

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Genesis: A Tale of Two Nations

Gen. 46:28-47:31; Heb. 11:13-16

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*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions
or family or personal devotions*

1. What is there about West Highland that makes it feel like family for you? How do you contribute to its sense of family?

2. Discuss the church as a 'community of reconciled believers'.

3. In his message, Pastor John spoke of the church as a family. Read about the earliest example of the church in Acts 2:42-47.
 - a) How does this view relate to our being in the world and not of it?
 - b) How should a family treat you, no matter where you go?
 - c) How should the relationship of our church family differ from that of the casual friendships we have with those in the world?

4. In Genesis 47:4, the brothers ask to 'sojourn' in the land of Egypt.
 - a) Consider the difference between someone "sojourning" and moving in permanently?
 - b) Why do you think they chose to use this word, rather than another? What were their expectations?

5. John 17:14-16 and 1 John 2:16, and discuss the following:
 - a) What is the relation of the brothers' request to sojourn and how WE are to live in this world?
 - b) What does this mean in practical terms? (Read Romans 12:2)

6. After reading through Genesis chapters 46 & 47, recall the monumental meeting between Jacob and Pharaoh in 47:7-10. Although only 4 verses described this meeting, discuss the significance of why Pharaoh would ask Jacob's age? From Jacob's perspective, imagine what is going through his mind as he meets with this great earthly king?

7. Why would Jacob take the initiative to give an initial blessing and a parting blessing to Pharaoh? Review Hebrews 7:1-7 for such a blessing's eternal perspective.

8. Review Gen 47:9. What does the word 'pilgrimage' teach you about how your life should be governed?

9. As he did for Jacob and his family, recount for your group the times that God has preserved you.

10. Read Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16. How should looking for a "lasting city" effect the way that you deal with things