

Read Genesis 45:3-11

3 “I am Joseph!” he said to his brothers. “Is my father still alive?” But his brothers were speechless! They were stunned to realize that Joseph was standing there in front of them.

4 “Please, come closer,” he said to them. So, they came closer. And he said again, “I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into slavery in Egypt.

5 But don’t be upset, and don’t be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives.

6 This famine that has ravaged the land for two years will last five more years, and there will be neither plowing nor harvesting.

7 God has sent me ahead of you to keep you and your families alive and to preserve many survivors.

8 So it was God who sent me here, not you! And he is the one who made me an adviser to Pharaoh—the manager of his entire palace and the governor of all Egypt.

9 “Now hurry back to my father and tell him, ‘This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me master over all the land of Egypt. So, come down to me immediately!’

10 You can live in the region of Goshen, where you can be near me with all your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and everything you own.

11 I will take care of you there, for there are still five years of famine ahead of us. Otherwise you, your household, and all your animals will starve.”

After Joseph told his brothers who he was, what did he ask them (v. 3)? Is my dad still alive?

Why do you think that was the first thing he asked them? He knew his dad loved him and he hoped he could show his dad how his life had turned out and bring him great joy in his old age.

How did his brothers react when they found out who he was (v. 3)? They were shocked!

Why did Joseph tell them not to be upset and worry (vv. 5-7)? When they sold him into slavery, it was all part of God’s plan to take care of them and give them food so they wouldn’t starve to death during the famine.

Isn’t that a strange plan? What does that tell us about God? (Read Isaiah 55:8-9)

What did Joseph tell his brothers to tell their dad (v. 9)? That he was in charge of all of Egypt, so hurry and come to him and he would take care of them.

What was Joseph’s plan for where they should live (v. 10)? They would live in Goshen where they could be close to Joseph. Goshen was a wonderful place to live.

What did Joseph promise his brothers (v. 11)? He would take care of them because there were going to be five more years of famine.