



Crossroads The Story Discussion Guide

“Joseph: From Slave To Deputy Pharaoh”

Week of: January 20, 2019

All of us naturally avoid times of struggle, pain, and hardship, but these moments in life might just be the tool God uses to accomplish his will in and through us.

This week we look at Chapter 3 of *The Story*, which deals with God's ability to take what others intended for evil and turn it to something good. If you don't have *The Story* book, you can read Genesis chapters 37, 39, 41-48, and 50.

OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.

1. From a human standpoint, Joseph was in the worst place: abandoned by family, sold into slavery and cast into prison. From a divine perspective, he was in the best place. How do you see God working in Joseph and showing blessing, even in the pain of these moments of his life?
2. Joseph waited two years in prison for someone to remember him and send help. Tell about a time you waited for months or years on an answer from the Lord. How did you make it through this long season of waiting?
3. God has an amazing ability to bring good out of life's bad situations. Tell about a time when something hard or painful happened in your life, but later you saw God accomplishing something wonderful for you and/or others.
4. Romans 8:28 tells us, "In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." What is one situation in your life where you need to embrace and experience this truth?

Diving Deeper

1. Reflect back on your life. Where has God been at work shaping and forming you...even in the hard times? Are there lessons God was seeking to teach you that you might have missed? As for eyes to see them and a heart to receive and learn. Are you facing something tough right now? If God wants to use this experience to grow you, ask for the courage to embrace it.
2. Forgiveness is one of life's hardest actions. When someone has really hurt us, it is extremely difficult to forgive. Read Genesis 50:15-21, Matthew 6:9-15, and Matthew 18:21-35. Pray for the courage and strength you need to forgive those who have wronged you.
3. Mediate on Romans 5:8 and Ask God to help you understand the depth of his grace so you can extend that grace to others.

Read for Next Session

Take time before your next group meeting to read chapter 4 of *The Story*.