



Growth Group Discussion Questions

Spring Session 6/9/19

1. Can anyone summarize Joseph's journey from his father's household to becoming the governor of Egypt? How many "ups and downs" did you count in his life? Which "up" was the most encouraging? Which "down" was the most devastating?
2. We are given very little insight into Joseph's emotions in this story and how he actually dealt with the day-to-day realities of the turns his life took. Have you ever been disappointed in life? Have you ever had something fortunate happen to you? How is your faith affected in times when you are disappointed and when something very fortunate happens in your life?
3. Read Gen 39:1-5. Next, read Gen 39:19-23. In both of these situations the Bible says that the Lord was with Joseph. We are able to see some of the effects of this in that Joseph is given success in whatever place he finds himself. However, how do you think it felt for Joseph to be in this situation? Do you think he always felt that the Lord was with him? Why or why not?
4. What temptations or faith pitfalls might Joseph have needed to wrestle with during his journey? Can you relate to any of those?
5. Pretend that you had not read this story in the Bible (and so were not privy to the knowledge that the Lord was with Joseph) but instead saw this happen to an acquaintance. What would you think about this person's situation? Would it be hard to spin the story into one that concludes that the Lord was NOT with Joseph?
6. Read Gen 50:19-20. Has God ever used the evil that man intended for you (or for others) for good, maybe even to save life? Did you see the good at the time that the evil was happening? Do you think that your pain and disappointment is a required step on the journey to you calling, to the dream God has for you?
7. Is there anyone that has hurt you or done evil to you or a loved one? Have you found your way to forgiveness as Joseph seems to do? What barriers are there to forgiveness?