



WEEKEND RESOURCES | JUNE 11, 2023

Week Four | Right Where You Want 'Em

USE THESE QUESTIONS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PROCESS THE MESSAGE IN YOUR PERSONAL STUDY TIME OR WITH YOUR GROUP.

Message Recap: What goes around often comes around. The powerless often find themselves in a position of power, and the people who hurt us may someday need us. In the moments when we've got those people right where we want 'em, what we say will say as much about us as anything else. If our words are stones, will we choose to throw them or use them to pave the way forward?

» Main Points

- What goes around comes around.
- What happens when you have the power and your words determine the destiny of your enemy?
- Will you pay them back, or will you use your words to pave the way forward?

» Getting Started

- How far back can you name the people in your family line? (Your name...child of.....child of....child of...child of....).

» Observation

- Read and reflect on [Genesis 37:25-27; 39:1-2, 9, 20-21; 41:14-16, 37-40; 42:1-2, 6-7; 45:1, 3; 50:18-21](#)
- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?



- Are there any people in your life that you have been avoiding because they said something mean or hurtful to you in the past? If it is safe and you feel like you can have another conversation with them, take advantage and let them know that you are doing well and ultimately want what is best for them.



- Read these excerpts from Joseph's life. After each excerpt, stop to discuss how you respond when you're:
 - **Abandoned** (Genesis 37:17-24); **Accused** (Genesis 39:16-21); **Forgotten** (Genesis 40:20-23); **Challenged** (Genesis 41:14-16); **Empowered** (Genesis 41:46-57).
- Choose a word above or one of your own that describes your life experience. Discuss how that circumstance affects your response to others today.
- When we're faced with responding to our circumstances, our words can either be stones we throw, or they can pave the way forward. Discuss examples of times when you've done both. What were the outcomes?
- Read Genesis 50:15-21. How can Joseph's response to his brothers affect how you make choices with your words in the future? What legacy do you hope to leave with the people you care most about?



- Sometimes family is hard. Our words, or one of our family members, have caused hurt and pain. This week if you've said words that have hurt someone in your family, ask for forgiveness. If someone in your family has hurt you with their words, this week, pray for them and forgive them. Help your kids ask for and extend forgiveness this week.

» Next Steps and Prayer

- This week, take some time to read about Joseph's life in Genesis 39-50. Reflect on his choices to trust God, avoid bitterness, and forgive despite overwhelming odds. What can you learn from him now that may affect the people you care about later?
- Close by praying for God to help you forgive those who have hurt you with their words and to show you if there are people you need to ask for forgiveness from.