



SERIES: PLOT TWIST Today's Message: Watch the Throne Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

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PRAYER: God, you've got it all under control. Through all of the twists and turns of life, you are still in charge. Energize our confidence today and every day that follows, so that we can trust you despite what happens. We want the persistence power we witness in Joseph's life to live in us. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

ICEBREAKER: In what ways have you seen God at work despite the global pandemic? Share them with your group.

INTRODUCTION: Joseph's last will and testament about his bones' final resting place in a land that only belonged to Israel were a testament to his faith in the promises of God. He is an example for us in that our hope of forgiveness and an eternal relationship with God rests on what God himself has promised. Nothing can thwart the providence of God working out His plan in His time. Joseph's faithfulness advanced God's plan to keep these descendants of Abraham safe and bless the world. On a personal level, years passed without confirmation that the revelation God gave Joseph was being worked out in God's timing. God gave Joseph the revelation of the *product* but not the *process* by which things would work. He had to trust the character of the God who promised: just like us!

SCRIPTURE: Read Hebrew 11:22 and Genesis 50

DISCUSSION:

- 1. What stood out in today's message? What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today?
- 2. Look back on your family's spiritual heritage whether hard, sad, or happy and list some clear take-aways? Where do you see God being with you?
- 3. What is so important about Joseph's last will and testament about having his bones taken up to Palestine in the Exodus that the Holy Spirit selects this as an example of what real faith does? See Genesis 50:24-26.
- 4. For how many generations had this promise been passed down and approximately how many more years would elapse before it would be fulfilled? How many years passed in Joseph's life where his experience seemed to contradict the promise of God's presence and goodness? Where has your faith been tested?
- 5. Seven times the Scripture records that "the Lord was with Joseph." How are we to understand this considering that he was almost murdered by his brothers, sold to slave traders, incarcerated on false charges, and remained in prison 2 years longer than necessary





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due to the selfish forgetfulness of a man he helped. If God was with Joseph what is He doing and where is He going with this life?

CHALLENGE: This week, find somebody going through difficult challenges and encourage them to hold on, pray and persist.

SERVE: Pray over Hebrews 11:22 this week. Praise God for the power to pray and persist. Take a moment to reflect on your start. Pause to consider how God has sustained you up until this moment. Listen: when you are quiet before God, it is amazing how clear things become. Respond. Write it down, live it out, give God praise!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also "find, follow and like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g. answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH GROW | PRAY | SERVE



Welcome!

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NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER: FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.463.2472 CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: <u>prayer@myspbc.org.</u> EMAIL: <u>Barnabas@myspbc.org</u>

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies) CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org. EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP: TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.6177 CALL: 804.643.4000

EMAIL: <u>Barnabas@myspbc.org.</u> EMAIL: <u>emergencyassistance@myspbc.org.</u>

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: <u>Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org</u>
SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: <u>Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org</u>
Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: <u>juan.shackelford@myspbc.org</u>

Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: lance.watsonir@myspbc.org

Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: michelle.townsend@myspbc.org

Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org

Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: maceo.freeman@myspbc.org

Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: roscoe.jones@myspbc.org