

Read Genesis 44:1-10

**1** When his brothers were ready to leave, Joseph gave these instructions to his palace manager: “Fill each of their sacks with as much grain as they can carry, and put each man’s money back into his sack.

**2** Then put my personal silver cup at the top of the youngest brother’s sack, along with the money for his grain.” So, the manager did as Joseph instructed him.

**3** The brothers were up at dawn and were sent on their journey with their loaded donkeys.

**4** But when they had gone only a short distance and were barely out of the city, Joseph said to his palace manager, “Chase after them and stop them. When you catch up with them, ask them, ‘Why have you repaid my kindness with such evil?

**5** Why have you stolen my master’s silver cup, which he uses to predict the future? What a wicked thing you have done!’”

**6** When the palace manager caught up with the men, he spoke to them as he had been instructed.

**7** “What are you talking about?” the brothers responded. “We are your servants and would never do such a thing!

**8** Didn’t we return the money we found in our sacks? We brought it back all the way from the land of Canaan. Why would we steal silver or gold from your master’s house?

**9** If you find his cup with any one of us, let that man die. And all the rest of us, my lord, will be your slaves.”

**10** “That’s fair,” the man replied. “But only the one who stole the cup will be my slave. The rest of you may go free.”

**What did Joseph tell his palace manger to do before the brothers left for home (vv. 1-2)?** (Read)

**When the brothers had left with their loaded donkeys, what did Joseph tell his palace manager to do (vv. 4-5)?** (Read)

**Was Joseph trying to trick his brothers?** No. He is starting a plan to see if his brothers were sorry for what they had done to him several years ago.

**When the palace manager caught up with the brothers, what did the brothers say (vv. 7-8)?** (Read)

**What did the brothers agree to do if anyone was caught with the silver cup in their sack (v. 9)?**  
That person would die and the rest of them would be the palace manager’s slaves.

**What did the palace manger agree to do (v. 10)?** Only the one who had stolen the cup would become his slave but would not be killed. And the rest of them could go home.