

# JOSEPH

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

Part 1: In the Brokenness of Family  
May 5th, 2024  
Genesis 37 (p.32)

*Author: Moses with some later editors*

*Date: 1406BC*

*Melodic Line of Genesis: Despite the failure of God's covenant people,  
God's purposes and plans will come to fulfilment, not through the  
faithfulness of others but through the faithfulness of God.*

**BIG IDEA:**

**Five shocking scenes of family dysfunction and how they show us God's hidden hand at work:**

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

IV. \_\_\_\_\_

V. \_\_\_\_\_

*What to do right after the service to help “the Word dwell more richly,” within us (Colossians 3:16):*

*1. Instead of rushing off after the service is over, or talking about the latest news, develop the habit of talking about the sermon with people after church. Start spiritual conversations by asking, “How did the Scripture challenge or speak to you today?” Or “what about God in the message encouraged you?”*

*2. Encourage someone by sharing things you learned about God from His Word during the sermon. Make note of how your thinking has changed. Don’t let biblical teaching be a one-time event that fades from memory as soon as it is over (James 1:22-25). Choose one or two particular applications to share.*

*[Above from book *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church Member* by 9Marks]*

EST 2020  
**MINING THE MESSAGE**

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND FURTHER RESOURCES TO DIG  
DEEPER



## MIDWEEK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The sermon noted that Joseph's "bad report" about his brothers was slanderous gossip motivated by ill intentions, not just truthful reporting. How can we avoid the temptation to gossip or slander others, even if some truth is involved? What are godly ways to address others' faults?

Jacob clearly showed sinful favoritism towards Joseph over his other sons. When have you seen or experienced the destructive effects of showing partiality or favoritism, whether in families, churches, workplaces or other contexts? How can we guard against this toxic tendency?

Joseph's youthful foolishness in flaunting his dreams made a bad situation worse with his brothers. When have you seen immaturity, insensitivity or lack of wisdom make a difficult circumstance even more inflamed? What does it look like to grow in wisdom in how we approach strained relationships?

Despite all the human brokenness and sin on display in this account, God was working providentially behind the scenes. When have you looked back and seen God's hand orchestrating something good through difficult circumstances you faced? How can this strengthen our faith in God's hidden workings?

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# MINING THE MESSAGE

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## DIGGING DEEPER

Resources to help you think deeper about this week's Bible message. Recommended resources are not an endorsement of all the authors have said or written.

### Something to Read:

Be Authentic - Warren Wiersbe

Living in the Light of Inexhaustible Hope - Iain Duguid and Matthew S. Harmon

Joseph and the Gospel of Many Colors: Reading an Old Story in a New Way - Voddie Baucham

### Something to Listen to:

How God is Working - Dr. Jordan Neal Rogers (available on YouTube)

Joseph: A Love/Hate Relationship (Gen 37:1-11) - Matt Heidelbaugh (available on YouTube)

In the Pit of Providence (Gen 37:12-36) - Steven Lawson (available on YouTube)

## NEXT WEEK

Joseph: The Hidden Hand of God #2 - Genesis 38