

# What to Do When You Are Hurt - Genesis 40-45

## Wisdom from the Curious Life of Joseph – Part III

### *Message Discussion Guide*

#### Connect

- Why is it so hard to forgive people who have hurt you?

#### Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read Genesis 45:3-4.
  - What do you think was going through the minds of Joseph’s brothers when they learned that the king of Egypt was Joseph?
  - What would most people have done if they were in Joseph’s situation with Joseph’s power and authority?
- Read Genesis 45:5-7.
  - In a sentence, what was Joseph’s surprising message to his brothers?
  - Joseph said “God sent me ahead” twice in these three verses. What is the significance of that phrase?
- Read Genesis 50:15-19.
  - What did Joseph mean when he said, “Am I in the place of God?”
- Read Genesis 50:20.
  - What does it mean that the brothers meant it for evil?
  - What does it mean that God meant it for good?
- Read Romans 12:19-20.
  - What is our part and what is God’s part when someone hurts us?

#### Respond

- In what ways does holding a grudge or staying angry and resentful toward someone ultimately hurt us more than the initial wound inflicted by the other person?
- How would you instruct someone asking you how they should go about forgiving?

#### Bonus for Thinkers

- What does it mean in Romans 12:20 when it says your acts of kindness will heap fiery coals on the head of the offender?

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## First Baptist Nacogdoches Bible Reading Plan

Day	Scripture
Monday (5/4)	Genesis 45:3-9, 50:15-20
Tuesday (5/5)	Romans 13:1-14
Wednesday (5/6)	Romans 14:1-23
Thursday (5/7)	Romans 16:1-27
Friday (5/8)	Proverbs 3

# Daily Devotion Questions

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## Monday (5/4) — Genesis 45:3-9, 50:15-20

- Review the “Respond” questions from yesterday’s message discussion guide.

## Tuesday (5/5) — Romans 13:1-14

- In what areas of your life do you resist governing authorities (13:1)? How does the Lord want your attitudes to change in those areas?
- What is one specific way you can show love to your neighbor this week (13:8-10)?
- Why do you think Paul connects darkness with sin and light to righteous living (13:12-13)? In what ways do you have “dark living” in your life?
- Read Romans 13:1-7. Under what circumstances is it ok to refuse to submit to the governing authorities?

## Wednesday (5/6) — Romans 14:1-23

- What are some examples of how Christians wrongly judge other Christians for behavior that is not specifically condemned in the Bible (see 14:1-4)?
- As spoken of in 14:13, what is an example of a way our behavior can be a stumbling block or hindrance in the life of another?
- If a person feels convicted or guilty about some behavior not specifically condemned in Scripture, what should he do?
- Read Romans 14:21. What are some examples of things that could cause a brother to stumble?

## Thursday (5/7) — Romans 16:1-27

- What should believers do with people who cause divisions and create obstacles in the ministry of the church (16:17)? Why (16:18)? How does this differ from the way Christians ordinarily deal with these kinds of people?
- According to 16:19, the believers in Rome were famous for their obedience. What are you famous for? What character trait, good or bad, stands out most clearly in you? What does the Lord want you to be famous for?
- What is the secret or mystery that has been kept concealed for so long, yet now revealed for all the nations to know (16:25-27)? Say a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for that great truth!
- Read Romans 16:1-15. In this passage we see Paul thank many individuals for their contributions to the Kingdom of God. Go through the list and note some of the things people did that were considered noteworthy enough that the Lord included them in the pages of Scripture.

## Friday (5/8) — Proverbs 3

- What verse in this chapter most stood out to you? What lesson has the Lord taught you in your Bible reading today?
- In Proverbs 3:1, we are instructed not to forget the teaching of the Lord. What are one or two ways to help keep God’s teaching in your heart and mind?
- In Proverbs 3:5-6, we are told that trusting God with all our heart and following him in all our ways instead of leaning on our own understanding is the key to seeing God make our paths straight. What paths are crooked in your life because you have failed to do this?
- Reread Proverbs 3:9-10. In what ways are you doing that? In what ways is God filling your barn with reward?
- In Proverbs 3:11-12, we learn that God disciplines those he loves to help them live a more godly life. Are there any areas of your life where God may be disciplining you? What are you learning from that discipline?