

JOSEPH'S JOURNEY Genesis 39.2-3

Key Points:

- Joseph's life took a dramatic and unwanted turn and he found himself in difficult place physically, relationally and emotionally for 13 years! And yet he seems to have found a way to live and work well until God led him back to better times.
 - God promises to be with us no matter how difficult the situation is. Joseph knew this from the promises passed down from Abraham (Genesis17:6-8). God promised that he would be the God of Abraham and his descendants. We have the bible which echos this same promise for us (eg Deuteronomy 31:8 and Matt 23:20)
 - God always has a plan to lead us to better times (even if we can't see it yet). Joseph would have seen this in the promises to Abraham (Genesis17:6-8). We know this from many verses in the bible (eg. Proverbs 3:5-6)
 - When we live in the light of those promises for and with God we, and those around, us are blessed.

Questions:

Conversation Starter

1. Where are you on the planning/not planning spectrum - how do you react when a well thought out plan changes? Is it different if they are small plans or big life plans? Does it make a difference if it seems to be God instigating the change?

Start Thinking & Sharing

- 2. When you are not at church and doing other things, do you remember that God is with you. Are there particular bible verses that help you remember to include Him in your daily life. Do you include him more in tough times or easier times?
- 3. Do you believe that God always has a plan even when you can't see it at the time? Are there some times in your life when things seem to have gone off course but in hindsight you can see how God was leading you after all.

Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

4. Heavenly father help us to look for your presence and trust in your plan for us to flourish. We are sorry for when we have not lived in the light if this, help us to live for and with you even in the unwanted parts of the journey.

Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

- 5. How are you going to remember that God is with you this week. How will you include Him in your day and look for his plan.
- 6. Is there a part of your life where you could change your attitude (no matter how justified) to an attitude that pleases God and blesses others?