

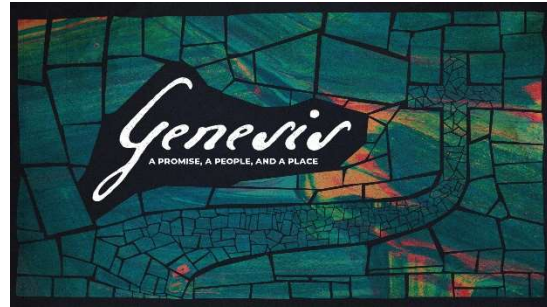
# Sermon Discussion Guide

**Date:** April 14, 2024

**Text:** Genesis 37

**Preacher:** Jerrod

**Link to Sermon:** [Click Here](#)



## **SUMMARY**

*Big Idea: God's Goodness Overrides Man's Evil*

As chapter 36 focuses on the descendants of Esau, chapter 37 shifts our focus to "the generations of Jacob." Notably, in many ways, one son (Joseph) will take center stage in the remaining chapters of Genesis. The text quickly brings our attention to the points of tension - Joseph is the recipient of the Father's special love, and the other brothers hated him for it. Jacob's dreams puts his brothers over the edge, and just like that, they are plotting his death. Though they didn't literally kill Joseph, they did sell him into slavery. Jealousy, hatred, plotting, and scheming toward the favored, special son of the father, leads to Jacob's life proceeding on a downward spiral, down to Egypt. Clearly here we see "Man's Evil." It will take several chapters, and many years to see that "God's Goodness Overrides Man's Evil." In Genesis we'll see this truth. The prophetic and Christological connections in the Joseph story are rich, pointing us to the One by whom the Lord overrides Man's Evil to bring salvation for many.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Read Genesis 37:1-11**

1. Retell in your own words. What stands out as important or significant? Why?
2. What sets Joseph apart from his brothers? In what ways is this a familiar tension in the Bible? Why?
3. What role do Joseph's dreams play in the story?
  - a. What is significant about his 2<sup>nd</sup> dream, v9-11?
  - b. Consider Psalm 19:1; 89:5; 148:3 and who it is that the heavens, sun, moon, and stars worship.

### **Read Genesis 37:12-36**

4. Retell in your own words. What stands out as important or significant? Why?
5. Putting yourself in Joseph's shoes, what thoughts might you be having at the end of the chapter?
6. Do you recall a time when you were on the receiving end of "Man's Evil"?
  - a. Suffering can come through several avenues - discuss each of the 3 below. In which are you most prone to question God's goodness? Why?
    - i. suffering because of the general effects of sin in this world
    - ii. suffering as a direct consequence of our own sinful choices
    - iii. suffering for righteousness

### **Reflecting on the Whole Chapter**

7. In what ways does this passage prophetically reveal Christ to us?
8. What comfort and hope does that bring to your life and circumstances now?