

## Better Than You Think > Genesis 50:15-26

**50:15-18** *Fear and deception.* With Jacob dead, the brothers' own warped consciences cause them to doubt Joseph's goodness to them. In this, they reveal our own heart-level unbelief: we can know what God has said, even experience it, and yet be so quick to forget, so "prone to wander."

**50:19-21** *Forgiveness and comfort.* But the good news for our sin-soaked hearts is that God is greater, His mercy is higher, and His plans are better than we dare to hope or believe. This is why Joseph's call to his brothers is what we so often hear from Jesus Himself: don't be afraid.

**50:22-26** *Hope and trust.* Joseph gives his own life as an example to be followed: he believes that all of God's promises shall be found true; therefore, he calls upon his brothers to promise that Joseph will be buried not in some Egyptian cemetery, but – ultimately – in the Promised Land.

**Context:** We now arrive at the end of Genesis. What has come before is the death of Jacob, hinting to us that there will soon be a major transition among God's people.

**Argument:** Joseph shows us a different kind of forgiveness – one filled with a depth we could hardly dare to believe in.

**Gospel:** What Joseph hints at, Jesus fulfills. His forgiveness is given even to those like Peter who outright denied Him, which means that it is also offered to sinners like us.

**Applications:** Ask God to help you in your own areas of disbelief – to give you confidence rooted in Him and trust that comes from knowing the love of Christ.

**Here is how I will apply these truths:** \_\_\_\_\_

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