

# Message Notes & Thoughts

Passage: Genesis 42

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## Message Outline ...

The Prick of Conscience: True Conviction shows up

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1. True Conviction leads to real change (42:12-15)
  - 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
  - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Summary Statement: Joseph tested his brothers by asking about Benjamin, to see if their past sinful behavior had continued in their lives.

2. True Conviction leads to love? (16-24)
  - Who will volunteer to get Benjamin? (16-17)
  - Who will volunteer to stay? (18-20)
  - Will you return for Simeon? (21-24)

John 13:35  
1 John 3:15

Summary Statement: Joseph tested his brothers to see if they had changed in their love for one another.

3. True Conviction leads to right living? (25-28)
  - John 14:15

Summary Statement: Joseph tested his brothers to see how they would respond to a moral dilemma.

4. True Conviction is obvious? (35-38)
  - 1 John 3:18
  - James 1:22
  - Matthew 5:16
  - Galatians 5:22-23

Summary Statement: The brothers were tested to see if they had earned the trust of Jacob.

Big Idea of Message: The gift of guilt and conviction should lead to evidences in my life of real change, love for others, right living, and should be obvious to those closest to me.

## Questions for Growth ...

Re-read Genesis chapter 41 ~

- ◆ What is the biggest take away from this message for you? Why?
  
- ◆ What happened in Genesis 42:6 that had been foretold in Gen. 37:5-8?
  
- ◆ What is the difference between being 'caught' doing something wrong and truly 'confessing' to doing something wrong?
  
- ◆ Jacob was willing to send his sons to Egypt when he heard that there was food there. Have you ever been faced with a trial that was so out of your control that you sought help from an unusual source? How did God use that situation?
  
- ◆ If you were one of Joseph's brothers and then discovered it was Joseph whose authority you were suddenly under ... what would your attitude be?
  
- ◆ Why do we often think that the things we do in secret will not be discovered?
  
- ◆ Confession still has consequences. Confrontation of wrong still leads to consequences. What consequences do you think these brothers lived with the rest of their lives and how do you think this situation changed them?