

**Suggested Discussion Questions for 3/19/2023**  
**Message: Thriving with Joseph, pt 7 (Genesis 50)**

1. Where in your life would you be or have you been tempted to hit a fast-forward button to escape something difficult or disturbing? What would you miss by doing so? How does James 1:2-8 shed light on this?
  
2. Has there ever been a time when you were afflicted with overwhelming fear (or have you been around someone who has)? What did you observe and learn?
  
3. Genesis 50 includes stuff about death that we didn't cover in the message. Read the chapter and think about what strikes you in the record of Jacob's and Joseph's deaths.
  
4. It appears Joseph's brothers make up an instruction from Jacob in an effort to deal with their fear of Joseph's retaliation. How does their fear of revenge keep them from thriving?
  
5. What in this passage helps us understand how thriving under God's sovereignty keeps us from the destructive force of revenge? Can you think of any other passages that flesh this out?
  
6. Rather than facing and dealing directly with their fear, Joseph's brothers assume things about him and try to manage their way out. What indications of this do you see in the text? How might you be prone to follow the brother's pattern?
  
7. What is Calvin Miller's point when he writes: "Step over your attempts to fathom what cannot be understood & God will grow to a size where He may actually be of some use to you." How does it connect to this text?
  
8. Joseph chooses grace, kindness and comforting of his brothers rather than seeking revenge. How would that look in an injustice in your life?
  
9. What is your greatest practical take-away from our study of Joseph?