

Water of Life Community Church

JOURNEY INTO DESTINY

THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

WEEK #10

GENESIS 46-47

ICE BREAKER

PRAYER

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

Joseph faced adversity in his life and had many opportunities to abandon his faith and principles because of it. He was abandoned by his brothers, then falsely accused and imprisoned in Egypt. He could have justified breaking away from Godly principles and sought revenge, turned on those who had turned on him or stretched the truth. But he did not live with a heart of self or in the world around him, but in trust with the Living God, whom he depended on as he lived uprightly.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. READ GENESIS 46:29-34; 47:1-2, 7, 11; AND EPHESIANS 4:31, 32.

a. We experience many days in our lives that present an opportunity to be bitter over an offense, a word spoken or an offensive action against us. Using Joseph's story as an example, how does our life in Jesus impact our response, both internally and externally?

b. Contrast the messages of self, including bitterness and revenge that the world presents with the heart of Jesus and the text of Ephesians 4:31-32.

c. In light of the Genesis and Ephesians texts, what can we see about the condition of Joseph's spirit and heart?

d. Are you encouraged when you follow Christ and see the results of being patient and loving? Explain.

2. READ MATTHEW 8:8, 9, 10, 13.

a. What was it about the centurion's response that caused Jesus to be so impressed, so pleased by his faith?

b. Pastor spoke about "staying on your number". God prepares your destiny, specifically for you. How does faith, humility and integrity play a role in reaching our God appointed destiny?

c. Read Genesis 47:1-2, 7, 11. Did Joseph take a risk by introducing his father and his brothers to Pharaoh? Explain.

d. How was years of Joseph's integrity ultimately rewarded?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

What may have been the outcome of Joseph's story had he not lived with integrity toward God? The temptation to be self-serving comes in many forms. How can we build our awareness of attractions that can lead to breaking our integrity with God?

TAKING IT HOME

Do you have a home dedicated to honoring God with all He provides? The story of Joseph illustrates the power of integrity in overcoming sin and finding our destiny in Jesus; this story serves as quite a powerful example of godly living in the face of adversity.

Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "edevotional" to 67076; or go to wolgroups.com and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.

MEMORY VERSE

Genesis 47:11-12

"Now Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them property in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had ordered. Joseph also

provided his father and his brothers and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their little ones."