

Sermon: The Cycle Breaking Power of God's Love
Series: *Joseph: Trusting the Goodness of God*

Scripture: Genesis 44
Date: May 3, 2020

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?

a) Can you relate to Judah's story? Have you faced a cycle of mistreatment? How have you responded to it?

b) What relational sin cycles can you see in your life? Are there habitual ways that you respond to certain people or situations?

2) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) God didn't quit on Judah. Has God quit on you?

b) How does knowing that God is both our good brother and our good father allow us to submit to (accept) our reality without making it our ultimate/defining reality?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Do you believe that God can change anyone? Why or why not?

b) How does Judah in Genesis 44 become a picture of Jesus. Think about both mercy and justice.

APPLICATION

a) How can you replace your normal sin cycle with the Repent-Believe-Repeat cycle?

PRAYER

Praise God that he is our "better" brother and our "better" father.

Confess any relational sin cycles that you can identify.

Ask God to allow you to live in his cycle of repentance and faith especially in the midst of temptation.