LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS Good News from the Start—***Genesis Series***

These questions are for the November 8, 2026, message, "Family Reunion" Please read the sermon passage (Genesis 46:1-7, 26-30, 47:5-10, 13-19, 23-25) out loud.

Passage Outline

As we observe Joseph's family reunion . . .

1. God is at work in the (whole) family (46:1-7, 26-30).
    a) When Jacob was not certain how to proceed, the Lord appeared to him.
        1) God had appeared to Isaac at Beersheba, too (Gen 26:1-5, 23-25).
        2) When we do not know what to do, it is good to start with worship (46:1).
    b) The content of the "vision of the night" (2-4).
        1) God will make Jacob's family great in Egypt.
        2) God will bring them back again (to the Promised Land) later (Gen 15:13-14).
    c) Joseph meets Jacob as he arrives in Egypt and "weeps on his neck" (46:29).
2. God is at work in the (whole) world (47:5-10, 13-19, 23-25).
    a) Jacob comes into Egypt with 70 persons (46:27).
        1) After the flood, 70 nations comprise the "new Adam," or the whole world (Gen 10).
        2) God's promise: the kingdom of His offspring will be a blessing to all (Gen 12:3).
        3) Israel's offspring (70) are a "holy nation" (1 Pet 2:9) who bless the whole world.
    b) Jacob blesses Pharaoh (47:7, 10).
        1) The Gospel is that we cannot work to save ourselves. God saves us (47:25).
        2) God's people bless all the families of the earth. This happens first in our text today!
3. God is at work in Jacob's (whole) heart (46:4, 47:9, 50:1).
    a) God knows Jacob's greatest fear and dream and promises: "Joseph's hand shall close your eyes."
    b) God knows our greatest fear and dreams, and He will be kind and gracious to us.
4. APPLICATION:
    a) When you do not know what is coming next, bring God the sacrifice of a contrite spirit (Ps 51:17).
    b) When you live in Egypt, live in harmony with God's kingdom.
    c) When you are tired and afraid, God knows all about it. Trust Him to deal kindly with you.
    d) God does His best work when we are so weak that we can do nothing but trust Him.

<u>Life Group Discussion Questions</u>

1. Based on #1, above: Jacob was afraid and confused about his next step, so he started with worship. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit" and a contrite heart (Psalm 51:17). How have you intentionally started with worship? How has God broken your will?

2. Based on #2, above: From the beginning, God's chosen people, His holy nation are to be a blessing to "all the families of the earth" (Gen 12:3). In what ways do you bless the people around you by living in obedience to God's Kingdom while he has you "living in Egypt"?

3. Based on #2, above: The ultimate blessing is the Ultimate Offspring, Jesus Christ. In Him we learn that we are saved (47:25), not by our own efforts, but through Him. How are you learning that your efforts do not contribute to your salvation? How is your love for Jesus Christ growing?

4. Based on #3, above: God knows your greatest fears and dreams. He will take care of His people. What is your greatest fear? How might God's kindness and grace help you as you trust Him?

5. Based on #4: above: Read through the points of application. Which one resonates with you?