

Study Guide for February 27th, 2011. Relationships Restored: Gen. 44:1 – 45:15.

Introduction: Describe a time you witnessed God working through circumstances to expose issues that were hidden in people's hearts. What was the final outcome?

I. Set Up – Again: (Gen. 44:1-13)

- A. What does Joseph tell his steward (vs. 1-2) to do? What does he hope to find out?
- B. How do the brothers respond (vs. 6-9) to the accusation of theft (vs. 3-5)?
- C. How the steward modify (vs.10) the brothers' pledge (vs. 9)?
- D. What was God forcing the brothers to admit by repeatedly returning their silver?
- E. Read Matt. 10:26. How does it apply to . . . the brothers? . . . your present life?

II. No Excuses – Let Me Take His Place: (Gen. 44: 14-34)

- A. What is Joseph's tone (vs. 14)? What do Joseph's questions (vs. 15) accomplish?
- B. Judah's response (vs. 16) contains 3 elements. What does he claim and assert?
- C. How does Joseph modify the consequences (vs. 17)? (Compare to Gen. 37:26-28)
- D. Analyze Judah's speech (vs. 18 – 34) . . . What does this speech reveal about Judah?
 - 1) What facts does he review (vs. 18-26)?
 - 2) What would be the consequences of Benjamin's enslavement (vs. 27-31)?
 - 3) What does Judah offer instead of keeping Benjamin (vs. 32-34)?
- E. Read John 15:13. What does Judah's offer reveal about him?

III. God Meant It For Good: (Gen. 45:1-15)

- A. How does Joseph respond to Judah's speech? What does this reveal about Joseph?
- B. What does Joseph teach about God (vs. 5-8)? How should the brothers react to this?
- C. What does Joseph instruct his brothers to do? What does he promise to provide?
- D. Read Acts 2:22-24. How is Jesus' story like the story of Joseph? What do we see?
- E. How have you seen God bringing good out of evil in your life? (See Rom. 8:28-29)