

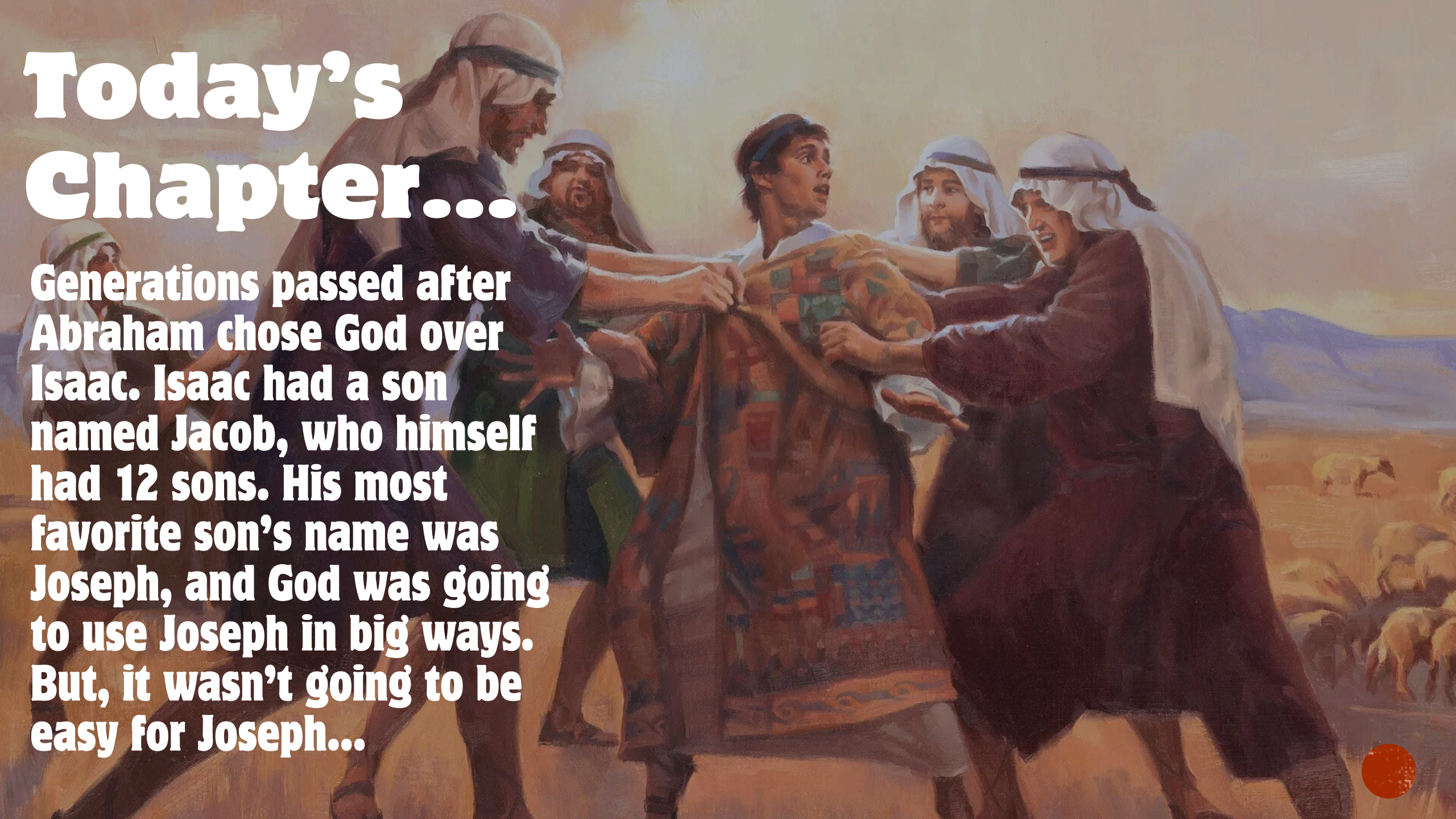


THE BIG STORY CHAPTER 6/25

Joseph: God Works
Through Suffering

Today's Chapter...

Generations passed after Abraham chose God over Isaac. Isaac had a son named Jacob, who himself had 12 sons. His most favorite son's name was Joseph, and God was going to use Joseph in big ways. But, it wasn't going to be easy for Joseph...



Today's Scripture:

Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.



The Story: Joseph

- Joseph's brothers hated Joseph so much that they sold him into slavery! During his time enslaved, Joseph experienced huge amounts of pain and suffering.**
- However, God used Joseph's slavery to save so many people! He used Joseph to warn the people about a famine. Joseph was freed and became very powerful.**
- Joseph's brothers were finally reunited with Joseph. At first, He didn't know what to do with them. However, he chose to forgive them, knowing that God used his suffering for good.**

Why it Matters in the Big Story

- God doesn't only work in the good times, but in the bad times as well.**
- When we suffer, we often feel useless and alone, but God is always with us.**
- Through the suffering of Jesus, the whole world was saved!**



GOD IS...

God is powerful. God is so powerful, that He can use bad times just as well as He can use good times for His glory. When we're struggling, God's power has not diminished one bit.

Reflection Questions

1. Does God work in the good times or the bad times?

Both!

2. Where is God when we suffer?

With us!

3. How did God join us in our suffering?

Jesus!

Challenge Question: Will you look for God when you go through a bad time this week?