

**Immigration**  
**Men-Sharp-Men**  
**May 20, 2016**

**Notes:**

- There are approximately 11 million illegal immigrants living in the United States.
  1. Illegal immigrants in the USA peaked in 2007 at 12.2 million, 4% of the population.
  2. Mexican make up 50% of the illegal immigrants in the USA.
  3. 60% of illegal immigrants live in six states (CA, TX, FL, NY, NJ, IL).
  4. Illegal immigrants make up 5.1% of the US labor force.
  5. About 7% of K-12 students had at least one illegal immigrant parent in 2012.  
(Source for above information - Pew Research)
  
- Nearly 5 million people have fled Syria since 2011 due to civil war. (World Vision)
  1. Most are currently in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan. Over 1 million fled to Europe in 2015. (BBC)
  2. Germany received nearly 500,000 applications for political asylum in 2015. (BBC)
  3. As of January 2016, approximately 2,600 people Syrian refugees have settled in the USA. (NY Times Magazine)

**Like it or not immigration has and will continue to reshape life in the United States over the next several decades.**

**Scripture:**

Review the story of Joseph's reunion with his brothers and father (Jacob) and their migration from Canaan to Egypt found in Genesis 42 through Genesis 50. Look at the story from an immigration prospective.

**Questions:**

- 1) When Jacob's family immigrated to Egypt (at the invitation of Pharaoh), were they welcomed? Why did they go to Egypt in the first place?
  
- 2) Upon immigrating to Egypt, did Jacob's family want to live among the Egyptians? Why or why not?
  
- 3) Is it natural or normal for persons of a specific nationality to dislike immigrants from another nationality? (Genesis 43:32-34)
  
- 4) Were the Egyptians justified in fearing the growing numbers of Israelites? (Exodus 1:6-10)
  
- 5) When someone from another country moves into your neighborhood, how do you react? Are you sincere?
  
- 6) Is it justified for a person to enter the United States from another country illegally? What, if anything should be done to that individual? What does your heart say? What does the law say? What does Jesus say?

**Warning - This study is intended to help us examine our individual and collective thoughts, beliefs and actions regarding immigration. What would Jesus do? What he want us to do?**