

February 13th, 2022

Bridge Builder

Genesis 50:21-22 NIV; Romans 8:28 NIV

1. If Pastor Terry had to give an abbreviated version of last weekend's message, what two points or ideas would you tell him to include no matter what?

2. This Sunday, Pastor Terry shared on the importance of learning and reflecting on past experiences, the good and the bad. What are some past experiences you have had that you grew from, learned from, and were able to teach or reach others to share the love of Jesus? How are these experiences able to become a "build a bridge" moment? Explain.

3. Joseph shares amazing words of wisdom to his family and to us in Genesis 50:21-22. In this, we recognize that Joseph saw the big picture and was able to see these extreme hardships from God's perspective that is now allowing him to be used by God to save the lives of many. Let us look and reflect on the examples below and how we might allow Jesus to use them to save the lives of many.

- a. Growing up in a blended and/or dysfunctional family
- b. Times of bullying, depression, anxiety, or disappointment.
- c. A great loss of our health, loss of a job, or loss of a loved one.
- d. Hurt by a someone you loved and/or trusted.
- e. Failure of a system to reach justice and/or resolution.

4. **Digging Deeper:** Pastor Terry spoke on how we can become bridge builders by closing the gap. He even mentioned the importance of remembering how Jesus left his place of comfort and entered into our lives to show us the love of our heavenly Father. Don't forget, just because you haven't experienced the same hardships of others, doesn't mean God can't use you. In what ways can you "bridge the gap"?

a. How can we begin to use our experiences to bridge the gap to those who need to hear the love and words of Jesus?

b. Share with the group why it might be difficult for you to share the love and forgiveness of Jesus with others.

c. What would be some healthy practices or spiritual habits that might allow for you to learn how to share with others of how Jesus saved your life?

d. Is there anything you need to do as a result of what you've learned this week?

Closing in prayer: Close in a time of prayer this week. As a group pray for each other to be bold and to look for ways to share how Jesus changed your life with the lives of others. We also want to be praying for opportunities for us to be a bridge builder to our community, city, and family.