

## One Year Bible – Week 4

### **Reading Schedule:**

Genesis = Ge / Matthew = Mt / Psalms = Ps / Proverbs = Pr



Jan 18 – Ge 37:1-38:30 / Mt 12:22-45 / Ps 16:1-11 / Pr 3:27-32  
Jan 19 – Ge 39:1-41:16 / Mt 12:46-13:23 / Ps 17 / Pr 3:33-35  
Jan 20 – Ge 41:17-42:17 / Mt 13:24-46 / Ps 18:1-15 / Pr 4:1-6  
Jan 21 – Ge 42:18-43:34 / Mt 13:47-14:12 / Ps 18:16-36 / Pr 4:7-10  
Jan 22 – Ge 44:1-45:28 / Mt 14:13-36 / Ps 18:37-50 / Pr 4:11-13  
Jan 23 – Ge 46:1-47:31 / Mt 15:1-28 / Ps 19:1-14 / Pr 4:14-19  
Jan 24 – Ge 48:1-49:33 / Mt 15:29-16:12 / Ps 20:1-9 / Pr 4:20-27

### **Summary: Genesis reading**

The story of Joseph (not Joseph married to Mary and father of Jesus but Joseph son of Jacob) begins in chapter 37 and concludes with the end of the book of Genesis in chapter 50 spanning one quarter of the book. The Genesis account of Joseph offers profound insights of a committed life to God. His life and conduct is an inspiring picture of trust and loyalty to God.

### **Summary: Matthew reading**

Parables and Miracles; descriptions and demonstrations of the Kingdom of God. Jesus' use of parables are not merely stories that teach a moral lesson but revealing windows into the Kingdom of God. In the same way, Jesus' miracles are not simply magical moments to gain attention, they are episodes revealing the Messiah and the heart of his mission.

### **Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:**

- Joseph found himself in multiple challenging situations. When you see how Joseph reacts in those situations and read the words that he speaks, ask yourself, "Would I react the same in that type of situation, would I say the same things he said?" Ask yourself why or why not. Though Joseph has a significant portion of Scripture dedicated to him he was a person who lived just as you and I. What would it take for you to live with an attitude more similar to Joseph's and how do we interact with God during the times we do demonstrate that attitude?
- The Parable of the Sower is a challenge to all who read it. Do you know which type of soil you are? Have you seen others who represent the other types of soil? Do you think those people would always have characterized themselves as that type of soil? It is easy for us to answer for ourselves

quickly but as humans we have fickle hearts. His desire is for us to produce a crop a hundred fold. Pray continually this week by asking God to produce such a crop through your life. – Jan 19

### **Small Group Questions:**

- 1) Have you ever been tempted to seek revenge but didn't? What stopped you?
- 2) How serious does Jesus take our speech? (Mt 12:30-37) Why does he view our speech in this way? What do you think Jesus is ultimately trying to communicate here? – Jan 18
- 3) Joseph's first response to Pharaoh when asked to interpret his dream is striking. Joseph says, "I cannot do it... but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires." Many people would accept the compliment given to them with gladness. Why do you think Joseph responds this way? Is this response descriptive or prescriptive for us today; meaning is this simply a story of how Joseph responded or is Joseph's response intended to be our response in similar situations as well? Why or why not? – Jan 19
- 4) Have someone read Mt 13:44-46. What comes to mind when you hear these words read? What is Jesus' point in these verses and why do you think he gives two examples? – Jan 20
- 5) What do you think Jesus' lesson was to the disciples in the feeding of the 5000 and the 4000? How easy might it have been for his disciples to internalize this lesson? How easy is it for us now? Why? – Jan 22 & 24
- 6) Joseph had a keen awareness of God's activity in his life despite the many "setbacks" that he lived through. (example: Ge 45:5-8) Compare your level of awareness of God's activity in your life with Joseph's. Are they the same or different? What contributes to it being that way? – Jan 22

### **Journal the Psalms this week:**

"The heavens declare the glory of God..." (Psalm 19:1a). We can see evidence of God throughout this world. Theologians call it *general revelation*; that which reveals God indirectly (as opposed to *specific revelation* which is direct such as the Bible). What general revelation have you observed in the world that "declares the glory of God?" Take some time this week to journal about where you see him in the world surrounding you.