

Transformation > Genesis 43:1-34

43:1-15 *Seeking a meal.* The food supplies that the brothers purchased before are starting to run out and the family is once again desperate. Judah eventually convinces his father Israel (Jacob) that he has to let them return to Egypt and that they need to bring Benjamin with them.

43:16-25 *Fearing a meal.* On arrival, nothing goes as they had hoped. The brothers are invited to Joseph's house, but they are convinced that they will be punished and enslaved. Instead, Joseph's manager gives them the good news as he reunites them with their brother Simeon.

43:26-34 *Enjoying a meal.* The end result is a meal of celebration – and one in which Joseph tests his brothers by showing favor to Benjamin, the youngest. Will they treat him as they treated Joseph? Or have they actually changed?

Context: When last they were in Egypt, Simeon had to stay behind as the brothers returned home. Joseph intends to test his brothers, and he needs Benjamin's presence to do it.

Argument: When God is at work through conviction, people really can be changed. Even the most hard-hearted and callous can be softened by our Lord.

Gospel: Jesus rescues sinners from themselves and produces real change in all who trust Him. He invites us to a meal we don't deserve and gives us hope we cannot earn.

Applications: Do you trust the Lord to transform you? Do you believe that He will change everyone who encounters Him? How are you helping others to meet our Lord?

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
