

# ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION GUIDE

## CHARACTER TRAIT:

**PATIENCE**

## DEFINITION:

Trusting and waiting on God in all things

## MEMORY VERSE:

"Yet I am confident I will see the Lord's goodness while I am here in the land of the living. Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the Lord." **PSALM 27:13-14**

## FINISH LINE:

We can be patient because God's plan is perfect

## READ: GENESIS 42-45

### WHAT DOES IT SAY?

#### (OBSERVATION)

#### READ GENESIS 42:3-8

1. Summarize what has happened to Joseph up to this point. *(He was sold into slavery by his brothers, taken to Egypt, wrongfully put in prison, made 2<sup>nd</sup> in command of Egypt.)*
2. Who came to Egypt to buy food? *(Joseph's 10 older brothers)*
3. Why did Joseph's brothers not recognize him? *(Joseph had been a slave, now he was second in command of Egypt. They did not expect to see him.)*

#### READ GENESIS 45:3-8, 50:19-21

4. How did Joseph feel about his 13 years of hardships? *(He knew what his brothers and others intended for evil, God used for good.)*

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

#### (INTERPRETATION)

1. Joseph was 2<sup>nd</sup> in command in Egypt. What could he have done with his brothers? *(He could have had them arrested or killed.)*
2. How did Joseph show them patience? *(He gave them food to take back and even returned all of their money to them. He let all the brothers, except Simeon, go home to take care of their family. He told them to bring back their youngest brother, Benjamin, to prove they were telling the truth.)*
3. How do you see Joseph living out our memory verse for this month?
4. Joseph did not know how his story would end, but did God always know the whole story? *(Yes. God had a plan and was in control.)*

### WHY DOES IT MATTER?

#### (APPLICATION)

1. Is it comforting to know that God sees how all the pieces of your life fit together even if you cannot? Why or why not?
2. What can you remember is true about God when His plan seems too hard or if it feels like you have to wait too long? *(He is with you, in control, good, loving, kind, perfect, etc.)*
3. If you believe in Jesus, how does your story "end"? *(Celebrating and worshipping God forever as part of His family.)* Does that sound like an ending worth waiting for? Why?