**The pain of Separation – G. 42:24, 50:20**

*He turned away from them and wept…You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive*

**Focal Truth: God provided for Joseph in his painful family separation**

* Nothing is as painful as family separation!
* Family separation leaves deep emotional scars!
* Family rejection – Family abuse wounds the heart & mind!
* Are you living with the deep pain of family separation?

Joseph lived with the deep pain of family hatred, rejection & separation!

Joseph experienced God reuniting His family!

1. **Joseph accepted his painful family separation as the will of God – 41:51 -52**
2. Joseph names his sons in his painful separation from family – 41:51 – 52

Manasseh – God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father’s household

Ephraim – God has made fruitful in the land of my affliction

1. Joseph was **violently** separated from his family by his brothers hateful actions
2. Joseph was **abusively** separated from his family while in prison in Eygypt
3. Joseph lived **separately** in Egypt as a stranger alien
4. Joseph **longingly** desired to see his father again in his separation
5. Joseph **endured** affliction in his separation
6. Joseph **accepted** God’s purposes in his family separation
7. **God provided Joseph with an unexpected family reunion with his** **brothers & father 42:7 -8; 46:29 -30**

**4 reunions took place with Joseph & his brothers & father**

1. It was a **long awaited** family reunion

Joseph had not seen his brothers or father for 23 yrs!

1. It was an **unexpected** family reunion

It was an **emotional** family reunion - **Note the times Joseph weeps from 42 – 46**

42:24 – Joseph turned away and wept when he heard the brothers speak to each other about their treatment of Joseph

43:30 – Joseph hurried out for he was deeply stirred over his brother and he sought a place to weep and he entered his chamber and wept there

45:2 – Joseph wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it

1. It was a **surprising** family reunion

**Joseph reveals himself to his brothers** – 45:3 – *Joseph said to his brothers, I am Joseph! Is my father still alive? But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence*

1. It was a **joyful** family reunion

45:14 – Joseph fell on his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept and Benjamin wept on his neck and afterward his brothers talked with him

45:15 – He kissed all his brothers and wept on them and afterward

46:29 – as soon as he appeared before him he fell on his neck and wept on his neck a long time

1. It was a **loving** family reunion

**Joseph is reunited to his father after 30 yr. separation! 46:29 -30**

*Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to Goshen to meet his father Israel; as soon as he appeared before him, he fell on his neck and wept on his neck a long time.*

*The Israel said to Joseph, now let me die, since I have seen your face, that you are still alive*

1. **Joseph tells his brothers how God allowed their painful family separation for his purposes – 50:20**
2. Joseph’s brothers **worried about Joseph repaying** them for their abuse 50:15
3. Joseph’s brothers told him that **their father asked him to forgive his brothers** 50:17
4. Joseph tells his brothers – **God used your evil for his good purposes in my life** 50:20

*You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive*

**Consider**

1. Joseph learned in painful separation **God works good for those who love Him!** Now he teaches his brothers that great truth!
2. Joseph learned that in painful separation **God provides for those who love Him!**

Joseph was renited with his father!

Joseph was reunited with his brothers!

Joseph was the provider for all his family

1. Joseph lived under **the favor of God because He loved & trusted God**

*The Lord was with Joseph so he became a successful man – 39:2*

*Joseph found favor in the sight and became his personal servant & overseer of his house & put him in charge of all that he owned – 39:4*

*The Lord was with Joseph & extended kindness to him, & gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer – 39:21*

*Pharoah said to Joseph, See I have set you over all the land of Egypt - 41:41*

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. Painful family separations produce life -long family consequences & emotional wounds
2. Painful family separations separate families lives!
3. Nothing is more joyful than God putting families back together!
4. God brings good out of painful family separation for those who love Him!
5. Trust the Lord when you experience family separation – He will help you!

*You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive*

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**