



Meant for harm – turned to good

AT A GLANCE



Bible

Genesis 50:15–21



Topic

Forgiveness and God's guidance through broken times



Takeaway

Not letting hurts have the last word



10–15 minutes



Object: a patched piece of fabric



Preparation: 10 min



indoors or by the fire



Make it personal: In two sentences, share something you have experienced yourself on the topic "Forgiveness and God's guidance through broken times". Real stories stick best.



How the devotion works

2 min

Opening

Pass the patched piece of fabric round. Ask: Is something patched worthless – or maybe even special?

3 min

Bible text

Read Genesis 50:15–21. After Jacob's death the brothers are afraid that Joseph will take revenge. Joseph weeps and says: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good." He promises to provide for them and their children.

5 min

Thought

Joseph does not play anything down: what the brothers did was evil. And yet he chooses to forgive. Forgiveness does not mean it did not matter. It means: I leave the judgement to God and stop waiting for revenge. Looking back, Joseph sees that God made something out of the break that saved many lives.

5 min

Conversation

Is there a hurt in your life where you would like to ask God to bring something good out of it?



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Prayer to read aloud

Lord Jesus, you know the hurts I carry with me. On the cross you prayed for those who hurt you. Give me strength to forgive where I can, and patience where it still needs time. Thank you that you can make something new out of what is broken. Amen.

To think further

- Where is forgiveness hard – and where are protection and help from others needed first?
- Where have you seen, looking back, that something good came out of something bad?

For leaders

- Leave room for doubts and critical questions – an honest conversation matters more than a quick answer.
- As a leader, feel free to share a personal experience.
- With heavy topics, keep an eye on who is struggling and be available afterwards.

 **Section:** Well-known Bible stories. You will find matching group meetings and more devotions at scouts-cloud.com.