

**Big Idea:** Genesis 48 is the beginning of the end of Jacob's journey; he is near death. Joseph comes to his father, and Jacob blesses his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh – in that order. Jacob remembers, looks to, and hopes for God and his good work – past, present, and future.

## **I. Introduction**

Read Genesis 48

also reference Hebrews 11:21

## **II. Faith Remembers God's Work in the Past**

As Jacob recounts his life, what does he focus on?

How do you remember your past? With anxiety or regret? Or do you try to ignore it? Is there a healthier response?

## **III. Faith Looks to God's Work in the Present**

Why does C.S. Lewis say that we can only “live in the present?”

If “following God” or “walking by faith” are metaphors for something in the present, to what does it refer?

## **IV. Faith Hopes for God's Work in the Future**

From a Christian perspective, what does it mean to “do not worry about tomorrow”? Does it mean to ignore the future? (see Matt. 6:34)

Faith is: (John Ortberg)

Faith is: (Hebrews 11:1)