

## **Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown**

### **November 1-7: Read Genesis 45 & Gospel of Luke 12 & 16**

#### **Genesis 45**

Chapters 42-44 is worth reading before going to chapter 45. It's the story of Joseph's brothers coming to Egypt to buy grain during the famine. It's been 20 years and the brothers don't recognize Joseph (they thought he was dead, and they would have never imagined he would rise to be second only to Pharaoh), but Joseph recognizes his brothers right away. After a series of testing, Joseph reveals himself to his brothers – to their shock!

#### **Further Study & Discussion**

- What is your relationship with your family, your extended family, like? Is there anyone, a nephew, an aunt, a brother, dad, that you don't like? What have you done to try to mend the relationship? Pray for that person(s) right now.
- Why did Joseph test his brothers? Or was it a form of punishment toward them? How do you see it?
- Read again Joseph's recounting of his life (v.4-8). It was a life of betrayal, of struggle, of false charges and conviction and jail time, and rise to greatness. He gives God credit for all of it – not the rescue parts, but all of it. What do you think?

#### **Gospel of Luke 12**

My Bible is filled with red ink for this chapter. That means Jesus is teaching. As his ministry expands, the oppositions from the Pharisees increased. And so, he addressed the Pharisees directly, and then encouraged his followers to stand up to them and not be afraid. He also talked about finances – don't worry if you don't have enough but do worry if you have too much. And about living in the end times correctly.

#### **Further Study & Discussion**

- Jesus and the Pharisees butted heads often. In your own words, what were the issues, and why did the Pharisees have such a difficult time accepting Jesus as the coming Messiah?
- Where are you financially? Are you worried about not having enough? Or are you trying to build bigger barns? Spend time with God today and lay down your finances before God. And ask Him to speak to you.

#### **Gospel of Luke 16**

Two more lengthy parables with a conversation with the Pharisees in between. The parable of the dishonest manager and the parable of the rich man and Lazarus have something in common: preparing for the afterlife.

#### **Further Study & Discussion**

- In the Parable of the Dishonest Manager, the master "commended the dishonest manager." Why? What's the main point of this parable?

- And the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus is a lesson on living rightly here on earth. Don't get confused with Lazarus in death and all the conversations that occur. Focus on God's words to the rich man. What is God saying?