

Jealousy Unchecked



MEMORY VERSE: "Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another." Galatians 5:26



GENESIS 37:12-14, 18-22 Plans to Kill

1. Joseph's father sent Joseph out to see how his brothers were doing. When the brothers saw Joseph coming in the distance, what did they decide to do? vv. 18-20

2. What was Reuben's plan? vv. 21-22

3. Why do you think none of the brothers said, "This is wrong! We can't do this!?" How hard is it to stand up for what is right?



GENESIS 37:23-28 Revenge

4. What happened when Joseph arrived? vv. 23-26

5. What idea did Judah have? Did the brothers agree? vv. 26-28

6. How do you think the brothers felt doing this? What happens when anger, envy, and revenge get out of hand?



GENESIS 37:29-36 Jacob Mourns

7. What does Rueben do? How did the brothers cover up the crime? vv. 29-32

8. How did Jacob react to the news about Joseph? vv. 34-35
How do you think the brothers felt when their father wouldn't be comforted?

9. What happened to Joseph? How do you think Joseph felt? vv. 36

10. When have you, like the brothers, been blinded by your own sin?

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

Jealousy evolved into hate, which led to a plan of murder. Negative thoughts will continue to grow until you destroy them. Take your thoughts captive before they can take root. Even in the middle of this horrible event, God was with Joseph. In some ways the story will get worse – and when it does, God will still be with Joseph. Remember that God is also always with you in your scary places.

PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Father in Heaven,
Help me to recognize and ask forgiveness for when I have jealous thoughts and compare myself to others. Please help me to be content with who I am and the gifts that You have given me, Give me the faith I need to rely on You when I am scared or lonely. Thank You for what I am learning from the Bible. In Jesus' name I pray.
Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



Selfishness and jealousy are both sins and they always lead to unhappiness.

Is there any jealousy that you need to address?

Are you comparing yourself to others?

Look up the verses below when you are struggling with these things:
Philippians 4:8
2 Corinthians 10:5



Genesis 37:12-36 (NLT)

12 Soon after this, Joseph's brothers went to pasture their father's flocks at Shechem. 13 When they had been gone for some time, Jacob said to Joseph, "Your brothers are pasturing the sheep at Shechem. Get ready, and I will send you to them."

"I'm ready to go," Joseph replied. 14 "Go and see how your brothers and the flocks are getting along," Jacob said. "Then come back and bring me a report." So Jacob sent him on his way, and Joseph traveled to Shechem from their home in the valley of Hebron.

18 When Joseph's brothers saw him coming, they recognized him in the distance. As he approached, they made plans to kill him. 19 "Here comes the dreamer!" they said. 20 "Come on, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns. We can tell our father, 'A wild animal has eaten him.' Then we'll see what becomes of his dreams!" 21 But when Reuben heard of their scheme, he came to Joseph's rescue. "Let's not kill him," he said. 22 "Why should we shed any blood? Let's just throw him into this empty cistern here in the wilderness. Then he'll die without our laying a hand on him." Reuben was secretly planning to rescue Joseph and return him to his father.

23 So when Joseph arrived, his brothers ripped off the beautiful robe he was wearing. 24 Then they grabbed him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it. 25 Then, just as they were sitting down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of camels in the distance coming toward them. It was a group of Ishmaelite traders taking a load of gum, balm, and aromatic resin from Gilead down to Egypt. 26 Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain by killing our brother? We'd have to cover up the crime. 27 Instead of hurting him, let's sell him to those Ishmaelite traders. After all, he is our brother — our own flesh and blood!" And his brothers agreed. 28 So when the Ishmaelites, who were Midianite traders, came by, Joseph's brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him to them for twenty pieces of silver. And the traders took him to Egypt.

29 Some time later, Reuben returned to get Joseph out of the cistern. When he discovered that Joseph was missing, he tore his clothes in grief. 30 Then he went back to his brothers and lamented, "The boy is gone! What will I do now?" 31 Then the brothers killed a young goat and dipped Joseph's robe in its blood. 32 They sent the beautiful robe to their father with this message: "Look at what we found. Doesn't this robe belong to your son?" 33 Their father recognized it immediately. "Yes," he said, "it is my son's robe. A wild animal must have eaten him. Joseph has clearly been torn to pieces!" 34 Then Jacob tore his clothes and dressed himself in burlap. He mourned deeply for his son for a long time. 35 His family all tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "I will go to my grave mourning for my son," he would say, and then he would weep.

36 Meanwhile, the Midianite traders arrived in Egypt, where they sold Joseph to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Potiphar was captain of the palace guard.

Sin: any action or attitude that falls short of God's perfect standard; separates us from a holy God. When we sin we show contempt for God. Sin keeps the world from working as God originally intended it to.

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