

THE STORY OF GOD

“The Story of Joseph”- Genesis 37-50
October 11th, 2015

OBSERVE & REFLECT

(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon.)

READ Genesis 37-50

- ☀ Read the texts at least twice. Try reading the text from two different translations.
- ☀ What do you observe in the texts? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the texts? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are.

INVESTIGATE & APPLY

(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the Scripture.)

1. We come to the end of the first section of the “Story of God”, which focused on the book of Genesis. Genesis tells us about how our story began and focuses on 4 key events and four key people. Take a second to review and write down what you know about each:
 - 4 Events (Gen. 1-11): Creation, Fall, Flood, Nations
 - 4 People (Gen. 12-50): Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph
2. Read Genesis 37:1-9. What two factors caused Joseph’s brothers to hate him so deeply? What did they do as a result of their hatred to “rid” themselves of Joseph?
3. Read Genesis 39:2-5, 20-23. What would have your attitude have been if you were Joseph? What stands out to you about Joseph’s attitude?
4. Read Genesis 41:15. After 13 years of hardship, Joseph finds himself on the brink of his destiny. What does this comment teach you about Joseph and how he has grown in the 13 years? What had God taught him?
5. Read Genesis 50:19-20. Many years later, Joseph’s brothers are still unable to believe the extent of Joseph’s graciousness towards them. What do these words from Joseph show you about his view of God, of himself, and of forgiveness?

“Joseph’s dreams has begun when he was seventeen years old, and now at last, at the age of thirty, his destiny was fulfilled. Joseph had finally come to a place of total surrender and put God at the center of his world. It had taken thirteen years of slavery and imprisonment. God was finally in a position where he could work through Joseph.”

-Mike Breen

NEXT STEPS

- ☀ This is a powerful story that teaches us many lessons. What is God saying to you through it?
- ☀ Only when God is at the center of our lives can he work through us in the way that he intends to. God wants to rule through us, with authority and power. But to do this, he must know that he is on the throne of our heart. He has to deal with our pride and show us that he wants to use us, but doesn’t need us. Have you seen this at work in your life? What part of you needs to “die” so that God can work through you?