

My profile

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Jo

It seems like things have come full circle. Let me explain how.

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Once the famine hit, people travelled from far and wide to buy food from our storehouses. We saved a lot of lives through all the forward planning. We sold the grain at a fair price — I'd sit at a table selling it to anyone who could afford to buy. One day a group of ten dusty travellers came in. I knew immediately that they were my brothers — only Ben was missing — but they didn't recognise me, and so I decided to mess around with them. First of all I accused them of being spies, and had them locked up. Then I told them that the only way I'd believe they were honest merchants was if they left one of their brothers in prison (Simeon drew the short straw) and the rest went home to fetch Ben. So they did.

When they came back, they had loads of gifts (mmmm, pistachio nuts – I LOVE pistachio nuts!) and so I thought it would be a good idea if we all sat down and had dinner together. When I saw Ben for the first time I started crying. I had to nip off into another room until I managed to get control. And STILL they didn't recognise me. Are they blind?;

So then I thought I'd play another practical joke. I put the grain that they'd bought into their bags, and then I put the money they'd used to pay for it into their bags as well. I also put my silver cup into Ben's bag. Then I let them go.

So they set off, only for me to call them straight back and ask them why they had stolen my cup, and to demand that the one who had stolen it become my slave. You should have seen the looks on their faces. It was at that point that I couldn't keep up the pretence any longer. So I told them who I was, and eventually there was a big group hug and lots of crying, and lots of apologising and lots of forgiveness.

And then they left again. It's all right, they're coming back! They've gone to get Dad. I can't wait to see him again. They should be back any day now.

When I look back on the craziness of the last 15 years, I can't quite believe how everyhting has turned out in the end. I guess it goes to show that through it all, through the good times and the bad, God is there guiding his people and keeping his promises.

Speak soon, Jo xx