

## Flipping the Script, Genesis 50:15-21 (VFC, February 4, 2024)

*The phrase “flipping the script” means “to change or reverse something dramatically.” For Joseph, this meant God turned his life of trouble into one of great blessing.*

❖ What to do when you are treated wrongly.

### #1. Don't curse it.

- Avoid the temptation to allow negative thoughts, words and reactions paint your attitude toward the offense. Its okay to be honest about the circumstances and feelings, just guard against the negative impacts it has on you, body, soul and spirit,
- Paul had an amazing perspective on handling difficulties (2 Corinthians 4:8-12).

### #2. Don't nurse it.

- The unfortunate reality about pity parties is that no one wants to attend; think of Job's friends. What helped him get back on track was when he turned the focus off his sufferings and toward the goodness of God and the well-being of others (Job 42:1-6, 10).
- As Jesus was enduring the greatest betrayal and suffering anyone has experienced, He went through it for you and me and focused on the ultimate outcome (Hebrews 12:1-4).

### #3. Don't rehearse it.

- The devil torments us by bringing up our past failures and replaying the wrongs done to us. Flip the script by forgiving yourself and your enemies (Psalm 51:10-13; Romans 12:14-18).

### #4. Disperse it.

- Offenses, troubles, and times of despair are certain to come, in fact Jesus promised they would (John 16:33). But how we respond is critical to how we overcome them. Giving our burdens to the Lord, including our disappointments and even betrayals are critical to walking in victory (Matthew 11:28-30; Romans 12:19-21; 1 Peter 5:6-11).

### #5. Then watch God reverse it.

- Joseph lived much of his life with disappointment. One day he found himself in the pit, soon to be followed by prison. And why? Because his brothers were jealous of him. But he never lost hope and soon God elevated him to the palace; what temptation it would have been to exact revenge on his brothers. But he was able to see God at work. This was much bigger than the evil he endured. It was about saving the world. Joseph was a type and shadow of The Savior to come, Jesus who endured it all to save you and me. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15; Genesis 50:20; 1 Corinthians 2:7-8).

**Epilogue:** The only thing that Joseph required of his brothers was that when God delivered them from the bondages of Egypt and they returned to the promised land, they were to take his bones with them (Genesis 50:22-26). Over four hundred years later, they honored that promise. This is a foreshadowing of the Rapture of the Church. There is coming a day when the dead in Christ shall rise and meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). This world is not our home, we are destined for the Promised Land!

