

**Joseph – From Special to Slave (Genesis 37)**  
**For the week of January 9, 2021**

**Observation** (Read Genesis 37:1-4)

Describe what is happening.

**Interpretation**

Look at the pattern of favoritism within the family tree:

Genesis 21:9

Genesis 25:27-28

Genesis 29:30

Genesis 37:3

How has favoritism impacted relationships?

**Application**

Is favoritism a form of idolatry? If so, how?

Is there favoritism in your heart? If so towards what/who?

**Observation** (Read Genesis 37:5-11)

What are the two dreams of Joseph? What do they imply?

What are the brother's responses?

What is Jacob's response?

## **Interpretation**

How do you see Joseph's motive in sharing his dreams with his family?

Look at Jacob's response in verse 11 and compare that with Genesis 25:23.

## **Application**

Are there attitudes of your heart that give way to anger, or jealousy, or hatred?

How is God convicting and healing you in this?



## **Observation** (Read Genesis 37:12-17)

(Note: See map. The miles traveled to where they were supposed to pasture is approximately 48 miles, and where they were is approximately 15 miles further. Also, remember Shechem in chapter 34?)

Where has Jacob sent Joseph and why?

## **Interpretation**

How do you see the decision of Jacob sending Joseph to his brothers? Why do you see it this way?

### **Application**

What do the following verses say about decision making to you?

Proverbs 3:5-6

Proverbs 15:22

James 1:5-6

### **Observation** (Read Genesis 37:18-36)

What is happening in these verses?

What are the variations in plan within these verses?

Who was Joseph sold to? Who were they?

What was Jacob's reaction to the "news"?

Where did Joseph end up?

### **Interpretation**

What was Reuben's role? What do you think his motivation could be (restoration from chapter 34... New outlook on his father...)?

What was Judah's role? What do you think his motivation could be?

In reading verse 25, what do you think the attitudes of the brothers were?

Where was God in all of this?

### **Application**

Are there times you "conspire" to sin? If so, how do you combat it?

How do you handle hardship when it seems that God is nowhere in sight?