

CHAPTER ELEVEN VERSES & EVENTS

TODAY'S VERSES

GENESIS 37:3
GENESIS 37:1-3
1 TIMOTHY 4:12
GENESIS 37:14, 18, 36

PROVERBS 24:10
PROVERBS 17:3
GENESIS 39:3-9
GENESIS 39:19-23

GENESIS 40:14-15
GENESIS 41:14-16
1 PETER 5:5
GENESIS 50:18-20

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

We submitted for our Planned Development permit to the City this week! Please pray for an expedited process, & come to baptisms to check out the new plans!

PRAYER FOR CITY PERMITS!

**BAPTISMS
TODAY!! AT 1PM
1371 SOLOMON ROAD**

Baptisms are TODAY AT 1pm
Stay for Labor Day BBQ, bring
your own drinks and last names
A-L bring cookies or
M-Z bring salad to share!
Directions are on the
communion tables.

Two Women's Bible Studies starting
Wednesday Morning returns on
Sept 9th at 9:30am
And starting a Monday Evening
Study at Judy's home on
Sept 14th. More info at:
women@ourelement.org

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

COLORING BOOK ALL-STARS



CHAPTER ELEVEN

JOSEPH

CHAPTER ELEVEN

This is week 11 of coloring book all-stars where we look at figures in the bible who are larger than life, who (usually) make it into the coloring books that kids love to scribble on. This week we look at Jacob's favorite son, JOSEPH!

Genesis 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age.

Was there a favorite child in your house (or a friends house) while growing up?

How did that affect the family?

Joseph was clearly the favorite of all Israel's (Jacob's) sons. He was given the famous "Coat of Many Colors," which was a reflection of his father's completely biased favoritism of Joseph. This favoritism resulted in immense hatred of Joseph by his brothers. They ended up throwing him into a pit, and then selling him into slavery. Talk about betrayal, ouch!

Do you find yourself rejoicing for people who are doing better than you or despising them?

When in life have you suffered the most?

Recall a time in your own life that you suffered unjustly for doing the right thing.

What sustained you?

Joseph continually suffers when doing the right thing. He runs away from Potiphar's wife and then is accused of rape and thrown into prison. In prison he does not give up, God sustains him. We are told, many times, that if we love God, serve God, and honor God, that life will go well. This unfortunately is not true. The more Joseph obeyed God the worse life got. Jesus was betrayed by a friend and murdered; the scriptures tell us that to be a Christian is to be treated like Christ. Simply obeying God does not mean our life goes well; sometimes the evil doers succeed for a while.

Discuss your understanding of God's providence.

The story of Joseph is largely a story of God's providence. Providence is the idea that God made everything and everyone, and that He is still intimately involved with His creation; He rules over history. We sin and have vestiges of free will, but God ultimately works things out to His will because His will is always free-er than ours.

How can we show this world who God is by how we live – even in our worst circumstances?

Genesis 50:20 "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."

Who do you know who suffers well?

Joseph goes through some intense suffering, but suffers well. He never loses sight that God is good, and God cares about him and his suffering. If you and I were to look at our lives in hindsight, God has done great things, usually through our pain and our restoration. It is why God doesn't remove our struggles, because ministry, grace, healing, and helping others come out of our pain.

Joseph wouldn't wish for what happened to him, but he wouldn't change it for a thing because what God had done was beautiful and good.

How can we use our hardships to point back to Jesus' work in our lives?

How can we use our life lessons to make a difference in our community?

Our families, friends, city, and nation does not need more idolatry or religion, it needs people who will cast aside their pride and simply love Jesus. We are to trust God's providential grace because God eventually brings Jesus to rescue all of us.

