Living as Strangers

November 15, 2026

Outsiders (*1 Pet. 2:11-12*)

1. How have you compromised something you believe or value because you wanted to fit in or be accepted?

2. What area of your life (friends, family, work, school, etc…) do you find it most difficult to live according to the values of Jesus rather than the expectations of those around you? Why?

3. Where in life can you be most true to yourself and your calling as a follower of Jesus?

Moving to Egypt (*Gen. 45:16-28, 26:2-3, 46:1-27*)

1. Have you ever found yourself in an unexpected season or situation where you needed to trust that God's presence was still with you? Explain.

2. How does the promise that God goes with us, even into unfamiliar places, change the way you approach uncertainty or change?

3. Is there something you would find difficult to leave behind in order to follow where God may be leading you?

Preserving Our Identity (*Gen. 46:28-34, Mt. 5:14-16, Jn. 15:18-19*)

1. Jesus calls us the light of the world. Who are the people in your everyday life who need to experience the light of Jesus through you?

2. How can you remain genuinely engaged in the lives of people who don't share your faith without feeling the need to adopt their values?

3. How do you think Joseph manage to serve and influence Egyptian society without compromising his faithfulness to God?

Usefully Different (*Gen. 47:1-27*)

1. How might being less concerned about what the world thinks of you actually free you to love others, speak truth, and serve more generously?

2. How might the qualities that make Christians different also make them a blessing to their community?

Take It Home:

1. If someone were to look at the way you live your life, without knowing anything about your faith, would they recognize that you belong to a different kingdom? What might they notice?

2. What are you holding onto in this world that has begun to compete with your allegiance to Jesus? What would it look like to loosen your grip on it?

3. If following Jesus meant being misunderstood, overlooked, or losing the approval of others, what would be hardest for you to surrender?