

SERMON GUIDE

I WILL BRING YOU HOME

Genesis 45:25-46:7, 26-27 | Pastor Tim Prince

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Faith Community Church | fcchudson.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: Can you share about a time in your life when someone made a significant promise to you that really thought would never happen, but in the end they came through?

Notes About the Passage: Even before Jacob was born, God made a commitment to bless him and to make him great; a promise that God would have to repeat for Jacob many times throughout his life and that Jacob struggled to believe. When Jacob was led to believe that his favorite son, Joseph was dead, he lost all hope and believed that he would go down to the grave in sorrow. Beersheba (mentioned in this story) is the last city on your way out of the Promised Land on your way to Egypt. In the middle of this scripture (Genesis 46:8-25) is a record of all the people who went down with Jacob into Egypt. While we won't be taking the time to read the genealogy, it's actually really important. The genealogy represents the fulfillment of God's promise to make Jacob into a great nation. Seventy is a number of perfection and completion in the Bible.

Read Genesis 45:25-46:7, 26-27 (You may also want to read Genesis 35:9-15)

- 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:** What do you notice about Jacob's reaction when he hears that Joseph is alive (45:25-28)? Why does it impact him this way? What do you think is the state of Jacob's faith in God's promises?
- O:** Why do you think that faith was so hard for Jacob throughout his life? Do you resonate with his struggle to believe God? How?
- O:** In what ways could you be encouraged by the way God speaks to Jacob (46:3-4)?
- O:** Take a moment to read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 and Revelation 21:1-8. These are promises that God has made to bring us home to Jesus just as Jacob was brought home to Joseph. As you read these things, are they hard or easy to believe?
- 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 specific promise that God has made to us that you are struggling to believe right now? Is there a specific relationship or situation that would be different if you trusted God to do what he has said he will do? How can you choose to trust him today?
- P:** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide the direction that you need.