

Rise & Build:

Reflections from the Joseph Story

Lessons Learned

Genesis 50:17-20 “Thus you shall say to Joseph, ‘Please forgive, I beg you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, for they did you wrong.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.’ And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also came and fell down before him and said, ‘Behold, we are your servants.’ But Joseph said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for am I in God’s place? And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.’”

The Psalmist said, “I have been young and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken...” (37:25). With wisdom, years add maturity, insight and perspective to life. Joseph has been in Egypt for decades. He has experienced many things, both good and bad. What we see is that Joseph learned some valuable lessons.

- Some _____ learn anything. They’ve gotten older, but they haven’t gotten _____
- Some have become _____
- Some like Joseph, have powerful lessons that they have learned



A. Notice the thoughts from this passage:

1. Jacob recognized that his sons had _____ against Joseph
2. The brothers bowed to Joseph just as that long ago dream _____
3. God was aware and _____ the circumstances for good
4. Suffering, the “it” had _____ results
5. God overturned the _____ that the brothers had (evil for good)

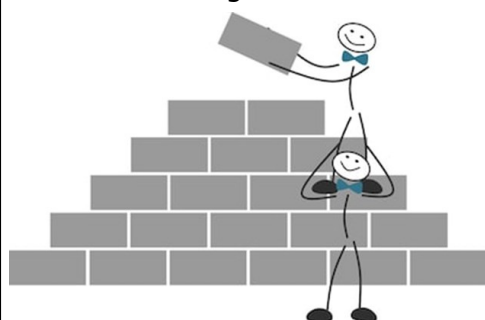
Gen 45:7 “God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant”

Gen 45:9 God has made me lord of all Egypt

Gen 45:8 “...it was not you who sent me here, but God”

B. Life Lessons that we can Learn:

1. S _____ towards temptation: once you’ve overcome it get easier



2. S _____ towards others: forgiveness and grace changes the perspective you hold

3. S _____ towards life: a seriousness about how precious life is
4. S _____ can be good for us: they can awaken us
5. S _____ vision changes everything: God was with him. God meant this for good.

- The path that God takes us down is often not one that we would _____.
- It is often difficult and requires much _____.
- That path is often a journey of _____.
- Joseph likely did not know at the moment that God was _____ through him