

Message: Joseph – When Your Dreams Get High-Jacked

Scripture: Genesis 37:3-24

WHAT IS BITTERNESS?

It is anger that has seethed until it hardens into a rebellious, vengeful conclusion.

WHAT IS JEALOUSY?

Jealousy is resenting God's goodness in others' lives and ignoring God's goodness in mine.

1. JEALOUS OF HIS RELATIONSHIP.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age... when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him. Genesis 37:3-4

2. JEALOUS OF HIS POSITION.

...And he made him a robe of many colors. Genesis 37:3

3. JEALOUS OF GOD'S FAVOR.

Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. Genesis 37:5

When they saw him from afar they conspired against him to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams." Genesis 37:18-20

"Surely we are being punished because of our brother. We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his life, but we would not listen." Genesis 42:21

WHAT ARE THE DANGERS OF BITTERNESS?

1. BITTERNESS IS REALLY ANGER AT GOD.

2. BITTERNESS ALWAYS AFFECTS OTHER PEOPLE.

See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled. Hebrews 12:15

3. BITTERNESS HURTS YOU.

Never pay back evil for evil to anyone...never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God. Romans 12:17-19

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book. Psalm 56:8

He did not retaliate when he was insulted. When he suffered, he did not threaten to get even. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. 1 Peter 2:23

IF YOU HAVE BITTERNESS I SUGGEST YOU DO 3 THINGS:

1. CONFESS YOUR BITTERNESS TO GOD.

2. IDENTIFY AND FORGIVE.

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger...along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:31-32

3. FIGHT BITTERNESS WITH THE MIND OF CHRIST.

Be angry, but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil. Ephesians 4:26-27