

## GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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*Use the following questions below for individual or group study. Begin in prayer, inviting the Spirit to speak during this time.*

**Icebreaker:** Did you have siblings growing up? If so, did you get along well? Did you fight a lot? Both? Looking back, what shaped your sibling dynamics?

### Read Genesis Ch 37

Share any observation you have from the text. What stands out to you?

What questions do you have?

### Talk About It

Why is it important to locate Joseph's story within the broader Jacob, Isaac, Abraham story? What implications does it have for how you read this story?

Where do you see God in this story?

Where do you see patterns and echoes from previous Genesis stories?

How do Jacob's previous actions (blessings and sins) affect his family? How do his sons imitate their father? What can we learn from this?

What is the role of dreams so far in the story? What do they mean? What is assumed about the dreams? Do we share the same assumptions about dreams today? Should we? Why/why not?

Trace the brother's descent into hatred. How do they get there? How do you think they justified their actions? Why didn't they confess and repent? What lessons can we learn from their failure?

Consider what Pastor Adam said about focusing more on the brothers than on Joseph. Who's downfall is this really about? Who needs redeeming? Explain.

### Apply It

Who are you tempted to reject as not being your "brother"? Why?

How can you repent of this?

What steps of reconciliation are needed?

How can you take practical steps to love your brothers and sisters in Christ?

**Close** by praying blessings on your brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray especially for anyone who has hurt you, or whom you have hurt. Pray for unity in Christ.

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