

THIS WEEK AT THF

Sunday

1045am ▶ **THF STUDENTS-MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP**
Parent Meeting in the Summit

Tuesday

700-900pm ▶ **THF COLLEGE - Summer Bible Study**
Meets at THF

Wednesday

NO THF STUDENTS

Thursday

630-730am ▶ **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & BIBLE STUDY**
Meets in the THF Mall

UPCOMING

AUG 8
Family Swim Night:
TX Tech Leisure Pool
7:30-9:30pm
Sign up Online Today!

AUG 10- AUG 11
PBA Camp
Register Online Today!

AUG 15
Promotion Sunday

Please continue to check all of our social media outlets
and our website for updates to weekly activities
and Sunday Services.
www.theheightsfellowship.org



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

	Week of 7/18/21	Year to Date
Budget Giving	\$17,689.00	\$454,720.30
Budget Needs	\$16,403.00	\$475,687.00

Free wifi: THFGuest No password needed.



Calming the Cricket

Genesis 42

PINOCCHIO - GEMINY CRICKET SERVES AS A CONSCIENCE

Conscience [kon-shuhns] *n.* -

the inner sense of what is right or wrong in one's conduct or motives, impelling one toward right action... (Dictionary.com) **REFERENCED 31X IN THE NT**

Our conscience is there to direct us **GODWARD** !

...18 the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse... **INNER NUDGING THAT PUSHES US AT GOD** Romans 1:18-20

they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them... Romans 2:15

'EARLY WARNING SYSTEM' OF RIGH AND WRONG
Conscience is not an **ABSOLUTE GUIDE**...but a **RUDDER** to steer us to God

- can **REWARD** us or **PUNISH** us depending on what we **DO**
- can be 'reprogrammed' under false teaching
- can be ignored to the point that it is **SEARED** (non responsive)

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 1 Timothy 4:1-2

This describes **JOSEPH'S BROTHERS** **1984 AVIANCA AIRLINES CRASH**

We say 'I am not defined by my past!' Yet - we often continue to let our past **SHAPE** our present and **CLOUD** the vision of our future!

How Do You Deal With a Seared Conscience?

#1 Trust God to Bring Them to a Point of **NEED** vv1-5

- TIME has not diminished Jacob. He is still very much the **PATRIARCH** of the family
- The famine is especially **SEVERE**
- The brothers are **HAUNTED** with thoughts of Egypt
- Jacob withholds Benjamin from going **HE STILL DOESN'T TRUST THEM**

#2 Trust God to put them in front of the right **PEOPLE** vv6-16

- after two decades the meeting finally happened - this may be the **MOST DIFFICULT** test Joseph ever faced
- they saw an Egyptian governor named Zaphnath-paaneah - but Joseph **KNEW** them immediately
- **NOWHERE** is it said that Joseph had forgiven them - **BUT** the evidence is there -

Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh and said, "It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household. Genesis 41:31 niv

Why Did Joseph Treat His Brothers So Harshly?

Joseph had no reason to **TRUST** them knowing their background (cf v11). He needed to know:

- 1) Was Benjamin **ALIVE** ?
- 2) Had they learned anything about **LOVE**?
 - Would any of them **STEP UP** to go get Benjamin?
 - Was there one who would **SACRIFICE** to **STAY**?
 - Would **ANYONE** come back for Simeon?
- 3) How would they respond to the **MONEY**?

#3 Trust God to do what it takes to **TURN** them to **HIM** vv17-35

- Sometimes He will use **ISOLATION** vv17-24
- Sometimes He applies the right **STRESS** vv25-28
- Sometimes He **LIMITS** options vv29-35

...their hearts sank, and they turned trembling to one another, saying, "What is this that God has done to us?" Genesis 42:28

#4 Trust God to help develop **TRUST** in you vv36-38