

HA = Hearts Aflame Scripture Study
 NJBC = New Jerome Biblical Commentary
 FATHER = A Father Who Keeps His Promises
 CCC = Catechism of the Catholic Church
 SH = S. Hahn, Handbook for Genesis CD Series
 HO = Special Handout

A	<p><u>“Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening”</u></p> <p>(Introduction of related scriptural passages)</p>	<p>1Sam 3:9</p> <p>Gen 42-45</p>
B	<p><u>A Reflection on the Reunion of Joseph and His Brothers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The unique writing style creates this very moving scene. • The Holy Spirit touches human hearts through the Holy Scripture. Do you feel the touch of the Holy Spirit? Is your heart “burning”? • This is not only an ancient story about a Near East nation, nor a story simply about the reunion of a family; this story is intricately related to our lives: it is a story of the reunion between Jesus and His lost brothers. Special attention must be paid to this moving story because Joseph is Jesus and his brothers are you and me. If Joseph tested his brothers, Jesus also tests you and me; if Joseph forgave his brothers, Jesus will forgive you and me. 	<p>Cf. Lk 24:32</p>
C	<p><u>Joseph Prefigures Jesus</u></p>	<p>HO</p>
D	<p><u>Joseph Tested His Brothers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Brothers bowed down before Joseph, fulfilling Joseph's dream in his youth. • He asked for Benjamin to test if his brothers were still filled with jealousy. • Retained for 3 days before repentance ⇒ sometimes, we must suffer before we learn to repent. • The aged Israel trusted God and accepted God's will. In the same way, we must trust God in face of challenges in life. • Judah's Test – this clearly reveals Judah's love for his father and youngest brother as he is not afraid to sacrifice himself. This test for Judah is also a test for us. Just as Judah has betrayed Joseph, we will also betray Jesus. Therefore, we, like Judah, must repent and be compassionate, and Jesus, like Joseph, will in turn forgive us. • God seems to be extremely disciplined with us just as Joseph with his brothers; the fullness of love is hidden behind the tough discipline. 	<p>Gen 42-44</p> <p>Gen 42:6, 43:26, HA p 164, Gen 42:14-20, HA p 164</p> <p>Gen 42:17-22, HA p 114</p> <p>Gen 43:11-14, HA p 165</p> <p>Gen 44:16-34, HA p 166</p> <p>HA p 114</p>

E	<p><u>Joseph Revealed His True Identity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To Joseph, suffering does not mean loneliness as God controls everything and turns evil to goodness. 	<p>Gen 45: 1-15 Gen 45:5, HA p 167</p>
F	<p><u>“Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening”</u></p> <p>(Introduction of related scriptural passages)</p>	<p>1 Sam 3:9 Gen 45-50</p>
G	<p><u>Jacob was Forced to Egypt</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Egyptians hated shepherds because Egyptians worshipped bulls and sheep. Cattle represent wealth, sexuality, and power. In later days, the Israelites became customized with such erroneous belief; therefore, God commanded each family to slaughter a lamb as offering. Why is it so important to Jacob to be buried in Haran with his ancestors? 	<p>Gen 46-47 Gen 46:34, S. Hahn, <i>Israel's Calf-Hearted People</i> audio tapes Gen 47: 27:31, HA p 169</p>
H	<p><u>The Conclusion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob adopted his grandchild as his own son to create the 13th tribe of Israel; however, Levi does not inherit land, therefore there are still only twelve tribes. God turns evil into goodness – Joseph's perspective should also be shared by all Christians. “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” – All the holy fathers lived by this faith. They have hopes to return to Haran ⇒ so is our hope to return to Heaven. We must leave this world behind (Egypt) despite of all its worldly attractions. Genesis begins with the destruction of a relationship and ends with its reconciliation. The latter happens in a family and is fulfilled by one son. All of these foretell that Jesus is the one who reconciles humanity to God. 	<p>Gen 48-50 Gen 48:1-22, HA p 123 Gen 50:20, CCC311 Heb 11:1-2, HA p 170, 171, 128 HA p 115, 128-129</p>