

Dreams are Different

This week we will continue our series called “Dreams”, where we go through the life of Joseph. Last week we learned about the two initial dreams that Joseph had and now we will be learning about Joseph being sold by his brothers. The focus of this lesson is to discuss what it means that *dreams are different from what we expect*. Joseph saw his brothers and his family bowing down to him in his dream, but he didn’t see his brothers plotting to kill him, throwing him into a cistern, and then selling him to the Ishmaelites. Joseph didn’t see betrayal, slavery, or waiting. Oftentimes when we receive a dream from God, we only see a chunk, not the whole picture. Because of this, our reality is different from our dreams. Please read the passage and follow the discussion questions.

Scripture: Genesis 37:12-36

Discussion Questions:

1. What is happening in this passage? What is something that stood out to you about it?
2. Why do you think Joseph’s brothers plotted to kill him? (V.18). What actually ended up happening to Joseph?
3. How would you feel if you were in Joseph’s shoes? (i.e. betrayed, hurt, discouraged, confused).
4. What were the two initial dreams Joseph had? (We talked about them last week). How are his dreams different from his reality?
5. What do you think it means for God to place a calling on your life? How can you discern if a dream or calling is from God?
6. Do you think our dreams are often different from what we expect? Why or why not?
7. Is it difficult for you to trust God when things aren’t going the way you expect them to? How can you use this as a way to strengthen your faith?
8. Do you ever feel like you can ruin (mess up) God’s calling for your life?
9. Do you pray when things are going differently than you expected? How might prayer strengthen your faith during times like this?
10. Please spend some time praying.