

3. The Palace - Seasons when we experience _____,
_____, and/or _____.

WHAT WE SEE IN JOSEPH WE SEE IN JESUS

Consider how Jesus went through pits, prisons and places.
In those seasons, Jesus' response was to pray, trust, serve, love and forgive.

Isaiah 53:2-11

GOD PROMISES THAT HE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US

Matthew 28:18-20 and the gift of the Holy Spirit

What would somebody in your circumstances do if you were confident that God is with you?

Footprints poem

THE GOD WHO WASTES NOTHING

Genesis 50:20, Romans 8:28-29

Romans 8:18 - Heaven will be filled with Miyagi moments!

THERE'S A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

THE STORY OF JOSEPH

Make sure and read Genesis 37-50 (skip chapter 38) this week to really jump into his full story!

MANY POINTS BUT HERE'S MY MAIN POINT

God is _____ us in all _____ and has a _____
for every _____.

And while we cannot control the _____ of life, we can
control our
_____.

THE SEASONS OF JOSEPH (AND US) AND HIS RESPONSE

- 1. The Pit** - Seasons when _____ to you _____ you

- 2. The Prison** - Seasons when we get _____ in situations that we didn't _____ or _____.

VINTAGE: Pits, Prisons and Palaces

Genesis 37-45 & 50

Date: 2/4/2018

GETTING STARTED

What is your favorite season (fall/winter/spring/summer) and why?

Personal Challenge: In preparation of your Life Group, read through the life of Joseph found in Genesis. Read Genesis chapters 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45 and 50.

SUNDAY RECAP

Have you ever felt like, after doing the right thing(s), life got worse for you? This week's message identified the seasons in life we all face and how God is involved in the good times and bad. What we are responsible for and have a choice in is how we respond. The life and story of Joseph is an amazing example of faith and resilience. Joseph's confidence came not from himself (even though he might have had reason to trust his own efforts) rather he trusted that God would be with him through all seasons and circumstances. We to have a choice to choose a life of faith like Joseph.

STUDY & SHARE

1. Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Consider the 3 seasons described in this week's message, Pits, Prisons and Palaces, which would you use to describe where you are right now in life and why?
2. Read Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 & 1 Peter 5:10. Pain and suffering are a common part of life and Christians are not exempt.
 - a) What are some typical "Pits" and "Prisons" that people find themselves in?
 - b) What purpose does pain and suffering play in the life of a Christian?
 - c) What "Pits" and/or "Prisons" have you experienced in your life? How did you respond to those and what was your attitude toward God during them?

3. Often, we think about God missing in the hard times and present in the good times. Describe a time when you were in a season of blessing (or a palace) and your awareness of God's presence. In what ways is it difficult to remember God when things are going well?
4. Read Genesis 50:15-26. What was Joseph's perspective on life, relationships and God at the end of his life?
5. Read Isaiah 53:2-11. Consider the life of Jesus and what he had to endure in his life? What encouragement can we draw from his life and example?

SHINE TO OTHERS

Identify someone in your life and/or network of relationships, that is experiencing a Pit or a Prison. How can you encourage, support and remind them of God's love and work in their life?

SUPPORT // PRAYER

After you have identified where everyone is at in your life group, spend time praying for each other specifically as related to each person's Pit, Prison or Palace. Pray also for the church as a whole, that we might be a people to trust God through every season of life.

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