



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE—YOUTH

Year 3—The God Who Pursues Relationship: A Story of God's People

Module 2—Genesis Part 2

Lesson 6: Jacob Blesses His Sons and Dies—Genesis 49-50

ENCOUNTER 1—Community Discussion

Read Genesis 49-50 together out loud as a group. Encourage each person to journal through the passage using these questions. After allowing sufficient time for reflection, invite the group to share their thoughts.

How is this God's story?

How is this others' story?

How is this my story?

How is this the world's story?

ENCOUNTER 2—Community Discussion

(Read the biblical reflection included with this lesson. The questions are designed for your group to enter into a meaningful dialogue about the Scriptures. The bulleted teaching points are taken from the reflection and correspond to the questions.)

GOD'S STORY

What does the promise of Abraham involve?

- The promise of God to Abraham involved 3 main aspects—descendants, relationship, and land.
- Genesis focuses on God's promise of descendants, Leviticus focuses on relationship, and Numbers and Deuteronomy focus on the land.
- In Joshua, that promise is fulfilled.

OUR STORY

What are some ways we can learn to put our own interests aside?

- Ask for input and feedback.
- Question your intentions.
- Identify your responsibility.

OTHERS' STORY

How do Joseph's brothers respond to him now that their father is no longer alive?

- Not being able to resist, or to run away, his brothers attempted to soften him by humbling themselves. They appealed to Joseph calling themselves the servants of Jacob's (their recently dead father's) God.

How does Joseph direct them?

- Joseph remembers his previous dreams that he told his brothers of that started this whole journey. He now knows that his dreams fulfilled.
- Joseph directs them not to be afraid, but to fear God instead; to humble themselves before the Lord, and to seek forgiveness from God for their actions. Joseph assures them of his own kindness to them. He comforts them, and, to dismiss all their worries, he was very kind to them.

THE WORLD'S STORY

How does most of the world view their life?

- The world walks under a constant cloud of shame. Most people I run into start life with a feeling of embarrassment. For some reason those outside the church have difficulty seeing that life was meant to be full and alive, not held captive to feelings of shame, blame, doubt and confusion.

What are some ways we can show them Jesus?

- To show them Jesus, we must live like Jesus did.

PRAYER

(Lead your group in corporate prayer.)

God, our Father of love, hear our prayers.

Teach us to know and help us to live Your will, which is to restore the world to its intended wholeness.

Help us to participate in Your will and to do it with courage, faith and expectancy.

Accept the donation of us—all of our thoughts, words, deeds, and afflictions.

May all of our lives be spent giving You the glory you demand and deserve.

Give us the power to follow Your call, so that Your will may live in our hearts.

Bring peace to us and to those we meet, for we believe in Your will.

WEEKLY PRACTICE

(Read the weekly practice out loud, and challenge your group to practice *missio* beyond today.)

In your lesson today you discussed a number of ways to share Jesus with those around you. Some of those items listed were:

- Peace (Harmony with God, self, others and the world)
- Justice (Giving people the chance to experience fairness by righting the wrongs of the world)
- Grace (Live a generous life even when people don't deserve it)
- Mercy (Find ways to ease the stress of others)
- Compassion (Showing an authentic concern for others in need)
- Trust (Rely on people and think the best of them first)

- Love (Showing and sustaining adoration and devotion to another)
- Hope (To live expectantly, knowing that it is in hope that we know God's mission to restore the world to its intended wholeness will be made complete and all things will be made new)
- Faithful Humility (Consistently live with a spirit of meekness)
- Godliness (Pursue holiness and a devout life)
- Truth (Live life confidently knowing that what you believe is real and be honest and loyal to it)
- Life (Accept the abundance that God grants when in pursuit of what it means to live fully human)
- Resurrection (Give people a glimpse of what it means to live the resurrection of Jesus, a rebirth)

Consider how you might incorporate some of these into your life this week.

BECOMING MY STORY

(Encourage the group to spend time this week in God's Word, allowing it to penetrate their heart and life.)

Matthew 6:14-15

Matthew 18:21-22

Numbers 14:19-20

Luke 17:3-4

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above scriptures. Reflect on how the passage is God's story, my story, others' story and the world's story. In the context of Genesis 49-50, consider the following questions:

How are these Scripture passages related to the message in Genesis 49-50?

How do these scriptures tell us about the story of God being continued from Genesis 49-50?

What is God saying to you through these passages?

Consider other passages you might know related to Genesis 49-50 and read them this week, journaling as you go.