

The Heart of the Matter

12. How have you seen favoritism play out in your life? Family? Work? Have you played favorites? Have you been the favorite at the expense of others? Have you seen others favored at your expense? Tell your story.

13. Where are you battling envy in your life? How would you like to see that change?

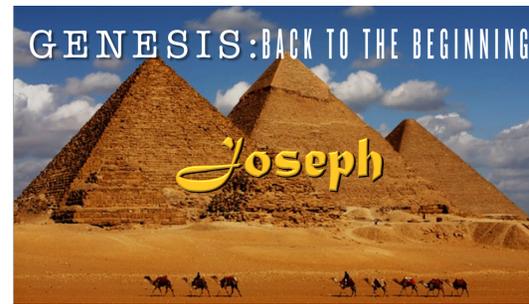
14. Have you ever felt like you've been thrown in a pit and abandoned? How did God see you through such a low time?

15. What lessons can we take from Joseph's life up to this point?

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Life Group Study Guide

You Are Your Brother's Keeper Genesis 37:1-22 For the Week of July 29, 2018

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. Do you have a memorable "tattling" experience where your younger sibling got you into trouble?
3. Growing up, how well did you get along with your siblings? Did you feel your parents played favorites?

LIFE GROUP is a small group ministry of
BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, CHICAGO, IL
Some questions adapted from: The NIV (c) Serendipity Bible, 1996, Serendipity House, and Bible Study
Fellowship International @ www.bsfiinternational.org

Digging Deeper

4. Why does favoritism between parents and children always cause trouble in a family?

5. In verse 2 how does Joseph's behavior contribute to the problem?

6. Why was it foolish for Jacob to send his young son Joseph by himself to find his brothers, some of whom had recently murdered a whole city of men? What can we learn from this?

7. In verses 5-11 what purpose did God have in giving Joseph these dreams?

8. Does God still speak to people in dreams? What is the primary way God speaks to us?

9. In verses 12-17, it seems clear that God has led Joseph to this encounter with His brothers. Why didn't God protect Joseph by keeping him from his brothers at this time? How has God allowed you to encounter dangers and difficulties in your life? How did God see you through it all?

10. In verses 18-24 Joseph's brothers sought to be rid of him and his dreams. What vital link in God's providence did they fulfill?

11. Why do you think Reuben stepped up to protect Joseph's life in verses 21-22? Why do you think the other brothers didn't try to protect Joseph too?