

## The Story of Joseph: Seeing the Bigger Picture

Favored to Envied

- 1. What did you know about the story of Joseph leading up to this series?
- 2. Read Genesis 37:1-4.
  - a. What stands out to you about the family dynamics in these verses? How might Jacob's favoritism have shaped the hearts of his sons? What are some modern examples of "family patterns" or "generational habits" that can easily repeat if left unresolved?
  - b. When you see God's favor in someone else's life, does it stir up gratitude, insecurity, or something else? Why do you think that is? What's one way you can celebrate God's favor in someone else's life instead of comparing yourself to them?
- 3. Read Genesis 37:5-11.
  - a. Have you ever sensed that God gave you a vision, calling, or dream for your life? How did you respond to it? What does it look like to have discernment in how and when to share what God has placed on your heart?
  - b. Can you think of a season where God had to develop you before he could display you? How can we stay faithful to the process when God's promises feel far off?
- 4. Read Genesis 37:12-28.
  - a. Joseph obeyed his father's request and said, "Here I am." How does God often use small acts of obedience to lead to his bigger plans? Can you think of a time when a "random" encounter ended up being part of God's bigger story for your life later on?
  - b. What are some common "cisterns/pits" people experience today? How might God use those seasons to grow and position us?
- 5. Read Genesis 37:29-36.
  - a. Why is the word "meanwhile" such an important part of this story? What does this teach us about God's faithfulness when we can't see what he's doing (Romans 8:28)?
  - b. The message connected Joseph's story to Jesus both were betrayed, stripped of their robes, and sold for silver. How does that connection deepen your understanding of God's redemption story? How can remembering the cross help you trust God in the "meanwhile" moments of your own life?

Next Week: Genesis 39:1-23 Reading Plan: Acts 10-14





