

Community Bible Church

The Book of Genesis

Chapter 43

Our current study in **Genesis** deals with the life of Joseph and his brothers. In last week's lesson (**Genesis chapter 42**), the brothers traveled to Egypt to purchase grain. While doing so they dealt with their brother Joseph, although did not recognize him. In this week's lesson (**Genesis chapter 43**) the brothers make a second trip to Egypt, but are much more anxious about this journey.

This narrative of Joseph and his brothers is contained in **Genesis chapters 42-45**. Other than being an intriguing story of family drama, this narrative is actually a story of God working through this family in terms of forgiveness, repentance, reconciliation, and spiritual maturity. From this family, God will eventually bring forth the twelve tribes of Israel and the formation of the nation of Israel. This is the story of His preparatory work in the lives of these men. This story also contains lessons and examples for us today in how to deal with similar attitudes in a godly manner. An outline of **chapter 43** is as follows:

The Second Trip to Egypt

The Preparation For The Trip In Canaan 43:1-14

The Participation In The Trip In Egypt 43:15-34

1. From your prior study of **chapter 42**, where are **Joseph, Simeon** and **Benjamin** when the story continues in **chapter 43**? Where are the other nine brothers? Where is their father **Jacob** (Israel)?
2. Read **43:1-10** and describe some of the issues that Jacob and his sons were dealing with as they prepare to go back to Egypt for additional food supplies.
3. What was Jacob's final advice and attitude in **42:11-14**? What seems to be the motive for his generous plans for the trip? What prayer of Jacob is recorded in **verse 14**?

4. How were the brothers received by Joseph in **43:15-17**?

5. How did the brothers respond in **43:18-22**?

6. What was Joseph's gracious and godly response in **43:23**?

7. Note that the original dreams of Joseph were fulfilled in the narrative of **43:26-30**. Read this poignant passage (**43:26-30**) and indicate what was of most interest to you.

8. What most stood out to you in **43:30-34**? What might God be teaching Joseph and his family in preparation for significant future activities?