

January Questions

- 1) [January 1] God is the _____ of the universe. He has always existed, for He is _____ , _____ and _____. The _____ created the world through the _____ (cf. John 1:3; Col 1:16), and the Holy _____ was there, “hovering over the face of the waters” (Gen 1:2b). God’s _____ and _____ are revealed in each of the days of creation. God is also _____ (all-knowing). He _____ the fall of man before creation, and He planned to send the Son as a _____ for “the sins of the whole world” (Acts 2:22–23; 1 John 2:2).

- 2) [January 1] God _____ the universe into existence out of _____. His creative activity took place during six, 24-hour _____ , and on the seventh day He rested. This example of _____ and _____ was intended to be a _____ for us to follow (cf. Exod 16; 20:8–11). God made man and woman in His _____ , and they became the _____ for marriage. Sadly, the beauty of God’s “very good” creation was marred by two falls: the fall of _____ and the fall of _____. Through one man, Adam, _____ entered the world, and _____ through sin (Rom 5:12). The entire universe is now suffering the effects of mankind’s sin (Rom 8:22).

- 3) [January 2] After the fall, the world became very wicked. It began with _____ and continued to deteriorate until the time of Noah when all men’s thoughts were “only _____ ” (Gen 6:5). As mankind spiraled toward destruction, God did His best to turn men from their evil ways. He personally warned _____ that sin was _____ at his door (Gen 4:7), and through _____ , God warned of coming _____ (Gen 5:24; Jude 1:14–15). But men would not listen, and eventually their sin brought God’s _____ judgment. God destroyed the _____ world with a flood and every living thing died. Only _____ , who walked with God, found favor in His eyes, and God saved him and his household in the ark.

- 4) [January 2] God’s _____ and justice are balanced beautifully with His patience and _____. God hates sin, yet He continually reaches out to sinful man. God is a _____ God, interested in having individual and intimate _____ with us. He is also _____ , keeping His promises to us, just as He did to Noah. The world of today is very evil, but it’s not yet as bad as it was in Noah’s day. If God could help Noah remain _____ while surrounded by such wickedness, He can certainly help us to do the same. Sin is like a _____ , crouching at our door. It wants to destroy us, but God is faithful to protect us.

- 5) [January 3] Noah’s first act after coming out of the ark was to build an _____ and _____ God for His mercy and faithfulness. This teaches us to always take _____ to praise God for His kindness and love. Evil was not destroyed by the flood. It lived on in the human _____ and quickly inspired men to _____ against God. This can be seen in two ways: Ham’s behavior toward his father and the people’s refusal to fill the earth. First, Ham’s offense was not that he saw Noah naked, but that he neglected his _____ to _____ his father’s nakedness. This led Noah to utter the first recorded human _____. His words were a _____ of divine judgment on _____ descendants for their perversion, a perversion which was _____ by Ham’s sin. This teaches us that we must never find secret _____ in the faults and failures of others. Instead, we should take _____ to cover, restore and heal. Second, the people’s offense was not that they wanted to build a city, but that they refused to _____ the earth as God commanded. This led God to confuse their language and scatter them across the world. This teaches us that God _____ best. In those times when we think our way is better, we must _____ to God’s will and _____ no matter the cost.

- 6) [January 4] Job lived a _____ life before God. This teaches us that we can do the same. Satan couldn't touch a hair on Job's head without God's _____. This shows us that we're _____ at all times from the attacks of the enemy. Satan can only do what God _____ him to do. Job worshipped God even after he _____ everything, including his _____. This teaches us that all we have is a _____ from God, and that we're only a _____ of God's possessions. Job was struck with a terrible sickness, yet he never cursed God for his suffering. This teaches us to _____ the bad times as well as the good and to _____ with patience for God's mercy and compassion (Jam 5:11). Above all, God wants to be loved and worshipped for _____. He is, not simply for what He has _____ us.
- 7) [January 5] Eliphaz said several things to Job that are true: those who "plow iniquity and sow trouble _____ the same" (Job 4:8), God does bring _____ upon the wicked (Job 4:9), God does "catch the _____ in their craftiness" (Job 5:13), we should be grateful when God _____ us, and we should not despise God's discipline (Job 5:17). However, Eliphaz also said some things that are false. He said the innocent never _____ (Job 4:7), but sometimes they do (Gen 4:8). He said that a man cannot be _____ before God (Job 4:17), but Job was (Job 1:8). He said the wicked never _____ (Job 5:1-7), but they often do (Ps 73:4-9). He said the righteous will be saved from all _____ (Job 5:19-27), but sometimes they aren't (1 Kgs 21:13). This shows us how important it is to _____ what others say and discern whether or not their words are true.
- 8) [January 6] Bildad agreed with Eliphaz. He also believed that Job's suffering was because of some _____ he had committed. Bildad then took the attack on Job to a new and vicious level, going so far as to say that Job's _____ got what they deserved (Job 8:4). Bildad was right in saying that God punishes sin, but he was wrong to _____ that Job must have sinned to be suffering so intensely. Job affirmed God's sovereignty, but rather than being comforted by this, Job was _____ of God. He could not make sense of how God's goodness and justice were being worked out in his life. Today, Job introduced a key concept in the book: that of a man desiring to "go to _____" with God. He wanted to defend himself and be vindicated, and he also wanted _____. But who, he pondered in despair, can defend themselves against God (Job 9:2-3)?
- 9) [January 6] Job longed for someone who would go _____ him and God (Job 9:33), and that person is _____. He is the one and only _____ between God and man (1 Tim 2:5). How wonderful to know that Jesus came to earth and fully experienced the human condition. He _____ with our weaknesses, and he _____ us to run our race with endurance (Heb 4:15; 12:1).
- 10) [January 7] Job's third friend, Zophar, agreed with Bildad and Eliphaz (not a single friend believed in Job's innocence!). To Zophar, the fact that Job claimed to be innocent only showed how _____ Job was. Zophar lectured Job sternly and warned him that God had not punished him as much as he really _____ (Job 11:6). Job sarcastically dismissed the "wisdom" of his friends (Job 12:2) and pointed out that God does not always act in _____ ways (Job 12:13-25). Job then continued to speak to God and plead for a chance to _____ himself in _____ (Job 13:20-22). He concluded with a somber reflection on death and what might come after. He tried to picture life after death (Job 14:13-15), but his hope quickly faded and despair returned (Job 14:18-22).
- 11) [January 8] In his first speech, Eliphaz had been _____ and courteous in his rebuke (Job 4:2). This time he attacked Job sharply and accused him of foolishness and _____. What Job needed, Eliphaz thought, was a fresh reminder of the _____ of man and the terrible _____ that awaits the wicked. Job responded by telling him that if the situation was reversed, Job would

have _____ Eliphaz and tried to take away his _____ (Job 16:5). Job continued by pointing out that his reaction to the calamity God had brought upon him was _____ (Job 16:15–17). This is a response we would do well to _____. Job again longed for an _____ between him and God (Job 16:18–21). Then his thoughts returned to _____. Job’s emotional ups and downs _____ our own in times of suffering—despair one moment and hope the next. However, Job consistently tried to put what he knew to be true about God _____ the emotional torment that he was experiencing. What an inspiring example for us to follow!

- 12) [January 9] In Bildad’s second speech, he criticized Job harshly and used Job’s own _____ and _____ against him (Job 18:5, 11, 13, 19). His speech served only to _____ Job, for Job had already pointed out the flaw in his friends’ thinking: if God does bring this kind of calamity _____ on the wicked, then God had indeed _____ justice in Job’s case. Job went on to say that he cried out for _____ but no one answered. His own family and servants held him in _____. But no sooner had Job voiced his feelings of isolation and disgrace, when suddenly his _____ in God burst forth: “I know that my _____ lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see _____” (Job 19:25–26). Job was convinced that not even death could separate him from God’s love and final vindication. Bildad is a sobering example of the unjust _____ of a godly man by those who profess to be godly themselves (i.e., the church). We need to be very careful what we _____ to those who are suffering. Otherwise, we could be guilty of not speaking of God what is right (cf. Job 42:8).
- 13) [January 10] Zophar was _____ and upset by Job’s words, and he expanded on his previous comments by claiming that the wicked may prosper for a _____ time, but God _____ destroys them (Job 20:5–7). Job sighed in frustration. His friends couldn’t see the _____ of thinking that because sin often leads to suffering, suffering therefore _____ sin. Job asked, ‘if the triumph of the wicked is short, then why do the wicked live on, growing _____ and increasing in _____?’ He then gave example after example of how the wicked are rich, powerful and long-lived. Job’s observations come close to being a preface for _____ : the prosperous and the poor both suffer the same fate (cf. Ecc 2:14–17).
- 14) [January 11] In his third and last speech to Job, Eliphaz claimed that God didn’t _____ about Job’s righteous life (Job 22:3), and he _____ Job of specific sins (Job 22:6–9). Eliphaz then warned Job that he would be utterly _____ if he didn’t turn to God in repentance. Job _____ Eliphaz’s accusations, but he responded to Eliphaz’s call to _____ to God by crying out, “Oh, that I knew where I might _____ him!” (Job 23:3). Job was convinced that even though he didn’t know where God was, God _____ the righteous path he had taken (God knows I’m innocent!). Job then vented his frustration at how often the wicked go _____.
- 15) [January 12] In his third and last speech to Job, Bildad lashed out: ‘How can a _____ like you—a mere maggot, a worm—claim to be _____ before the exalted, transcendent God?’ But Job held fast to his _____ : “I will never admit you are in the right!” (Job 27:5 NIV). He also affirmed his belief in the _____ of God, in spite of not understanding _____ it was being worked out in his own life (Job 27:7–23). The reading concluded with a beautiful and inspiring poem about _____. Job declared that true wisdom is more precious than _____, for it is found only in a loving _____ with God (Job 28:12–28).

16) [January 13] Job's final words (Job 29–31). Job began by fondly recounting the _____ and glory of his past life (Job 29). Notice that Job recognized and acknowledged that _____ was the source of his blessings, and he remembered with longing the _____ he had with God. Yet Job did not _____ God's blessings for himself. Job used his wealth and influence to be a _____ in the lives of others. Job then gave a vivid description of the misery and _____ of his present calamity (Job 30). Job concluded with a detailed, formal _____ of _____ (Job 31). Job's testimony in this chapter is a personal _____ to us. Can you look in the mirror of Job's words and measure up to his integrity? Have you:

1. Made a _____ with your eyes to keep yourself from _____ ? (31:1–4).
2. Kept yourself from _____ and deceit? (31:5–6).
3. Refused to _____ what belongs to others? (31:7–8).
4. Remained _____ to your spouse? (31:9–12).
5. Treated those under your authority with fairness and _____ ? (31:13–15).
6. Helped the _____ ? (31:16–18).
7. _____ the needy? (31:19–20).
8. Refused to take _____ of those who were weak? (31:21–23).
9. Guarded yourself against _____ in your wealth? (31:24–25).
10. Refused to _____ false gods? (31:26–28).
11. Kept yourself from _____ at your enemy's downfall? (31:29–30).
12. Shown _____ to travelers? (31:31–32).
13. _____ your sins? (31:33–34).
14. Come by your possessions _____ ? (31:38–40b).

17) [January 14] Elihu's first two speeches to Job. Elihu remained _____ while Bildad, Eliphaz and Zophar all tried to refute Job. When they failed, Elihu could _____ himself no longer. In Elihu's mind Job's guilt was _____ (Job 34:36–37). If Job's assertions of innocence were left unanswered, it would mean that God had not acted _____ and justly—and that was impossible. Previously, Job had longed for an _____, someone who would go between him and God (Job 9:32–33). Elihu volunteered himself. He would act as _____ and adjudicate Job's case against God (Job 32:12; 33:12). In his first speech, Elihu rebuked Job for saying that God would not _____ him. In his second speech, Elihu rebuked Job for saying that God had denied him _____. However, Elihu's message, while partially true (God does use suffering to _____ us, and God does _____ those who repent; cf. Job 33:19, 26), was based on the same faulty premise as Job's friends. Further, Elihu _____ many of Job's words (Job 34:5–9), and he cast Job's cries of frustration and confusion in the _____ possible light.

18) [January 15] Elihu's last two speeches to Job. Elihu began his third speech by assuming the _____ of Job. He then said that nothing Job did _____ God in any way, and that God hadn't spoken to Job because God will not hear the cries of _____ men. Contrary to Elihu's claims, God is _____ by what we do. He is grieved when we sin and He is thrilled when we obey, for God wants to live in a loving relationship with us. God has also obligated Himself to us, not because we merit it, but because He _____ us and enjoys _____ us! In his fourth and last speech, Elihu repeated his earlier claim: God uses _____ to turn people from their sin (Job 36:5–15). This is often true, but Elihu was wrong to apply this truth to Job. He believed that Job's suffering _____ he had sinned (Job 36:16–21). Elihu then gave eloquent descriptions of God's power as seen in the _____ and the icy blasts of _____ (Job 36:22–37:13). Yet Elihu was exalting God in order to _____ Job. His point was: *God is so far above you, Job. It's ridiculous to want to plead your case to God* (Job 37:19–20). This shows us how bad theology _____ who God is and _____ people away from God, rather than

drawing them closer and building them up in the faith (cf. Job 35:1–8). When God emphasizes His power and greatness, He does so in order to show the world that He is the one _____ God (cf. Isa 45:5–8). God wants everyone to turn to Him and be _____ (Isa 45:21–22).

- 19) [January 16] God began by asking Job about the creation of the _____ and the _____. God concluded by asking him about the _____, with special attention given to the _____, the fiercest land animal, and the _____, the most terrifying sea creature. God's questions were not meant to belittle or demean Job. Rather, they were designed to help him _____ on several key truths: 1) God is the _____; we are the created, 2) God was there in the _____; we were not, 3) God is all-_____ and all-_____; we are powerless and ignorant before Him. The proper response to these truths is _____, reverence and awe, and that's exactly how Job reacted (Job 42:1–6). God gave Job a precious _____: a personal, intimate _____ of His majestic presence. Being in God's presence was more than enough for Job: "I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye _____ you" (Job 42:5). After God questioned Job, He restored his fortune, and his end was more _____ than his beginning. "And Job died, an old man, and full of days" (Job 42:17).
- 20) [January 17] Abram, a descendant of _____, was an ordinary man living a _____ life in Ur. God sovereignly _____ him to be the father of _____ and the ancestor of _____, the Messiah. God preached the _____ to him when He said, "And _____ all the families of the earth will be blessed" (Gen 12:3; Gal 3:8). Abram responded to God's call in _____ (Heb 11:8), and by faith he lived in his own land as a _____, patiently waiting on God's timetable (Heb 11:9). The story of Abraham deceiving Pharaoh is convicting. How many times have we tried to solve our problems on our _____, or taken matters into our hands out of _____? When _____ was captured by Chedorlaomer's coalition of kings, Abram pursued them with his servants and attacked them near Damascus. With God's help, he defeated them and recovered Lot, his family and their possessions. Afterward, he was privileged to meet the high priest _____, who was a _____ of God's Son, Jesus Christ (Ps 110:4).
- 21) [January 18] Abram was justified by _____. God took him outside his tent one night and told him that his descendants would be as numerous as the _____ of heaven. Abram believed God, and God "counted it to him as _____" (Gen 15:6). Abraham is *the* _____ of how we are saved by grace through faith (Rom 4:1–3; John 8:38–40). Paul later told the Galatians that God's primary purpose in setting apart the Jews was to create a _____ lineage, not a physical one. Being a "child of Abraham" means responding to God in _____ and _____ like Abraham (cf. Gal 3:6–9). Years went by and Abram still had no child. Eventually, he listened to the advice of his wife Sarai and had a child through her Egyptian slave _____. Yet Ishmael was not the child of the _____, and Paul later used this story to demonstrate that not every descendant of Abraham is a true "child of Abraham." Only those who _____ like Abraham can claim such a privilege (cf. Rom 9:6–9). Paul also pointed out that Abraham was justified _____ he received the sign of circumcision (Rom 4:10). God did this deliberately in order to make him the father of _____ who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well (Rom 4:11–12).
- 22) [January 19] God described the sin of Sodom this way: "Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had _____, excess of _____, and prosperous _____, but did not _____ the poor and needy. They were haughty and did an _____ before me. So I removed them, when I saw it" (Ezek 16:49–50). Knowing that Abraham's nephew Lot was living in Sodom, God revealed to Abraham what He was about to do (Gen 18:17–19). God allowed Abraham to _____ for Sodom because God loved him and cared about his feelings. God wanted

Abraham to understand that His justice and mercy are perfectly _____. God does not take pleasure in destroying the wicked, but He must punish sin. God sent angels into Sodom to rescue Lot, who was greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of wicked. Peter later said that this shows that God knows “how to _____ the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment” (2 Pet 2:7–9). Lot and his wife and two daughters made it out of the city before God’s judgment came, but Lot’s wife looked back and became a pillar of salt. Jesus later used her as an _____ of how we can become so attached to this world that we end up being caught up in the destruction that falls on the ungodly (cf. Luke 17:32–33).

- 23) [January 20] Abraham was _____ years old when Isaac was born, and Sarah was _____. The author of Hebrews said that “by _____” both Abraham and Sarah received power to conceive (Heb 11:11–12). They believed God could accomplish what was physically _____, and their belief was grounded in the fact that they “considered him _____ who had promised.” The years passed and Isaac grew into a young teenager. At that time, God decided to _____ Abraham’s faith by asking him to offer Isaac as a sacrifice. If God tested Abraham, He will also test us. God tests our faith to refine our _____ and build in us the spiritual muscle of _____ (cf. Deut 8:2–3; James 1:2–4). His goal is not to harm us, but to make us more like His Son, Jesus Christ. Abraham obeyed without _____. He was so convinced that God would keep His promise, that he believed God would raise Isaac from the _____! (cf. Heb 11:19). What a wonderful example of what to do when life’s circumstances seem to _____ God’s promise! James said that Abraham demonstrated the kind of faith that _____ us before God—it is a faith that _____! (cf. James 2:21–24). After Abraham finished offering the ram, God swore by Himself that He would keep His promise to bless Abraham. Hebrews says that God did this not only for Abraham, but also for us, “so that by two _____ things, in which it is impossible for God to _____, we who have fled for refuge might have strong _____ to hold fast to the hope set before us” (Heb 6:18).
- 24) [January 21] Sarah was _____ years old when she died. In her old age, she had been the mother of _____, the son of promise, and she died a woman of _____ (Heb 11:11). She also left a legacy of _____ which still serves as an example of true _____ for all women today (1 Pet 3:1–5). After Sarah’s death, Abraham _____ a burial place for her from the Hittites. This showed his willingness to _____ on God’s timing. When it was time for Isaac to marry, Abraham sent his servant to find a wife from his relatives. His insistence that Isaac should remain in the promised land and not marry one of the locals reveals his _____ in God’s word. He believed that God would one day _____ the Canaanites, and he did not want his son to become entangled with them. God showed Himself faithful to Abraham’s servant and helped him find _____, a wife that comforted Isaac after his mother’s death. Isaac and Rebekah struggled with _____, just like Abraham and Sarah. But rather than _____ matters into their own hands, Isaac prayed to God, and God enabled Rebekah to conceive twins. God told her that two _____ were in her womb, and that the older would serve the younger. Paul later cited this as evidence of the fact that God’s promise was to the Israel of _____, not _____ Israel (cf. Rom 9:6–13). Abraham died at the ripe old age of _____! He is an inspiring example of a man who lived _____ faith and died _____ faith (Heb 11:13–16).
- 25) [January 22] Esau and Jacob grew into manhood. Sadly, Esau became a _____, profane man, who “sold his own birthright for a _____ meal” (Heb 12:16). His wives made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah (Gen 26:34–35). Isaac continued to serve God faithfully, but like his father, he allowed _____ to overcome his faith, and he deceived Abimelech. Nevertheless, God blessed him, and he became so rich and powerful that he had to leave the Philistines. When the time came for Isaac to bless his sons, Rebekah _____ with Jacob to steal Esau’s blessing. Their scheme

succeeded, and Jacob received the prophetic blessing of supremacy: “May peoples _____ you...And may your mother’s sons bow down to you” (Gen 27:29). When Isaac realized he had been tricked, he did not _____ Jacob; instead he acknowledged that although Jacob received the blessing through deception, it was his by divine purpose: “Yes, and he _____ be blessed” (Gen 27:33). Esau pled with Isaac to _____ his mind, but Isaac refused (cf. Heb 12:17 NIV84). Esau was furious and plotted to kill Jacob as soon as Isaac died. Rebekah learned of Esau’s plan, and urged Jacob to flee to her brother _____ in Haran. Isaac blessed Jacob _____ before he left, and by _____ he passed on the blessing which God had given to Abraham (Gen 28:4–5; Heb 11:20).

- 26) [January 23] Jacob, who deceived his father, was himself deceived by his uncle Laban. How true it is that we _____ what we sow (Gal 6:7–8)! Laban’s deception set the stage for a bitter _____ between his daughters, Leah and Rachel. Jacob loved Rachel, and when God saw that Leah was unloved, He opened her womb while Rachel remained barren. Truly, we serve a _____ God! Not only did Leah have the honor of mothering the priestly (_____) and royal (_____) tribes of Israel, she was ultimately the mother of _____, who Himself embodies both roles (Heb 7:11–22). Rather than seeking God as her aunt Rebekah had done (Gen 25:21), Rachel took matters into her own hands and urged Jacob to father children through her maid _____ (cf. Gen 16:1–2). Leah soon returned the favor, and Jacob’s children grew up caught in the middle of a resentful _____ between his wives. In the meantime, Laban realized that he was being _____ because of Jacob. He convinced Jacob to stay, and then tried to cheat him. Yet God prospered Jacob, and he became very rich (Gen 30:43). Jacob’s life with Laban is a fascinating example of how God used one deceiver to _____ and _____ another. Do we recognize and appreciate that God brings _____ into our lives in order to _____ our character?
- 27) [January 24] The “few days” that Rebekah advised Jacob to wait while Esau cooled down turned into _____ years! Those years _____ Jacob, and he proved himself to be _____ and _____ (Gen 31:6). Laban tried to _____ Jacob every chance he got, but Jacob did not respond in kind (Gen 31:39). Instead, he _____ to Laban and _____ on God to settle the score (Gen 31:41–42). He didn’t even _____ on his own accord. He stayed until God told him to leave (Gen 31:3). However, he ‘neglected’ to tell Laban that he was leaving (another decision based on _____), and Rachel, perhaps in payback for her wedding disaster, stole her father’s household idols. Laban pursued Jacob, but God protected Jacob from his wrath. They ended up making a covenant and parted ways in _____ (Prov 16:7). Jacob’s thoughts then turned to Esau. Did he still bear a grudge? News of Esau’s approach “with _____ men” seemed to be answer enough. Jacob did not try to deal with Esau on his own. He took _____ action (Gen 32:7–8, 13–20), and he _____ out to God for help (Gen 32:9–12). But instead of appearing to Esau as He had to Laban, God came and _____ with Jacob! Jacob walked away with a limp, a new name, a blessing and a reconciled brother.
- 28) [January 25] The rape of Dinah has great significance in the story of Jacob: (1) it explains why Jacob later _____ Simeon and Levi’s anger and prophesied that they would be _____ in Israel (Gen 49:7), (2) it sets the stage for further _____ within Jacob’s family (_____ and Bilhah), (3) it was used by God to call Jacob to renewed _____ (all _____ were removed), (4) it illustrates the _____ of settling near a wicked city (Lot in Sodom), and (5) it highlights God’s supernatural _____ of Jacob and His faithfulness in spite of Jacob’s tendency to get himself into trouble. Jacob worshipped God at Bethel, and God blessed him. He continued his journey south and finally returned home to his father Isaac.

- 29) [January 26] Jacob's _____ toward Joseph, the firstborn son of his beloved Rachel, caused his other sons to become jealous and resentful. This teaches us how important it is to avoid giving _____ treatment to one child over another. It also shows how people tend to _____ their own experiences (Jacob's father Isaac had a favorite: _____). Joseph's dreams aggravated the situation, and one day, when they had Joseph alone and far from home, his brothers decided to kill him. This illustrates what John said, "Everyone who hates his brother is a _____" (1 John 3:15). _____, worried that he would be blamed for what happened, convinced his brothers to put Joseph into a cistern instead of killing him outright. His plan to rescue Joseph was frustrated, however, when _____ sold Joseph into slavery. Joseph ended up in Egypt, serving as a slave in Potiphar's house. God was with him, however, and _____ the work of his hand. Potiphar _____ this, and eventually Joseph was _____ of his entire house. This teaches us that God doesn't always _____ us from hard situations, but He is always there to _____ and prosper us. Potiphar's wife also noticed Joseph, and although she tried to seduce him, Joseph resisted her advances by saying it would be a _____ of Potiphar and a sin against _____. What a remarkable example of true character!
- 30) [January 27] After almost a _____ of hard work and loyal service to Potiphar, Joseph was falsely accused and thrown into prison. This means that we can be in the _____ of God's will, doing God's _____, and still be treated unjustly and unfairly by the people we're serving. To add insult to injury, when Joseph showed kindness to the baker and cupbearer, the cupbearer "did not remember Joseph, but _____ him." (Gen 40:23). Yet Joseph maintained a good _____ and a submissive spirit, and because of that God blessed him and made him prosper. After _____ years in prison, with no end in sight, God sovereignly acted to elevate Joseph to second in power under Pharaoh (from slave to vizier in _____ years). God truly is with those who _____ patiently on Him! During the seven years of plenty, Joseph had two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim: 'God has made me _____' and 'God has made me _____.' What a beautiful testament to God's power to restore and refresh!
- 31) [January 28] Judah had sold Joseph into slavery, believing that Joseph would not _____ (see Gen 42:13). His "murder" of Jacob's son was brought back on his own head when God killed his sons, _____ and _____. Judah also found out what it felt like to be _____. His daughter-in-law, Tamar, tricked him into fathering her children. This teaches us that we will _____ what we _____. Judah sowed murder and deception, and he reaped death and humiliation. The seven years of plenty came to an end, just as God said, and Jacob sent his sons (without _____) down to Egypt to buy grain. Although they didn't know Joseph, he recognized them, and he was consumed by a desire to _____ if they were still the lying, scheming, murderous men that had callously sold him into slavery. He threw them into prison (only three _____ compared to his three years) and then released them on the condition that _____ stayed behind as a pledge that they would return with Benjamin. Would they care enough about Simeon to come back and rescue him? Were they telling the truth about Benjamin or had they killed him too? Would they keep silent about the money Joseph put back in their sacks? Joseph had set the perfect _____ to see if his brothers had changed after more than _____ years. This teaches us that _____ is the true test of _____, for it always reveals the truth of what lies in our hearts.
- 32) [January 29] The famine continued, but Jacob still refused to let them take Benjamin down to Egypt. _____ finally offered himself as surety: "Let me bear the blame before you forever" (Gen 43:9). Jacob relented, and they set out for Egypt with Benjamin and the _____. Joseph had slipped back into their sacks. Joseph welcomed them with a feast, but he had one final test for his brothers.

They had shown themselves _____ with the money and _____ to their word to bring Benjamin and ransom Simeon. But Simeon was one of their own. What would they do if Benjamin's life was at stake? Would they risk their necks to save Rachel's _____ son, the son to whom Jacob had no doubt shown even more _____ than he had toward Joseph? Joseph watched in wonder as they did. They tore their clothes and fell down before him. _____ begged for Benjamin's release and offered himself as Joseph's slave. The man who had wanted to make some _____ off Joseph's life now willingly gave up everything to save his brother. The man who had watched in silence as _____ wept over Joseph's death, now pleaded to spare his father this further grief. Here was true repentance indeed! Joseph could stand it no longer, and he revealed himself to them with tears. He forgave them with all his heart and honored them with the best of Egypt. Joseph told his brothers, "It was not you who sent me here, but _____" (Gen 45:8). What _____ and _____ : the humility to submit to God's will and the wisdom to see God's hand in all things.

33) [January 30] God moved Jacob and his sons to Egypt so Israel wouldn't be _____ into the wicked culture of the Canaanites. The Egyptians loathed _____, and thus Jacob's family could live in Egypt without danger of being assimilated by the Egyptians. This teaches us that God _____ events far in advance so His purposes and plans will be accomplished. It also shows us how important it is to keep ourselves _____ and distinct from the world. Jacob was reunited with his son, and Joseph held his father close as they washed away the years of pain and sorrow with their tears. This reminds us that it will be worth it all to see _____ in heaven! Israel lived in Egypt for the next 17 years, and when the time came for him to die, he was _____ years old. He _____ Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, as his own, and blessed them. His blessing put Ephraim, the _____, before Manasseh, the _____. Hebrews tells us that Jacob did this by _____. He flouted custom and acted in obedience to what God had revealed to him (Heb 11:21). Before he died, Jacob said that God had been his _____ all his life. In his old age, he could clearly see his _____ on God. What a change from his scheming and deceitful youth!

34) [January 31] Before Jacob died, he _____ his sons and made a _____ about each one's future. Reuben, Simeon and Levi were all disqualified from _____, and that privilege was given to _____, the son who had responded with humility to God's discipline. From his descendants would come a _____ who would rule the nations (Gen 49:10). This was fulfilled, first by _____ and ultimately by _____. Jacob also granted a double portion to _____, the son who had remained faithful and true his entire life. Jacob's blessing reveals how much our _____ determines our choices, and how much our choices determine our _____. Jacob died, and his sons kept their word by burying him in the cave of Machpelah. Joseph died 54 years later, having lived to see his children's children. He died "in _____," for he was so sure that God would keep His promise that he made his brothers swear to carry his _____ with them when they left Egypt. Time passed and that entire generation died. Many years later, a king arose over Egypt who did not respect or honor Joseph's memory. He saw the thriving Israelite population as a threat, and he _____ and oppressed the people. But the more Israel was oppressed, the more they _____. Eventually, a Pharaoh came to power who gave the order to kill all the baby _____. Moses was born during this time of terror, but his life was saved because his parents feared God _____ than they feared Pharaoh (Heb 11:23). They hid him as long as they could, and then God rescued him by using the king's own _____. We show whom we fear most by whom we choose to _____ (Matt 10:28). Moses' parents are excellent examples of what it means to live "by faith."