

The Ups and Downs of Trusting God

Lessons from the
Life of Joseph

Personal Discipleship Reading Plan and Questions

Week of:

July 10 - Read Genesis 37 & 39

1. Who are the main characters of Joseph's story that appear in Genesis 37?
2. How was Joseph mistreated by his brothers, Potiphar and Potiphar's wife? How do you respond when people mistreat you?
3. How can Joseph's response to the sexual advances from Potiphar's wife inform your decisions when faced with sexual temptation?

July 17 - Read Genesis 40-41:40

1. What role did dreams play in the lives of the cupbearer, the baker, Pharaoh and Joseph?
2. Have you ever had a dream from God, while sleeping? Do you know the meaning of the dream?
3. God gave Joseph the gift of dream interpretation. He used that gift and it paved the way for further opportunities to be used by God. How can you use your God given gifts to honor God?

July 24 - Read Genesis 41:41-43:34

1. In Gen. 41:52, Joseph names his son "Ephraim" which means "fruitful in the land of my suffering". What fruit was Joseph experiencing?
2. What is a season of suffering you've experienced that God has brought good fruit from? What was that good fruit?
3. Currently are you in an "up" season or "down" season? How are you or how can you trust God in this season?

July 31 - Read Genesis 44-45

1. To say Joseph's family relationships were complicated is an understatement! What family member do you have a complicated relationship with?
2. How are you processing the complication of that relationship with God? What is God asking you to do?

August 7 - Read Genesis 46-47

1. How do you think Jacob felt when he learned that his son was alive? What type of emotions do you think he was experiencing on his way to Egypt?
2. How have we seen Joseph trusting God in the ups and downs of life?

August 14 - Read Genesis 48-49:28

1. Jacob begins to be referred to as "Israel" at the end of Gen. 47. Read Gen. 32 and share the significance of Jacob's name change.
2. In Gen. 48:11 how do you see the faithfulness of God to Israel?
3. Where are you seeing God's faithfulness in your life right now?

August 21 - Read Genesis 49:29-50:26

1. Why would Joseph's brothers be afraid of Joseph after their father died?
2. This would have been Joseph's opportunity for revenge. How do we see Joseph respond to his brothers?
3. In Gen 50:19, Joseph recognizes that he is not in the place of God. How did that help Joseph extend forgiveness to his brothers?
4. Are you holding any grudges in your life? Who is God asking you to extend forgiveness to?