GENESIS 48-50

Chapter 48:

What was the importance of the right and left hands on Ephraim and Manasseh?

In what ways do you see that Jacob is dedicated to God and a man of faith?

Chapter 49:

Describe the "blessings" of each son and the 'why' if it's provided in the text. Is blessing the appropriate translation in each case?

Reuben:	Simeon & Levi:
Judah:	Zebulun:
Issachar:	Dan:
Gad:	Asher:
Naphtali:	Joseph

Benjamin:

What 5 titles of God are found in Jacob's blessing to Joseph?

What type of burial could Jacob have had in Egypt? What is the significance of Jacob wanting to be buried in Canaan?

Chapter 50:

Was the fear of the brothers completely unfounded now that Jacob was gone?

Verse 20 is one of the most famous verses in all of scripture. Review all the evil and good in Joseph's life and if it was worth the suffering and waiting:

Summarize Joseph's dying words to his brothers:

Reflection:

What do you understand about God through this reading?

In what ways do you see the overarching hand of God in your life, despite whatever evil may be surrounding you? Are you patient in waiting for God's plans to unfold?

Is it harder for you to forgive or to accept the forgiveness that you've been given?

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

You may choose to use your own words to speak the blessing. These were just suggestions to help you get started. Fill a name in each blank. May God bless YOU!!!

Please bless ______ and help him/her to grow and become strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and may the grace of God be upon him. (Luke 2:40) Please bless ______ and help him/her to grow in wisdom and stature and favor with God and men. (Luke 2:52)

Your word says, "Blessed are all those who put their trust in God." May _____ put his/her trust in You.

(Psalm1:12b) Please bless ______ and help him/her to walk uprightly, and work righteousness, and speak the truth in his/her heart. (Psalm 15:2)

Please bless and keep _____ as the apple of Your eye; Hide _____ under the shadow of Your wing. (Psalm 17:8)

Please bless ______ and let the words of ______'s mouth and the meditation of his/her heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)

May _____have clean hands and a pure heart and receive the blessing of the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. (Psalm 24:4-5)

Please bless _____ and show him/her your ways, O Lord; Teach him/her Your paths. Lead _____

in Your truth and teach him/her. (Psalm 25:4-5)

Please bless ______ and surround him/her with Your angels and deliver him/her from harm or evil. (Psalm 34:7)

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is _____ who trusts in Him. (Ps. 34:8)

Please bless _____ and teach him/her to rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him.(Ps.37:7)

Blessings to Pray for Others

Please bless _____ and help him/her to turn from evil and do good. (Psalm 37:27)

Please bless _____ and as the deer pants for water, may his/her soul pant for You. (Ps. 42:1)

Please bless ______ and may the beauty of the LORD our God be upon _____, and establish

the work of his/her hands. (Psalm 90:17)

Please bless ______ and may he/she enter into Your gates with thanksgiving, and into Your courts with praise. May he/she be thankful to You and bless Your name. (Psalm 100:4)

Please bless ______ and help him/her to walk in the law of the LORD, to keep His testimonies, to seek Him with the whole heart, to do no sin, to keep His precepts diligently, to wander not from Your commandments, to hide Your word in his/her heart that he/she might not sin against God. (Psalm 119)

May You bless ______ and give ______ the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of the Lord. May the eyes of his/her understanding be enlightened. (Ephesians 1:17-18)

"Mind how you pray. Make real business of it. Let it never be a dead formality. Plead the promise in a truthful, businesslike way. Ask for what you want, because the Lord has promised it. Believe that you have the **blessing**, and go forth to your work in full assurance of it. Go from your knees singing, because the promise is fulfilled: thus will your prayer be answered. The strength [not length] of your prayer ... wins ...God; and the strength of prayer lies in your faith in the promise which you pleaded before the Lord." --C.H. Spurgeon, 19th century preacher and author