

## Genesis 42:1-38 – A Guilty Conscience

Big Idea: “The spiritual heart of this passage is about the awakening of the conscience” – Pastor Kevin

1. What are different means people use to dull or quiet a guilty conscience (any examples from the text – e.g. v. 13)? Particularly in our culture today – how are people working to keep the conscience quiet?
2. How is God at work in this passage to awaken the consciences of Joseph’s brothers (v. 21)?
3. Why does God work to awaken consciences (both Joseph’s brothers and ours)? (You might also ask: How is this consistent with God’s grace and mercy for sinners?)
4. How have you seen God at work at points in your life to awaken your conscience? Or how have you seen God active in awakening the conscience of those to whom you have been able to minister? (A reminder to practice appropriate discretion with names and details might be helpful here.)
5. Do you think that the conscience is underemphasized in Christian communities today? Why or why not?
6. What are important means to growing and strengthening our conscience as we grow in Christ?