

We begin now a study of one of the most exciting biographies in the Bible, that of Joseph and his brothers. The entire story illustrates the sovereignty of God and God's providential care of His own. While Joseph had his faults, he still stands out as a spiritual giant in his own family. Throughout this series of messages, we will identify eight of life's greatest trials and learn how to overcome with faith and fortitude. Today, we see that one of life's greatest trials is that of having an imperfect family.

**Joseph overcame an imperfect family because God was with Him
and he grew in faith and faithfulness to God.**

I. General truths:

- A. Be certain, an imperfect family may define you or determine your future, but it doesn't have to!
- B. Be honest, an imperfect family includes you.

II. Joseph's mistakes:

- A. He was a tattler
- B. He flaunted his coat
- C. He abused his gift
- D. Be encouraged, you don't have to be perfect to be wonderfully used by God.

Specific application: You overcome an imperfect family when you...

- A. Accept trials graciously
- B. Respond to trials faithfully
- C. Grow in faith
- D. Rest in God's providence
- E. Take responsibility