

1. Promoted to a position of honor and power

- a) Review the story of Joseph until the day he was called from prison to interpret Pharaoh’s dream.
- b) What God-inspired counsel did this young prisoner give to the ruler of Egypt? Genesis 41:16, 33-36
- c) How did Pharaoh respond to Joseph’s interpretation of the dream and wise counsel? Genesis 41:37-44
- d) Does Pharaoh’s declaration make sense to you?
- e) Imagine what Joseph was thinking and feeling as he rode in Pharaoh’s second chariot while servants cried out, “Bow the knee!” (Genesis 37:5-9)

2. Confronting his troubled past

- a) What event caused Joseph to have to deal with his troubled past? Genesis 42:1-6
- b) Genesis 42:7-20 What are your thoughts about Joseph’s initial interaction with his brothers?
- c) What conviction came to Joseph’s brothers even though they did not yet recognize him? Genesis 42:21-23
- d) What was Joseph’s reaction as he overheard their conversation? Genesis 42:24
- e) What did Joseph’s reaction reveal about his relationship with the LORD? (Matthew 5:43-45)

3. Put to the test

- a) Summarize the challenging situations Joseph created for his brothers.

- i) Money in their sacks – Genesis 42:25-28
- ii) Preferential treatment for Benjamin – Genesis 43:28-34
- iii) Concealing his silver cup in Benjamin’s sack – Genesis 44:1-13
- b) Why did Joseph design these challenging tests for his brothers? Was this appropriate or was it unnecessary anguish for his brothers?

4. Revelation and healing

- a) Genesis 45:1-3 What is your reaction to this scene?
- b) Genesis 45:4-15 What powerful testimony did Joseph convey to his anxious brothers?
- c) Genesis 45:24 What does Joseph’s parting comment to his brothers reveal about the relational healing they are experiencing? (see also Genesis 50:15-21)
- d) Genesis 45:25-28, 46:1-6, 29 What are your thoughts about Joseph’s reunion with his father? (see also Genesis 47:27-28)
- e) Not all stories have such a happy ending. What encouragement would you give to someone who is still longing for relational healing?
- f) What healing of relationships have you experienced as a result of the blessing of God?

