

The Dreamer

Pastor Jeff Graham
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Sermon in a Sentence: The Pain is part of the process that takes us from the Promise to the Palace.

Summary: Joseph was a young man with a dream, but it seemed like things kept getting worse for him. We've all had dreams in life that have fallen apart for one reason or another. How do you handle the disappointment and keep moving?

Leader's Tip: The first couple of weeks are critical for forming relationships. Use Icebreakers or just sit and talk, but make sure there is plenty of time for relationship building.

Ice Breaker Questions (Choose one or do them all, everyone answers):

- **When you were 10, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
- **What advice would you give to 10 year old you?**

Diving In:

NOTE: This sermon takes a high level view of Joseph's life, but there is much to explore! I've selected key verses, but it might be good to read more to understand the context. I've also included a description in case you need to skip a section for time

READ Genesis 37: 3-11 – Josephs dreams

- **What do you think Joseph's brothers thought of him? What should Joseph have done differently?**

READ Genesis 37: 19-20, 31-32 (16-34) – Sold into slavery

- This is the part of the story where his dream is disrupted.

READ Genesis 39:2 and 39:11 and 39:20 – Falsely accused

- **How do we reconcile verses 2 and 11? How can God be with him and he be falsely accused and thrown in prison?**

READ Genesis 39: 21-23 - God was with him in prison

- **Why do you think he had to go through all of this?**
- When we go through hard times, we often assume we are being punished or taught something. **How have you seen God at work during hard times in your life?**

[OPTIONAL] READ Genesis 40- Interpreting dreams in prison

[OPTIONAL] READ Genesis 41- Pharaoh's dreams and Josephs promotion

Going Deeper:

READ Genesis 41: 41-42 – Joseph's promotion

- **Is this the moment when God blesses Joseph? The promise has come to pass, but does this mean that now God trusts or loves Joseph?** Of course not, God had something else in mind during Joseph's trials. It was a means of moving him into position to use him.
- **Explain this statement: The Pain is part of the Process that takes us from the Promise to the Palace.**
- **READ Genesis 50:20- God used this to accomplish His will**
 - **What did Joseph understand about God that we still need to learn?** Romans 8:28- God works all things for good.

God used what Joseph went through to save two nations. And he wants to turn your suffering for good too!

How can we pray for you?