

## TRULY BROKEN ~ Genesis 44:18 - 45:15

→ Scripture Reading Genesis 44:12-17

### PASSIONATE PLEA ~ Genesis 44:18-34

[18] Then Judah went up to him and said: "Please, my lord, let your servant speak a word to my lord. Do not be angry with your servant, though you are equal to Pharaoh himself. ...[23] But YOU TOLD YOUR SERVANTS, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you will not see my face again.' [24] When we went back to your servant my father, we told him what my lord had said. ...[27] "Your servant my father said to us, 'You know that MY WIFE BORE ME TWO SONS. [28] One of them went away from me, and I said, "He has surely been torn to pieces." And I have not seen him since. [29] If you take this one from me too and harm comes to him, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in misery.' [30] "So now, if the boy is not with us when I go back to your servant my father and if my father, whose life is closely bound up with the boy's life, [31] sees that the boy isn't there, he will die. Your servants will bring the gray head of our father down to the grave in sorrow. ...[33] "Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord's slave in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers. [34] How can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? No! Do not let me see the misery that would come upon my father."

### APPLICATION

- **BROKENNESS** - to feel HORRIBLE about what was done
- **REPENTANCE** - to RENOUNCE it as wrong, to TURN AWAY from it

### FLOODGATES OF FORGIVENESS ~ Genesis 44:1-15

[1] Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. [2] And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it. [3] Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence. [4] Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, THE ONE YOU SOLD into Egypt! [5] And now, do NOT be DISTRESSED and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. [6] For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will not be plowing and reaping. [7] But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. [8] "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. [9] Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay.

**JOSEPH MADE IT CLEAR...** (THAT THIS WAS ALL PART OF GOD'S PLAN)

- God SENT me to SAVE lives
- God SENT me to PRESERVE the FAMILY
- You did NOT SEND me here God DID
- God put me IN CHARGE of Egypt

[10] You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me - you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. [11] I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.' [12] "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. [13] Tell my father about all the HONOR accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly."

**Genesis 12:2-3** (ESV) And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. [3] I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

[14] Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. [15] And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

### **Because Joseph...**

- believed God was SOVEREIGN
- had already FORGIVEN them

## **APPLICATION**

Brokenness → led to Repentance → led to Forgiveness → led to Restoration

**Forgiveness = giving up my RIGHT to hurt you for hurting me**

### **WHEN WE FORGIVE WE CHOOSE**

- to put the OFFENSE in God's hands
- NOT to DEMAND some kind of payment or VENGEANCE

**Romans 12:17-19** (NLT) Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. [18] Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. [19] Dear friends, **NEVER take revenge**. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD.

**Colossians 3:13** (NIV) Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

## **TAKE AWAY ??**