



the DUNGEON

SERMON GUIDE

A TEST OF LOVE (PART 2)

Genesis 43:19-44:17 | Pastor Tim Prince

November 6, 2022

Faith Community Church | fchudson.com

Conversation Questions

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- Scripture that stands out to you while you read
- Observations you are making about a passage
- Applications that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- Prayer that invites God to participate in all that you do

Getting to Know Me: What was one of the most memorable "cries" you have experienced? Describe a memorable time when you or someone close to you wept deeply. What was the meaning of the moment?

Note About the Passage: This is the reason Joseph's brothers were compelled to travel a long distance from the land of Canaan to seek the abundant food storages in the land of Egypt during a worldwide famine. // Remember that Benjamin was the youngest son of Jacob's favorite wife Rachel. // Jacob was especially protective of Benjamin after losing his son Joseph (Jacob believed Joseph to be dead because of the deception of Joseph's brothers). // The silver that Joseph ordered to be put back in each brother's sacks was what they brought to pay for the grain to fill their bags. // Using a silver cup (gazing into the reflections upon the water like a crystal ball), Egyptians would practice a mystical, superstitious method of divination, which was a practice of seeing into the future.

Read: Genesis 43:19-44:17

- S:** What verses, phrases, words, or feelings stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated," surprising, or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O:** How would you have felt, and what would you have done, if you discovered silver in your sack, like Joseph's brothers did in this passage (see also in Genesis 42:25-35)?
- O:** Describe the different thoughts and feelings you think Joseph might have had seeing his brother Benjamin. What kind of thoughts and emotions might have contributed to Joseph's need to run away and weep in verse 30?
- O:** Why do you think Joseph continues to keep his identity a secret from his brothers? What might be motivating his repeated efforts to try and frame them for various crimes against Egypt?
- O:** Which actions and attitudes do you admire from various people in this story? Which actions do you find yourself disapproving of? Explain why you feel the way that you do.
- A:** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A:** Is there a person or situation in your life that you are tempted to try and control? Are there any ways (big or small) you find yourself acting in a controlling way? What are some specific and tangible ways you can demonstrate trust in God and how he would want you to conduct yourself instead?
- A:** Are there any relationships or situations where you find yourself consistently acting or responding out of fear?
- P:** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, and forgive you for the ways you have failed. Ask him to provide the direction and strength that you need.