

Sermon Discussion Guide for small groups, families, or individuals

"JOSEPH & the Gospel of Many Colors: *When Life is Hard*"

Genesis 46-47

March 8-9, 2014

Getting Started

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or raised questions?
2. What's an area in your life that you are learning to give up control and trust God? Why is it hard to relinquish control?
3. If you could choose only one word to describe your life's journey so far what is the word you would use?

Digging In

1. Read Genesis 46:1-6
 - Why was Jacob afraid? Look up Genesis 26:1 and Genesis 28:12-15.
 - What is God revealing about himself?
 - What is God promising about the future?
 - What is Jacob's response vv 5-6?
2. As God reaffirms his promise to Jacob, and specifically of making him into a great nation, the text makes it clear they are not yet a great nation. How many are in Jacob's family v 27?
3. God used Joseph to save his people. List some of the provisions God gave through Joseph.
 - Genesis 46:31-34; 47:5-6
 - Genesis 47:11
 - Genesis 47:12
4. Read Genesis 47:27. How is God keeping his promise?
5. We are told in Genesis 46:1 and again in Genesis 47:31 that Jacob worshiped God; bookends that underscore the importance of worshiping God throughout our lives. Compare and contrast those two times.
6. How does what Jesus shared to his disciples in John 14:1-7 help us in our journeys?
7. Jacob was told the end of his story. What do we know about the end of our story? Look up Revelations 7:9-10; 21:1-7.

Bringing it Home

1. Where is God asking you to give up control and trust Him, what are you afraid of?
2. Are you hearing God's voice in His Word? What promises encourage you when life is hard?
3. What are the provisions that God has given you that make you thankful?
4. How is God been using our study of Joseph and his family to transform you?

Digging Deeper - Knowing the end of the story, our story in Christ, strengthens us when life is hard. Reflect again on the passages in questions 6 and 7 above. Read the passages, take notes and let it lead you to worshiping God.

BELONGING TO A SMALL GROUP IS A GREAT WAY TO GROW SPIRITUALLY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN A GROUP OR GET MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT Heather Hudson at hhudson@doorcreekchurch.org.