



## ***Message Discussion Questions***

**8/20/2023**

**MESSAGE:** Delayed Destiny

**COMMUNICATOR:** Pastor Jeffrey Portman

**CHECKING IN:** How was your week? What was one of the highlights? Share wins (things God did that moved his mission forward and you closer to Jesus). What did you put into practice from last week's discussion?

**QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS:** These questions work well individually or in a group. The goal is to encourage spiritual growth, enhance biblical community and live it in the world around you.

1. What is something you did as a child but never got caught doing? Briefly share that story.
2. Have you ever felt like you forfeited God's favor because of sin, a bad decision or something else? What was the situation or reason for feeling this way?
3. What are the predictable persons, places, or things that hinder you from moving you forward and productive in the things of God? Try to be specific.
4. Describe a situation where you relied more on self dependence rather than on God dependence. What shaped your decision and what was the outcome?
5. A delay does not indicate disinterest on God's part. When have you felt a delay was God saying "no" to what you are praying for? Did you stop praying? What else did you do?
6. Read Genesis 39:1. What do you think Joseph was feeling as this was happening to him? What would be some of your feelings if you were Joseph?
7. How does 39:1 differ from 39:2? Why the change in perspective?
8. Looking again at Genesis 39:2. Read and insert your name instead of Joseph's. Talk about what you think and feel about this truth about you. What could living this truth do in and through you moving forward?
9. Read Genesis 39:6-8 Talk about a time when you were tempted to do something desirable, unseen and yet you knew it was sinful. What happened? How has that decision shaped who you are today?
10. Read Philippians 1:6. How do you see this truth for your life? Do you have a specific example or a dream that you are waiting to see happen?
11. As you look at a current difficulty or recent life challenge: name the difficulty and as a group pray Genesis 50:20 over those situations.
12. **TRUTH DEMANDS A RESPONSE!** What is one action step you will take this week in response to our discussion or nudge from the Holy Spirit? Be specific.

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**WANT TO GROW DEEPER?** We have created some resources to help you grow. Check out and explore the *Experience God* page. Go to [canvas.church/experience-god](https://canvas.church/experience-god) or *Experience God* on the App.



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### **GROUP PRAYER OPTIONS:**

- **Prayer Question:** "What's going on in our lives that we can involve Jesus?"
- **Ask:** What was one praise and one challenge you experienced this week? Celebrate the praises and pray for the challenges.
- **Ask** if anyone has a need or knows of a need, you can also offer "unspoken" prayer requests.
- **Pray for the person on your right**, *it can be out loud or in silence*, if in silence nudge the person next to you letting them know you are done.
- **Prayer Clusters:** Groups of two or three (by gender) and share your week together. Pray together and for each other. Send them a text, or leave a message letting them know you have prayed for them this week.
- **Have someone in your group keep an active list of the requests and the answers for both the updates and to celebrate the answers.**

**Are you interested in the Bible and in helping Life Groups benefit from the weekend message? We have a team for you! Canvas members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email [rickz@canvas.church](mailto:rickz@canvas.church)**