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

These questions are for the November 15, 2026, message, "God means it for good." Please read the sermon passage (Genesis 50:15-21) out loud.

Passage Outline

God means (intends, plans) it for good (50:20).

1. God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good (Gen 1:31).
    a) God makes man "in His image" (Gen 1:26), makes humankind, "male" and "female" (Gen 1:27).
    b) God defines marriage: one man and one woman (Gen 2:18-25), and made us to work (Gen 2:15).
    c) God allowed for His greatest creation (mankind) to completely reject Him (Gen 6-11).
    d) God promises a beloved "nation" will bless all the families (Gen 12:1-3) through faith (Gen 15:6).
2. Joseph: what God permits / how He saves (Gen 37-50).
    a) The famine was God's doing (Gen 41:25, 28 & 32).
    b) The family mistreatment was God's plan (Gen 45:7, 8; see Psalm 105:16-19).
    c) God delights to bring His own promise into conflict and then deliver a powerful rescue.
3. You: what God permits / how He saves.
    a) God has brought His own promises into conflict in your life . . .
    b) So that only He gets the glory when He brings a powerful rescue.
4. Jesus: what God permits / how He saves.
    a) Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of Joseph. A Son, sent into the world to "feed" the nations.
    b) God delights to bring His own promise into conflict (via the cross, crucifixion—Acts 4:27-28) . . .
    c) So that only He gets the glory (Eph 1:6) when He works His impossible rescue.

<u>Life Group Discussion Questions</u>

1. Based on #1, above: The bottom line from Gen 3-50 is this: "God makes promises. God keeps promises." Even when it seems impossible, God always comes through. In your life today, share with us a promise from God that you are trusting. Open your Bible and read it to us.

2. Based on #1, above: We all struggle with the process of coming to believe God. How are you winning, and how are losing in your own process of trusting God fully? And trusting God daily?

3. Based on #2, above: God sent bad circumstances. He sent harsh family dynamics. He sent a famine. But He was setting the stage for rescue. When you look at your own adversity, your own frustration and your own ongoing friction with family, how might God have "summoned it" (Psalm 105:16) in order to set you up for a rescue?

4. Based on #3, above: How has God brought a rescue for you (in this earthly life)? How did He orchestrate the whole situation so that you see that all the glory belongs to Him.

5. Based on #4, above: God planned to bring Jesus to the cross (Acts 4:27-28). That does not change the fact that the people that did it acted in wickedness and according to their own desires. Yet, God "intended it." Jesus willingly went there so that He could show the world how much God loves (John 3:16). God brought His promise into seeming jeopardy so that when God brought the seemingly impossible rescue, only He gets the glory. How does this increase your love for Jesus?