

Where's Your Chair?

Genesis 42 1-17



Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him,
on those who wait in hope for his steadfast love,
to deliver their soul from death and to feed them in time of famine.
Psalm 33:18-19

Praising:

Guide me O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and ever more.

Reading:

Genesis 42:1-17
Joseph's brothers don't recognise him

The temptation for Joseph to reveal his identity to his brothers must have been almost overwhelming, especially when they mention the brother that is no more. But there is a plan working itself out, a plan for Joseph's whole family to be gathered around him in Egypt. When Joseph suggests that all but one of the brothers are to be locked up until Benjamin arrives,

they must have thought they were all for the high-jump. But in the three days of imprisonment which follow, all they can do is look at each other and think. Thinking-time is hard to find for all of us, but it's a key element in 'Where is your chair?' Not just random, whatever-comes-first-into-our-heads sort of thinking. Thinking of the kind which sifts our motives and behaviour and attitudes and asks the question why?

Listening:

Praying:

Lord thank you for these moments of thinking-time

- when we get to let go even briefly of the demands and busyness of the day
- when we realise how so much of our lives just gets frittered away
- when we can reflect on how effectively we have managed to serve you

Father: I ask for the will to confront what I know is amiss in my life, not to deny it or to pretend it's not there, but to name it to myself and to you – and then to walk away from it. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 26 January 2016