

DISCUSSIONNOTES

7.5.20

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Begin by reading **Genesis 37:1 - 27**.

Joseph and his brothers jealously are a classic example of the struggle we deal with today. If we look at the brother's point of view, they have competition, someone is better than them, they need to knock him down a little to boost themselves up, make their life easier. From Joseph's side, he is innocent, and ends up in a pit and it wasn't even his fault! Can you relate to this family dynamic? What is the harm in feuds like this?

Jon mentioned Christians ought to be LADDER people, not ADDER people. It means, we grab a ladder and go to work to help people, or we *add* to the problem by things we do or *don't* do. You need to decide about who you're going to be. Read **Proverbs 27:17**. Decide, serve, join a group with other Christian people. Read **Hebrews 10:24 - 25**. What changes have you seen in your life by being a ladder person, verses someone who adds to the problem? How does your decision not only effect you, but others? Discuss.

God never intended for the church to walk with their heads down. God does not call us to be timid, or weak, but a force for good. A force for God! Read **John 10:10** and **John 3:16**. God knew we would fall into the pits, and it's not His will for us to live there. God sent Jesus to rescue us from the punishment of Hell. Read **Romans 3:23 - 24**. Since Jesus died for us on the cross, isn't only right to live for Him? How is being a ladder person living for Jesus? List three ways you have been a ladder person.

From being in the pit, to living in a palace. Change does not start until we sometimes have been on the other side and want to do and be better. How can overcoming obstacles and weathering a storm, make us stronger and better? Where does Jesus come into play? What if we go through a hard time, but don't help others who go through the same thing? What happens if we don't share the good news, or give credit to God who got you through? Discuss then read **1 Peter 2:9**.

Read **1 Peter 2:10**. We show love, because we have been shown love. We give grace because we haven been given grace. We can bless others because we have been blessed. Is there power in speaking life over someone? Explain what blessing others looks like. Close by praying to have a servant's heart and to be ladder people, helping others.