



## WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

### **Joseph: A Story of Redemption**

#### ***What Do You Need to Learn?***

#### **Genesis 37: 12-13, 18-28**

In this sermon series, we will 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**

*“Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.” **Genesis 37: 26-28***

*We see Joseph’s life falling apart as he is sold into slavery by his brothers. Thomas reminded us that we are called to be a people who can endure suffering because we don’t have to give into despair. The cross is a reminder that suffering was not the end of Joseph’s story, and will not be the end of any of our stories.*

- *God gives us the promise of a new day, which brings new chances, hope, and opportunities. Reflect on a struggle in your life and any new chances or opportunities that you saw God providing as a result.*

*Thomas pointed out that we need to be able to ask God, “Lord, what do you want me to learn from this struggle?” And in doing so, we must not blame God for our pain, or assume that the circumstances are our fault.*

- *Discuss struggles you may have had in which you did not ask God to show you what He wanted you to learn.*
- *Discuss how processing situations in the context of community, such as your Covenant Group, can help you avoid deceiving yourself in the decisions that you make.*

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK** *Heavenly Father, we thank you for the hope that you give us in the midst of our struggles, and your reassurance that our suffering is not the end of our story. Help us to seek your answers and wisdom for our lives, and to lean on the gift of community you have given us, so we do not deceive ourselves. Amen.*

