



WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Joseph: A Story of Redemption

Faithful Leadership

Genesis 41:46-49

In this sermon series, we explore how only God can mold and shape our lives so that true change can occur.

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- What did you hear?
- What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

VERSES FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh's presence and traveled throughout Egypt. During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully. Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it. Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

Genesis 41:46-49

- *We see Joseph seeking the welfare and care of the people and society around him as he prepares for the coming famine, a change from the selfish Joseph we see in the first half of his story. All who came seeking food in Egypt, including his brothers, were welcomed and fed. Thomas asked the questions, "How wide is our embrace? Who truly is our brother's keeper?" Discuss what it would look like for us to live in that kind of way--in our families, communities, and our nation.*
- *Thomas pointed out that we all have the ability, to some degree, to change the fabric of society and react to the needs of those around us. He listed five practical steps we can take to examine how we handle our resources. Discuss each of these and what they mean in your everyday life:*
 1. *We need to understand we are all our brother's keeper. When the church is at its best, it clearly understands and acts on this call.*
 2. *We need to make a detailed budget and know exactly what comes in.*
 3. *We need to track our expenses to know exactly where our money goes. This helps us see more clearly what our values are.*
 4. *Prayerfully discern our own call for extravagant generosity.*
 5. *Demonstrate giving in joyful practice vs. protecting what we have with fear and trepidation.*

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK *Dear Lord, thank you for blessing us so we can bless others. Lead and guide us as your people, having faith and courage in all situations to embrace your call to life. Lead us as a church and as your people to be our brother's keeper. Amen.*

