Facing Your Past

Genesis 42

Coming Face to Face (*Genesis 42:1–9*)

1. When someone who has hurt you comes back into your life, what is your natural response?

2. Is there something from your past that you've been avoiding or hoping would simply go away? What makes it difficult to face?

Forgiveness, Reconciliation, & Restoration (*Romans 12:18*)

1. Is there someone you need to forgive, even if they haven't acknowledged the hurt they've caused?

2. Do you sometimes confuse forgiveness with reconciliation? How might understanding the difference change the way you approach a difficult relationship?

3. Are there boundaries you need to establish with someone who has hurt you? Can you do that while still desiring their good?

More Than Words… (*Genesis 42:10–24*)

1. Is there a wrong you've committed that you've never fully acknowledged or taken responsibility for?

2. When confronted with your mistakes, do you tend to own your part or shift the blame onto something or someone else?

3. Why is it difficult to be honest about our past actions? What might change if we were willing to own and confess those things?

The Past On Repeat (*Genesis 42:25–38*)

1. Are there patterns in your life that keep repeating because you've never really dealt with their underlying causes?

2. Is there someone in your life who struggles to trust you? Is there something you could do to begin rebuilding that trust?

3. Where might God be inviting you to demonstrate a changed heart through your actions rather than simply your words?

Take It Home:

1. Is there something in your past that you need to stop avoiding and finally take responsibility for?

2. Is there someone who has hurt you that you need to release to God in forgiveness?

3. What is one practical step you could take toward honesty, healing, or reconciliation this week?

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