

**“An Example of True Forgiveness”
Genesis 50:15-21**

While we often know various biblical principles that we must obey, it's helpful to see such obedience “fleshed out” in a real-life example. God's command for us to forgive is modeled in the life of Joseph. We'll more clearly grasp this as we consider...

Joseph's Caring (15-17)

- Fearful **Request** (15-17a)
- Emotional **Response** (17b)

Joseph's Confidence (18-20)

- Right View **of Himself** (18-19)
- Right View **of God** (20)

Joseph's Commitment (21)

- Commitment of **His Words** (21a)
- Commitment of **His Deeds** (21b)

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Share about a kind deed someone did for you recently. It may be a simple act or just some kind words.

Discussion Questions

1. Share something that impressed you, challenged you, or raised a question from our of Genesis 50:15-21.
2. Why did Joseph's brothers carry the weight of their guilt for so many years?
3. How did Joseph demonstrate **a right view of God** in handling the offense against him?
4. How can a victim of rape, child abuse, or some other terrible crime honestly believe that God meant it for good?
5. What part do feelings and actions play in true forgiveness? Consider this from the perspective of both parties involved.

Digging Deeper:

Jot down what each of these passages teaches about forgiveness.

Ps 32:1-5; 51:1-10; 103:10-12; Matt 6:12-15; 18:21-35; Mk 11:25-26; Lk 17:1-4; Eph 4:31-32; Col 3:12-14; Ja .5:16; 1 Jn 1:8-9

Prayerfully search your heart to consider the need to truly forgive or ask forgiveness of someone. Take this step ASAP, following Joseph's example of caring, confidence and commitment.