



## Week 6: Letting Go to Move Forward

The story of Jacob and Judah in Genesis 43 reveals how even our deepest struggles, failures, and idols can be redeemed when surrendered to Him. God is always at work in the lower story details of our lives to fulfill His upper story purpose. When we identify and release the idols holding us back, we can experience the fullness of God's plan for our lives and be part of His greater mission to bring His Kingdom to earth.

### Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Genesis 42:29 – 43:14.** Why do you think Jacob is holding on so tightly to Benjamin? What does this reveal about his character? What is something or someone in your life that you may be holding on to too tightly? Why do you think that this and how might it affect your full devotion to God?
2. Shawn said "An idol will keep you idle." What kinds of things do we tend to make idols of? How does that lead to spiritual idleness? Where do you risk idleness in your own life and how do you guard against it?
3. The best way to discover a potential idol in your life is to ask: "What am I afraid of losing?" How would you answer this question? Would you consider that thing or person an idol? Why or why not?
4. Discuss the contrast between Jacob holding onto Benjamin and God letting go of Jesus. How can you relate to this contrast personally? Why was God not afraid of losing Jesus (hint: Easter)? How does this truth help us reorder the loves in our lives?
5. How is Judah's statement in vs. 8-10 a picture of the gospel?
6. What's one thing you can do this week to let go in order to move forward in your faith?