

# GOD IN THIS MOMENT

Part 1

Joseph's life is one big **PROBLEM**

Gen 37

## Joseph's Problem **PARENTS**

Jacob's **POLYGAMY**

vs. 2

Battle of **SISTER-WIVES** and **HANDMAIDENS**

Gen. 29:29-30:24, 35:16-19

## Joseph's Problem **BROTHERS**

Hatred because of **FAVORITISM**

vs. 3-4

Jealousy fed by **ARROGANCE**

vs. 5-8

They plot to **DISPOSE** of Joseph

vs. 18-35

## Joseph's Problem **PERSONALITY**

Joseph is a **TATTLETALE**

vs. 2

Joseph is a **BIG-HEADED** brother

vs. 6-8

Joseph is a **PROUD** son

vs. 9-11

## God's **PROVIDENCE** is active in this family

vs. 36

Providence: God is arranging **NORMAL** human events to accomplish His **DESIRED** outcome

God moves Joseph to **EGYPT**

Gen 15:13-16

God launches the twelve **TRIBES** of Isreal

Gen 49:28

## Encouraging Take-a-ways:

Is your family life **MESSY**? — God is still present.

Are your relationships **STRAINED**? — God still sees and helps.

Are your own **FLAWS** obvious? — God can grow you through hardship.

Does your life feel **CHAOTIC**? — God's providence is quietly at work.

Auburn Grace Community Church – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Life Application Questions – April 12, 2026

**Genesis 37:3-4** *Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a varicolored tunic. His brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers; and so they hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms.*

### DISCOVER

1. Have there been times in your life where favoritism seemed to hold you back? What were the circumstances and the impact? How do you avoid favoritism in your approach to others? Read Luke 9:48. What lesson was Jesus trying to teach regarding favoritism?
2. The Bible is full of assertive characters and gentle characters. Provide examples of both. Which type of personality are you more comfortable with, assertive or gentle, and why? How would you describe Jesus, assertive, gentle or both? Provide examples to justify your response.

### EXPLORE (Read Genesis 37)

1. In verses 1-8, how would you characterize Joseph's behavior? Joseph was only seventeen at this point. How has the Master Potter shaped you since your teenage years?
2. In verses 6-8, would you say that Joseph was humbly sharing or bragging? Why is the difference important? What are some situations in life when you leaned into bragging instead of humbly sharing? If you brag on occasion, does that make you arrogant in nature? How can we respond to someone who likes to brag without being hurtful?
3. Joseph had blind spots that impacted how others treated him. Read Matthew 7:3-5. When have you seen your own blind spots exposed? How do we move forward despite our faults, knowing that God has a plan for our lives? Read Jeremiah 29:11.

### EXPERIENCE

1. Describe a dream that caused you to take action? Was there something about the dream or the subsequent circumstances that makes you think the dream was sent from God? How were God's intended outcomes accomplished?
2. Having the most dysfunctional family is not a competition to win but Joseph's family may top the list. How do you empathize with the family of Joseph? What progress have you experienced when God intervenes to heal brokenness? How are you seeking God's direction for you to be part of the healing?
3. Why is it so important to try and see God at work in the moment? What practices can you put in place to live out seeing God at work? How do we recognize the difference between God's providence versus coincidental circumstances? Or is it just a matter of perspective? How does trust play a part in carrying us through tough circumstances?
4. When have you seen God at work in your life during the most chaotic times? What brought you through the chaos? How can you use your story to encourage others?

### PRAY

*God, You sure know how to carry out a plan despite the failings of Your children. Open our eyes so that we see more clearly how You are at work in everyday experiences. In the midst of chaos, show us what we can learn and use for the furtherance of Your kingdom. We trust in the One that brings everything together for Your glory. Amen.*