

## THE BACKGROUND TO THE STORY OF JOSEPH (And You Thought Your Family Was Dysfunctional)

- Why does the story of Joseph take so much space in the book of Genesis?
  - 1) The life of Joseph is a \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ life! (Phil. 4:8)
  - 2) There is no one in scripture whose life \_\_\_\_\_ that of the \_\_\_\_\_ like that of Joseph.

### I. The Context to Our Story ... begins by ...

#### A. Understanding the Book of \_\_\_\_\_ – the book of \_\_\_\_\_!

1. Genesis starts the *beginning* of God's \_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_ key **Events** mentioned in (Gen. 1-11) - \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_
2. Genesis continues with the beginning of the nation of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ key individuals in (Gen. 12-50) - \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Understanding Joseph's Family & Background

1. He is first mentioned in Gen. 30:24, where he was born \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ son of Jacob his father!
  2. His name Joseph means “\_\_\_\_\_” indicating that his previously barren mother Rachel, expected \_\_\_\_\_! (And that would be \_\_\_\_\_ his full brother!)
  3. Jacob had \_\_\_ wives and \_\_\_ concubines that produced \_\_\_ sons & \_\_\_ daughter.
  4. If Jacob's household was anything, it was full of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_!
  5. A **key truth** we want to understand from this story is that ... God will demonstrate His \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the story of Joseph!
- A **principle** to learn is ... Regardless of one's \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in life, you can \_\_\_\_\_ the providential care & \_\_\_\_\_ of God come what may.
6. From the **key verse of this story** you are to **remember ... Genesis 50:20** – Here Joseph was able to say to his brothers after it was all over... “*but as for you, you meant \_\_\_\_\_ against me, but God meant it for \_\_\_\_\_ in order to bring about as it is this day to \_\_\_\_\_ many people alive.*”

### C. Understanding Joseph's Present Situation (Gen 37:1-10)

**Principle** to note: Nothing from our \_\_\_\_\_ birth will ever be acceptable to God, we must be \_\_\_\_\_, and then its only \_\_\_\_\_ life lived \_\_\_\_\_ us by \_\_\_\_\_ that will ever count for anything!

1. We pick up the story with Joseph tending \_\_\_\_\_ with his brothers when he is \_\_\_\_ years of age!
2. Joseph brought a \_\_\_\_\_ to his father of his brother's shenanigans!
3. Jacob had \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph because he was the \_\_\_\_\_ of Rachel, the love of his life.
4. Jacob showed his \_\_\_\_\_ of Joseph, by giving him a "\_\_\_\_\_ of many \_\_\_\_\_".

Other translations:

5. What the tunic represented to the brothers showed Joseph getting \_\_\_\_\_, perhaps meaning that Jacob had bestowed "\_\_\_\_\_ " status on Joseph, even though he was the 11<sup>th</sup> son in the family.

- Now why would that be?

**Principle:** Parents never show \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to one child over another, as this will only cause \_\_\_\_\_ & lead to \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ in your family & home. (cf 37:4)

**Principle:** You destined to repeat the \_\_\_\_\_ you learned in the home you grew up in, unless the \_\_\_\_\_ intervenes and \_\_\_\_\_ those mistakes.

6. Joseph unwisely told his brothers the \_\_\_\_\_ he had, that had his brothers \_\_\_\_\_ before him. (37:5-7)
7. In Joseph's first dream we see Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ over his \_\_\_\_\_. In his second dream we see Joseph reigning over \_\_\_\_\_!

- How will a sovereign God bring all this to pass?

### II. From Favorite Son to Hated Brother