

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Faithfulness Through All Generations - Genesis 43:15-45:15 - "God's Sovereignty On Full Display"

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?

If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?

2. Have you ever been blatantly wronged by somebody else which had a clear impact on your life's trajectory?

As you look at your life in the aftermath of that event, are there ways that you can see the Lord worked through it?

How do passages like Romans 8:28 encourage you to know that God was working even if you couldn't see it?

How does this reveal the sovereignty of God over everything in all of creation?

**These questions are not to minimize the genuinely terrible circumstances some of us have faced at the hands of others, but to encourage an eternal perspective that is grounded in the truth of God's Word and the unfailing goodness of our God.*

3. How is God's sovereignty on full display as we get into the first 15 verses of Genesis 45?

How do Joseph's words to his brothers reveal his own understanding of God's sovereignty in his life?

What impact does a right understanding of God's total sovereignty have on how we live out our lives?

4. We've seen over the last two Sundays how Joseph has responded both mercifully and graciously to his brothers:

How has he been MERCIFUL to his brothers? (not giving them the punishment that they deserved)

How has he been GRACIOUS to his brothers? (giving them good/blessings they didn't deserve)

How does the gospel reveal both God's mercy and his grace toward us in/through Christ Jesus?

In light of God's mercy and grace toward us, what is the command of Scripture for how we are to treat others?

Are you quick to extend mercy & grace toward others, or do you struggle? How can we grow in this area?

5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these encourage, convict, or challenge you, & if so, how?

I've included the Scripture passages that I referenced with each point below: how do they relate to each takeaway?

Joseph forgives rather than pursuing revenge!

God's forgiven us in Christ, we must forgive too! (MATTHEW 18:21-22)

Joseph blesses his brothers who'd harmed him!

We're all called to bless those who persecute us! (ROMANS 12:14, 17-21)

God uses the brothers' sins to get Joseph here!

God even uses human sin for His own purposes! GENESIS 45:7-8, ACTS 2:23)