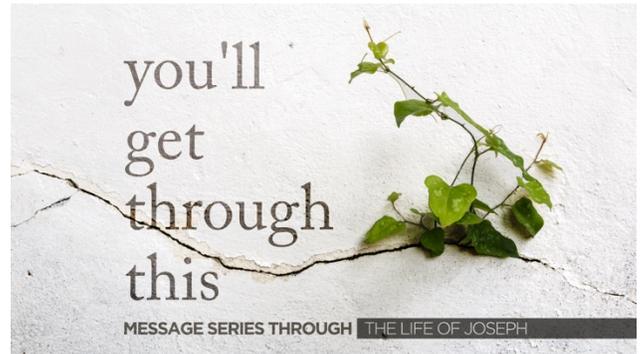


## **“Facing Family Failures.”**

August 9, 2020

Pastor Ken LaMont



### **FAMILY FAILURES:**

Genesis 41:57 – 42:8

*“Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the person who sold grain to all its people. So when Joseph’s brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground. As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he pretended to be a stranger and spoke harshly to them...”*

### **STUCK IN THE PAST**

Genesis 42:9-23

*“They said to one another, ‘Surely we are being punished because of our brother. We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his life, but we would not listen; that’s why this distress has come on us.’”*

### **HEALING IS POSSIBLE**

Genesis 42:24-38

*He turned away from them and began to weep, but then came back and spoke to them again. He had Simeon taken from them and bound before their eyes. Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, to put each man’s silver back in his sack, and to give them provisions for their journey. After this was done for them, they loaded their grain on their donkeys and left.”*

### **How Do We Heal:**

#### **Tell The Truth**

*“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” - 1 Peter 5:7*

#### **Practice Forgiveness**

*For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.” - Matthew 6:14*

#### **It Stops Here**

*Exodus 20:5-6*

**You’ll get through this.**

**It won’t be painless.**

**It won’t be quick.**

**But God can use this mess for good.**

**Don’t be foolish or naïve.**

**But don’t despair either.**

**With God’s help, you’ll get through this**

- **Max Lucado**

## **LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS:**

**SHARE:** Describe your childhood in one sentence. One thing you wish was different about your family.

**READ:** Genesis 42:1-2. What do you notice about the family dynamics from these verses.

**READ:** Genesis 42:3-8. Why do you think Joseph hesitated to reveal himself to his brothers? Why do you think he spoke harshly to them?

**READ:** Genesis 42:9-20. Why do you think Joseph “tested” them?

**READ:** Genesis 42:21-23. What do these verses tell you about the brothers belief about God? What does this tell us about undealt with sin?

**READ:** Genesis 42:24-25. What different emotions does Joseph display in these verses? What does each emotion tell you about how Joseph is processing what is happening?

**READ:** Genesis 42:26-36. How do they refer to Joseph in these verses?

**READ:** Genesis 42:37-38. What family disfunction do you see in these verses?

**SHARE:** What is your typical way to deal with family disfunction? Are there hurts in your family past you have not dealt with?

**READ:** Matthew 6:14-15. Why is forgiveness so important? Is there anyone you need to forgive? If there is one family characteristic you want to be sure doesn't get passed on what would it be?

**PRAY:**

