

THE STORY

THE BIBLE AS ONE CONTINUING STORY OF GOD AND HIS PEOPLE

CHAPTER 3 – JOSEPH: FROM SLAVE TO DEPUTY PHARAOH

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL QUESTIONS

- ❶ What is God saying?
- ❷ For what does this section lead me to give thanks? (See God's grace and promises!)
- ❸ What sins does this section lead me to confess? (See God's expectations for his people)
- ❹ For what does this section lead me to pray? (As you ponder the Word, what needs of heart and life for yourself and others come to mind? Consider every word you read as an invitation to turn it into a prayer you speak back to your Lord!)

DIGGING IN

- 1) Make a list of all of the injustices that Joseph suffered. He could have easily given up hope and felt sorry for himself. He could have become embittered toward God. What sustained him during these trials? There are times when we may suffer an injustice. What shapes a Christian's response in those moments?

- 2) While working in Potiphar's home, Joseph's master's wife took an interest in him. What does Joseph's response to her (pg 31) teach us about sin and its seriousness? What challenges may we face for conducting ourselves with integrity in the workplace, school or in the world?

- 3) God blessed Joseph in Egypt. We're told "The LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did." (pg 32) Later, Joseph acknowledged that it was the LORD's hand that brought about good from a bad situation. Why is it difficult to remember to give God the credit for any abilities or successes we enjoy? Give examples of how we can acknowledge him in our lives.

- 4) What were Joseph's intentions in "messing" with his brothers the way he did before he finally revealed his identity to them? In the end, how did Joseph demonstrate what true forgiveness looks like?

- 5) Describe the consequences Jacob's family suffered as a result of envy, dishonesty, hostility, and sinful decisions. What kept this family together after going through so much? What keeps our families together?

FOR NEXT TIME

Chapter 4: Deliverance

Bible Reference: Exodus 1-7; 10-17