



MAXIMIZE THE MESSAGE

iDREAM

The Dream Journey of Joseph

iSearch: Week 3

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IN A NUTSHELL

Joseph was his father Jacob's favorite son. His already jealous brothers were furious when Joseph shared a dream that intimated he would be ruling over them. They decided to kill Joseph, but in the end settled for selling him into slavery. This started an amazing life journey of ups and downs that led to Joseph's ultimate favor for his faithful commitment to God and his willingness to forgive.

TALK IT OUT

1. What is your dream for your life? A new career? A new location? Have you shared it with family or friends? What was their reaction?
2. Sometimes we have a tendency to brag rather than remaining humble about our opportunities and accomplishments. Joseph learned a hard lesson after he shared his dream in a way that was perceived as bragging. Read Jeremiah 9:23-24 and discuss why we should be careful not to boast.
3. Joseph remained faithful to God through many tough situations. He was sold into slavery, lived in a strange country far from home, was wrongly accused and thrown into prison where he remained for two years. But he ended up as second in command of Egypt because of his faithfulness to God and his ability to put others first. Talk about how God has been with you through tough times in your life and how you came out stronger because of your faith.
4. John Maxwell's book, "Leadership 360," talks about how you can lead and influence those around you, including your boss. Joseph used this principle and was rewarded for it. When have you built value into those around you in your family, work place, or community? What were the results?

DRAW IT OUT

Joseph kept faithful to God through all the ups and downs of his life. God remained faithful to him, placing him in a position to offer forgiveness and restoration to the brothers who had abused him. In the end, Joseph saw God's hand in it all. He said, "*You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives*" (Genesis 50:20). In 2 Corinthians 5:7, the apostle Paul reminds us to "walk by faith, not by sight." In today's world, we can easily become absorbed by the mindset of those around us who are not Christ followers. As believers, we must realize that Jesus came to live among us – the Word became flesh – to establish the Kingdom of God on earth by dying for our sin which separated us from God. As we believe, we receive forgiveness and begin to walk in Jesus' world. That means that no matter what happens, God can bring good as we remain faithful to Him. Coach Taylor, in the movie "Facing the Giants" says, "I've resolved to give my best to God and leave the results up to Him!"

LIVE IT OUT

As you interact with your family, friends, or co-workers this week, **choose to forgive instead of retaliate**. Be patient. Practice adding value to others instead of being quick-tempered or saying things you cannot take back. Discuss this with your life group or family members. **God does not call the qualified; He qualifies the called.** Joseph and other heroes of the Bible were called by God to lead others because of their faith. If you remain in God's Word, pray, and listen to God, you will be led by the Spirit to become all God intends you to be. Nothing is impossible with God



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