

Joseph and Forgiveness - Genesis 45

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How Joseph was wronged and mistreated		
How he was treated	By whom	The issue
Disbelieved	Family	Acceptance
Betrayed	Family	Love and to be loved
Taken from home	Merchants	Security
Sold as a slave	Merchants	Worth
Falsely accused	Wife of employer	Truth
Imprisoned	Employer	Integrity
Forgotten	Butler	Significance

A. Forgiveness is a choice

- Grieves the loss v. 2
- Admits that you have been wronged v. 4
- Does not blame v.5
- Forgives before being asked to forgive v.5
- Accepts God's hand in the events v. 5-8
- Honestly communicates v. 5
- Grows from and in the difficulties v. 9-28
- Does not allow anger and bitterness v. 9
- Does not retaliate but blesses and does good v. 9-11 (Luke 6:28)
- Restores fellowship v. 15

B. Results of not forgiving

- Guilt – knowing that God has forgiven us
- Bondage – conform to the hurts and let them control us
- Bitterness - like Saul
- Manipulation of others
- Sin (Matthew 6:15)
- Inability to really love God (I John 4:20-21)
- Doubt your relationship with God (Matthew 6:12)
- Depression – all energy spent on bitterness and resentment
- Torment (Matthew 18:35)
- Rejoice in misfortune of enemies (Proverbs 24:17)
- Grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30-32)
- Punishment by God (Matthew 18:35)