

THE JOURNEY

BIBLE STUDY READING SCHEDULE

January 18	Genesis 42, 43	Matthew 13:33-58
January 19	Genesis 44, 45	Matthew 14:3-12
January 20	Genesis 46, 47, 48	Matthew 14:22-36
January 21	Genesis 49, 50	Matthew 15:1-20
January 22	Exodus 1, 2, 3	Matthew 15:21-39
January 23	Exodus 4, 5, 6	Matthew 16
January 24	Exodus 7, 8	Matthew 17
January 25	Exodus 9, 10	Matthew 18:1-20

Family Feud [Genesis 46-50]

If you had been one of Joseph's brothers, how would you have felt when he finally revealed himself?

- Shocked Ashamed Afraid
 Relieved Other What would you most likely say to him?

What impresses you most about Joseph's character?

- his perspective on God's hand His willingness to forgive
 His love for his family His ability to never give up hope

How have you responded when you've hurt someone close to you?

- Try to make it up to them Avoid them Seek their forgiveness
 Try and quickly reconcile Try to justify my actions with an excuse
 Give them time to cool down Other: _____

Which memory is harder for you to shake: Rejection Guilt
 Which is harder for you to accept: Mercy Judgment

What are the highlights and "low-lights" of verses 19-21, Chpt 50.
 How is this an appropriate end to Genesis, the book of Beginnings?

How does Joseph's life reflect your own spiritual journey?



The Unopened Gift

Life without accountability

ENTITLEMENT – Life without danger, disappointment or aggravation

VICTIMIZATION -- The search for someone to blame is always successful.

DESPAIR – "most men lead lives of quiet desperation" H.D. Thoreau

*When you blame others,
 You give up your power to change.*

➤ **The gift of Response-Ability** [v. frankl, ability to choose]

"If any one of you is without sin..." Jn 8:7

There are two primary choices in life:

- to accept conditions as they exist, or
- accept the responsibility for changing them.

➤ **The gift of Solutions** [addictions, excesses, perversions, debt,

"I must do something" always solves more problems than blame.

Jesus straightened up and asked her, "where are they? Has no one condemned you?" John 8:10

➤ **The gift of Dignity**

Dignity is the fruit of discipline.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." John 8:11

John 8:1-11

1But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. **2**At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. **3**The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group **4**and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. **5**In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" **6**They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. **7**When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." **8**Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

9At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. **10**Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

11"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."