 4

³Then he said, “I am God, the God of your father. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you into a great nation. ⁴I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again, and Joseph's hand shall close your eyes.”

PRAY

Lord Jesus, thank you for promising to be with me now and forever. Help me to trust and follow you wherever you lead me or tell me to go. Thank you for giving me the skills and abilities to bring you glory and bring good to your people. Teach me how to balance loyalty and kindness toward others. Help me to live a life that makes a lasting witness to others around me who don't know of your salvation – in Jesus' name I pray, AMEN.