

Joseph - Week 4

The Brothers Trickery

Gen 37: 31 Then they got Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. 32 They took the ornamented robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe." 33 He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces. 34 Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days. 35 All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said, "in mourning will I go down to the grave to my son." So his father wept for him. NIV

- Grudges are nothing more than _____ with Satan on how to hold us hostage all our lives.
- Most of the attacks of life usually catch us off guard.
- Joseph was thrown into a hole and despised for his lifestyle and purity.
- The pits of life never have easy exits.
- Our pits may be our _____ to trust the way God takes us, or our own poor choices.
- God desires loyalty and obedience according to Ezekiel.
- The stretching of our faith is going to have an outcome that glorifies God.

Truths about Joseph and his slavery:

1. Bitterness never staked its claim on Joseph.
 2. Anger never turned to hatred.
 3. Joseph's heart was wounded, but never hardened.
 4. Joseph's _____ to trust God never went astray.
 5. Joseph not only survived, he _____.
- God does not give us an overcoming life. He gives us life as we overcome.

The Brothers' Trickery

- _____ is a poor place to try and hide when dealing with a living God.
- _____ never corrects itself-- it only leads to greater problems and lies.
- God knows more about Joseph and his plans and would not allow Jacob's _____ to ruin Joseph's life.
- _____ has made life even harder for those who demand it.

- We need to teach and learn that we will never be a successful _____ until we learn to be a satisfied _____.

Marks of a Real Servant

1. Real servants make themselves available to serve.
2. Real servants pay attention to _____.
3. Real servants do the best with what they have.
4. Real servants are _____ to the task God has given them.
5. Real servants are faithful to God-given opportunities.
6. Real servants are not afraid to admit they are wrong.
7. Real servants value the _____ of Christ.

God will, in time, use 3 disciplines in Joseph's life that we must use in our own lives.

1. The discipline of _____
2. The discipline of _____ - _____
3. The discipline of _____

Truths for us today:

1. God does not always deal with _____ the way we want.
2. There is value in _____ - _____ living in a do-whatever-you-want culture.
3. God honors _____ and perseverance in times of trouble or doubt.
4. Joseph teaches us to honor God with _____ and a good work ethic.
5. Trials have a way of _____ our true selves and our pride.
6. Use these times to _____ to God and to prepare you for His plan.

What does being spiritually mature look like to you?

It starts by controlling our attitudes, especially our _____.