

Lessons from the Life of Joseph Series

“Do People Really Change?”

Pastor Tim Maddock

Genesis 44/45

“I am a great sinner, and Jesus is a great Savior”. I have heard this quote numerous times...I think I have said it myself several times. While it is true, I believe it minimizes the destructive power of sin and overlooks the role of repentance in forgiveness. Let's be honest...do we hate sin, or is it something we overlook, excuse, and have no intention of stopping? I believe today's text has much to teach us, and it answers one of the most basic questions of life...*can a person really change?*

Joseph Observes His Brothers from a Unique Perspective and Tests Them

- *The tests of truth, loyalty and compassion
(Simeon imprisoned; Benjamin's enslavement)*

The Brothers Express Regret, but Have They Really Changed?

- *There is a difference between being (a)sorry you were caught and (b)sorrow for your sin*

Godly Sorrow Leads to Repentance (2 Corinthians 7: 10)

- Genesis 44: 18-34 – Judah repents and speaks the words Joseph longs to hear

Repentance Leads to Revelation, Forgiveness, Restoration and Blessing

- *The “big reveal” ...an invitation to draw closer...forgiveness given...
a homecoming!*

This Is Historical, But It is Also Incredibly Relevant for Each of Us, right Now...

- *Is my life different...have I changed since I have come to know Jesus?*