

HOME TEAM DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

4/8/18

Read Genesis 50 and Reflect on our series

1. Read Hebrews 11:22. Why is this important? How does it show us where Joseph's faith had been throughout his life. What does it point towards? (Remember Genesis 3 promise!)
2. Joseph was betrayed by his brothers and sold into slavery. Take a few moments to think about what that feeling would be like? Maybe you have been through a circumstance where you were betrayed by someone extremely close to you. How did that feel?
3. Joseph becomes great in Egypt until being falsely accused of rape. Then he goes to prison for several years. But in Genesis 39:21, it says that "the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love." Is God present in our pain? In our seasons where we "just don't get it." When we are swimming in an ocean of circumstantial confusion? Is the Lord there?
4. Joseph sees his brothers and forgives them. He is not passive aggressive. He is not resentful. He does not hold anything over their heads. How? (See Genesis 50:19)
5. Joseph sees all of his life trials as events ordained by God. And knowing that, he trusts that even what others have done to him in evil, God meant it for good. What hurt in your life needs to be stared at in the eyes and told what they meant for evil God has meant for good?
6. Joseph's dying words were words that reminded that God's words to Abraham (Gen. 15:13) of 400 years affliction were approaching. But no matter how bad it got, God would visit them (Gen. 50:25). Ultimately, this points to the promise beyond Abraham all the way back to the garden. The promise for a snake crusher, a messiah, a true and righteous King.

Reflection and Prayer for the week

Joseph's story is incredible. But though great, it is only a thread within the full tapestry of the ultimate story: The story of Jesus. Like Joseph, Jesus was betrayed by his closest allies for a sum of silver. But Jesus wasn't given over to slavery, but to death. More than that, to pay the debt of God's wrath that must be paid for our sin. Think about how your story, just like Joseph's, is only part of a bigger one. Your story is not yours, but God's. Pray for healing over hurts, surrender them to Him, be encouraged in knowing that what someone else