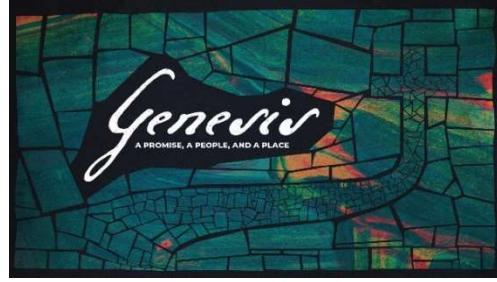


Sermon Discussion Guide

Date: April 28, 2024

Text: Genesis 39-41

Preacher: Jerrod



SUMMARY

Big Idea: Faithfulness from the Lord produces faithfulness to the Lord

After touching on Judah in chapter 38, the reader's attention is returned to Joseph in Egypt during the same timeframe. Notable contrasting parallels are present between Judah and Joseph. Joseph's plight beautifully prefigures the life, rejection, suffering, and rise to power of Jesus, which prophetically pictures how the Lord will work to bring about his covenant promises. What stands as a consistent thread through these chapters is the Lord's faithfulness to Joseph, causing him to "prosper" even in the direst of circumstances. The same LORD who was "with Joseph," is likewise "with" his church (Mt 28:18-20), to effect their gospel prosperity in the multiplying of disciples. How have you seen the Lord's faithfulness to his covenant promises, and how has this produced faithfulness in your own life?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Work through each chapter (39, then 40, then 41) and discuss the following questions for each.

Note: These are long chapters, so if time is a limiting factor, feel free to adjust... maybe choose 1 chapter to focus on and summarize the other 2.

1. Where do you see the Lord's faithfulness in the story?
 - a. How does the Lord's faithfulness relate to Joseph's circumstances?
 - b. What do you make of the repeated picture of the Lord's faithfulness being seen, not in sparing Joseph from suffering, but rather being "with him" through suffering?
2. How does the Lord's faithfulness produce faithfulness in Joseph?
3. How does this chapter point your attention and heart to Christ?

Concluding Questions

4. Have you ever suffered for doing the right thing? How did you respond, and how did that play out over time?
5. Have you been through a time where your circumstances led you to question or doubt the Lord's faithfulness, goodness, or timing?
 - a. What helped you navigate that time in faith? (A particular verse, other believers, etc..?)
 - b. Are you in a season like that now? Where in your life is it hard for you to see God working?
6. While we are not positioned to interpret and make sense of someone's obscure or ambiguous dreams, we **are** positioned by God to declare and explain the mysteries of Christ and His gospel (Col 4:2-6; Eph 3:1-11). Who in your life are you praying for the Lord to save by unveiling their minds to behold the glory of God in Jesus through faith? How can others come alongside to encourage you to be lovingly faithful?