

Series: Genesis: The Foundations for the Coming of Christ
Title: Sold or Sent?
Scripture: Genesis 45:1-10
November Memory Verse: *"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."*
Genesis 50:20 (ESV)

Big idea: Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery, but God sent him for salvation. We face a choice between the sold life of our own making or the sent life where God writes our story.

Introduction

- *Choose Your Own Adventure* books: the choices were an illusion, already scripted
- God offers true freedom: trusting Him day by day
- A review of Joseph's story. The climactic moment with his brothers: What will he do?
- Joseph's answer: "You sold me, but God sent me." Sold versus sent.
- Three questions: What is the sold life? What is the sent life? How do we switch?

1. **The Hopelessness of the Sold Life**
   - People betray (Gen 37:18–20)
   - Circumstances rule (Gen 39:1)
   - Injustice wins (Gen 39:19–20)
   - When there is no resurrection, no victory, no meaning (*Jesus Christ Superstar*)

2. **The Confidence of the Sent Life**
   - God is present (Gen 39:2–5)
   - God is purposeful (Gen 37:5–11)
   - God is providential (Gen 37:20–22)
   - Joseph's story points us to Jesus



3. **How to Switch from Sold to Sent**
    - Receive God's blessings (Gen 39:4–5; Hosea 11)
    - Recognize your stewardship (Gen 39:8–9)
    - Revise your focus (Gen 41:16)
    - My story of loss…and redemption

4. **The Power to Change**
    - Not a self-help project; a changed perspective, like the brothers'
    - Jesus lived the sold life in our place: abandoned, betrayed, accused, crucified
    - Jesus offers the sent life: He rose, so we can share life with Him (John 7:37–38)

"You sold me… but God sent me." Are you ready to embrace that vision? Take the first step of trusting Jesus.