



## WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

### Joseph: A Story of Redemption

#### *Coming Full Circle*

#### **Genesis 42:1-6**

In this sermon series, we explore how only God can mold and shape our lives so that true change can occur.

#### EXPLORING THE SERMON

- What did you hear?
- What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

#### VERSES FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

*“Then ten of Joseph’s brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph’s brother, with the others, because he was afraid that harm might come to him. So Israel’s sons were among those who went to buy grain, for the famine was in the land of Canaan also. Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the one who sold grain to all its people. So when Joseph’s brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground.” **Genesis 42:3-6***

*As Joseph’s story unfolds, we see that it is not just a story of his redemption. Jacob, who has wounded his other sons by showing favoritism to Joseph, has become a sad, old man. Joseph’s brothers have spent years hiding from the truth of what they did by selling Joseph into slavery. This is ultimately the story of a family’s redemption.*

*Thomas points out that if we are willing to believe in a God who can take the broken stories of our lives and bring about redemption, we need to remember the following two things:*

- 1. We need to know that the work of redemption is the work of **grace**, not something we can earn or deserve.*
- 2. Using the patterns found in scripture, we must understand that we have to journey toward the brokenness and pain, not away from it.*

*Discuss times in your life when you have avoided journeying toward the hurt, and times when you have journeyed directly into it. How were the results different?*

**Prayer:** *Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for your reconciling power. We ask for your help in journeying toward the broken parts of our lives so that they may be redeemed for your glory. Help us to lean on each other in community in order to gain a clear understanding of what reconciliation and grace look like in our own lives. **Amen.***

