

# GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD

Genesis 50:15-21

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INTRO:

The nuances of forgiveness.

## A. THE REALITY OF FORGIVENESS

1. We will **encounter** the people who cause us pain (42:6-7)
2. We agonize with the **memories** that cause us pain (42:8-9)
3. We struggle with the **roller-coaster** of our emotions (42:17-24a)

## B. THE REQUISITE OF FORGIVENESS

1. Forgiveness is not **easy** (42:24; 37:19-20)
2. Forgiveness needs **lament** (42:24; 43:30; 45:2; 45:14-15; 46:29; 50:17)
3. Forgiveness does not delight in public **shaming** (42:7; 43:32-34)
4. Forgiveness needs genuine **change** (44:33-45:2)
5. Forgiveness does not cover the **offenses** made (50:20)

## C. THE REASON FOR FORGIVENESS

1. We offer forgiveness because we are already **forgiven** by (Colossians 3:13)
2. We are **freed** from the prison of hate and bitterness. (Ephesians 4:31-32)
3. We let God get **justice** for us (Romans 12:19)
4. We allow God to make **all things** work together for good (Genesis 50:20)

CONCLUSION

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Icebreaker. Describe your experience in the latest school, church or family reunion? Who were you looking forward to seeing? Who were you not looking forward to meeting again?
2. Read Genesis 42:6-9. How does Joseph react when he sees his brothers again in Egypt? From these reactions, how do long standing effects of conflict play in our mind, emotions, and other aspects of our lives?
3. Read Genesis 42:17-24. In what way forgiveness a process? Do you trust every person you've forgiven? Why or why not? How have you intentionally rebuilt trust with certain people who have hurt you in the past?
4. Read Genesis 42:24; 43:30; 45:2; 45:14-15; 46:29; 50:17. Biblical *lament* is defined as a passionate expression of grief, often in music, poetry, or song form. The grief is most often born of regret, or mourning. How does lament helps us in achieving complete forgiveness? Is lament compulsory or an option?
5. Read Genesis 44:33-45:2. This passage became the key to Joseph forgiving his brothers of the pain and suffering they cause him. What did Judah do to soften the heart of Joseph? How is this passage a foreshadowing of Jesus taking our place to secure our salvation? How is this element a requisite towards achieving genuine forgiveness?
6. Read the following passages and discuss the basis of how we should forgive others:
  - Colossians 3:13
  - Ephesians 4:31-32
  - Romans 12:19
  - Genesis 50:20
7. If your resources allow you, watch this inspiring video on the power of forgiveness:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DMw2\\_ClwNw&list=PLxDxH\\_Zw-FZ-CweMILo4d7zCcYMyiC07f&index=23](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DMw2_ClwNw&list=PLxDxH_Zw-FZ-CweMILo4d7zCcYMyiC07f&index=23)
8. Without mentioning any name/s, pray for one another that we may ask forgiveness and release forgiveness to someone else.