

OVERCOMER

The Life of Joseph

ADULTS & STUDENTS DISCUSSION GUIDE

MESSAGE: MAY 10, 2020

- OVERCOMING DISTRACTIONS -

WE MUST KEEP FOCUSED AND NOT GET DISTRACTED ON OUR JOURNEY TO THE FATHER.

DISCUSS:

- READ: GENESIS 45:16-28 -

- IF YOU HAD TO EXPLAIN WHAT IT MEANS TO BE "DISTRACTED" TO SOMEONE, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?
- ACCORDING TO OUR PASSAGE, JOSEPH SENT HIS BROTHERS BACK TO THEIR FATHER. HE KNEW THE INHERENT DANGERS FROM BEING DISTRACTED ON THEIR JOURNEY. AS A RESULT, HE CHALLENGED HIS BROTHERS TO KEEP FOCUSED AND NOT GET DISTRACTED ON THEIR JOURNEY TO THE FATHER. WHAT POSSIBLE DISTRACTIONS DO YOU THINK THEY COULD HAVE EXPERIENCED?
- ACCORDING TO PASTOR DARRYL, THERE ARE 3 CHARACTERISTICS OF DISTRACTIONS: (1) DISTRACTIONS ARE COMMON, (2) DISTRACTIONS REVEAL OUR HEARTS, (3) AND DISTRACTIONS ARE A SPIRITUAL BATTLE. IF YOUR HEART WERE TO BE REVEALED, WHAT WOULD YOUR TOP 3 PRIORITIES BE?
- "THE DESTINATION IS NOT THE BLESSING, IT IS THE FATHER." WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF THINGS THAT ARE CONSIDERED AS "GOOD THINGS" BUT CAN BECOME DISTRACTIONS IN YOUR LIFE?

APPLY:

- ACCORDING TO VERSES 18-21, THERE ARE 5 WAYS THAT WE CAN KEEP FOCUSED ON OUR JOURNEY TO THE FATHER: (1) KEEP THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE, (2) KEEP THE RIGHT PRACTICES, (3) KEEP REMEMBERING GOD'S PROVISIONS, (4) KEEP REFLECTING ON GOD'S PROMISES, AND (5) KEEP YOUR FOCUS ON THE FATHER. WHICH OF THESE DO YOU FIND THE HARDEST TO DO? WHAT CAN YOU DO GROW IN THIS AREA?
- ONE OF THESE WAYS OF KEEPING FOCUSED IS TO REMEMBER GOD'S PROVISIONS. WHAT IS 1 SPECIFIC WAY YOU HAVE SEEN GOD PROVIDE FOR YOU? ALSO, READ 1 JOHN 2:15-17. HOW IS JESUS ENOUGH?
- SOMETIMES DISTRACTIONS CAN BECOME IDOLS WHENEVER THEY BECOME MORE IMPORTANT TO US THAN GOD, HIS WILL, OR THE KINGDOM OF GOD. HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO THE PRACTICE OF GIVING OUR FIRSTFRUITS TO GOD (TIME, MONEY, ETC.)? EXPLAIN.
- WHAT IS 1 NEXT STEP YOU CAN TAKE TO STAY FOCUSED ON THE FATHER AND AVOID DISTRACTIONS?

PRAY TOGETHER:

- PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER: WHATEVER IT TAKES, LORD, INCREASE MY RESOLVE TO PURSUE ONLY WHAT YOU CALL ME TO DO, AND DELIVER ME FROM THE FRAGMENTING EFFECT OF FRUITLESS DISTRACTION.

WHITESBURG
BAPTIST CHURCH