

DEALING WITH DISAPPOINTMENT
(The Gospel According to Joseph- Part 3)

Genesis 40

When Things Go Sideways...

... We Can Stop _____ Others

... We Can Turn _____

... We See in What _____

In Dealing with Disappointments...

... Accept God's _____

... Endure God's _____

... Embrace God's _____

... Experience God's _____

Fill-in: Caring About; Our Back on God; Our Hope Lies; Timing; Training; Priorities; Presence

Life Group Questions for the Week of May 12, 2019

1. Looking back at your notes from this Sunday's message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

2. When you face trials, do you tend to place your hope more in changes of circumstances or in the promise of God's good purposes? Why?

3. Have you ever been angry or disappointed with God for not rewarding your faithfulness? What might that reveal about your motivations for obedience?

4. The account of Joseph in prison shows that God can take a jail cell and use it to shape a life. Joseph persevered in a tough situation and God built his character in the midst of it. Today we have several advantages and resources that Joseph didn't. Read the following passages and list the resources we have that can help us persevere in any circumstance. John 14:25-26; Acts 1:8; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

5. Joseph had every reason to be bitter and focused on his own miserable situation. Instead, this Sunday's account showed him caring for his fellow prisoners.

Read John 13:1-17 to see how Jesus showed that same willingness to help others despite the fact that in the next 24 hours Judas would betray him, the disciples would desert him, Peter would deny him, and he would be unjustly accused, tortured and killed.

What choices did he make, what attitudes or actions did he portray? Were there any challenges or opposition he encountered? What clues do you find in the passage that give an understanding of why Jesus was willing to serve in this way?

If you had been sitting around the table with the disciples, what do you think your response would have been to what Jesus did? Does this passage give you any insight into what Jesus thinks about you even in light of your sin and disobedience?

6. Joseph saw God use him to impact others despite his circumstances. Another person who saw the same thing happen in difficult circumstances is the apostle Paul. Read Philippians 1:12-26. What is Paul's understanding of God's purpose for his life and how that influenced the way he lived and how he thought about life's difficult circumstances?

How can Paul's perspective influence how you view your current life situations?