

Digging Deeper - Genesis 37

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Day 1

Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you dig deeper into His word this week. Read Genesis 37. The story of Joseph starts with him as a teenager, working for and learning from his older brothers. Joseph's father Jacob favors him over his other brothers. Is it ok for a father to favor one child greatly over his other children? Why or why not? What does Joseph do in verse 2 that might have contributed to his father preferring him over his brothers?

Day 2

Pray about what God wants you to learn today from some extra study in His word about Sunday's message. Read Genesis 37. How does Jacob show his favor for Joseph? What else can we learn about this extravagant gift? Many scholars translate Joseph's robe to be equivalent to the robe of a King, or prince, indicating Jacob's plans for family inheritance/leadership by Joseph. If you were an older brother/sister, teaching and mentoring your youngest brother/sister, how would these actions from your father make you feel?

Day 3

Pray for how Jesus wants you to learn from His word today. Read Genesis 37. What does Joseph do next (verses 5-8) that creates even more friction with his brothers? Is this a random dream or something more? See Genesis 42:6. What else does Joseph do (verses 9-11) that provokes his brothers even further? Do you think he was doing this intentionally or was his dream something larger than a dream? Check out Genesis 43:26 and 44:14.

Day 4

Find a quiet place to settle your body mind and spirit. Pray for God's help during this digging deeper study time. Read Genesis 37. If your youngest sibling had your father's total favor and admiration, sharing dreams about how everyone would bow down to him, how would that make you feel? Would you feel jealous? Envious? Even hatred? Are Joseph's brothers justified in hating their brother?

Day 5

Pray for others in your life, and how God is nudging you to come alongside them with kindness and joy today. Read Genesis 37. Joseph's brothers give in to their hatred of him, plan to kill him, end up abandoning him to die in a pit, but then plan and sell him as a slave. What else can we learn about the sin of hatred and how dangerous it is? Check out Proverbs 10:12, 1 John 2:9, Matthew 5:21-26, and 1 John 3:15.

Day 6

As you pray, reflect, and discuss with the Holy Spirit, about the days of your week, and how Jesus wants you can apply your thoughts, feelings, and answers from digging deeper, to work in your life for His glory. Read Genesis 37. How hard must Joseph's brothers' hearts have been, that they could pause for a meal while deciding to kill him, abandon him or sell Joseph to slavery? Stop and think for a minute; what kinds of sins are rationalized like this in our world today because of hardened hearts?