



GROW. PRAY. SERVE.

SERIES: Relationships—Gaining Traction in Our Relationships, Part 2

Message: “Surviving Sibling Rivalry”

PRAYER: Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken. My victory and honor come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me. O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge. Psalm 62:5-8 (NLT)

ICEBREAKER: The Biblical stories of families and personal lives are not “sugar-coated”. We get the real life experiences, both the good and bad. What is your reaction to the Bible when you read these stories of dysfunction? Do you find this encouraging as you consider your own family history? Why or why not?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Read Genesis 37. What do you think about the fact that Jacob made a special robe for Joseph and declares him as he favorite son? How would you describe Joseph’s behavior in Genesis 37:5-9?
2. Rueben was Joseph’s oldest brother and he tries to rescue him (v.21). Why do you think the other brothers did not listen to him? What does this say about their view of Rueben? Why do you think God allowed this to happen to Joseph?
3. Do you believe Joseph doubted God’s concern and provision once he was sold into slavery? Despite the difficult circumstances Joseph finds himself in do you see any evidence of God’s grace and mercy in chapter 37?
4. In what situations or circumstances have you found it hard to believe God is with you? What lessons have you learned or are in the process of learning about God’s purposes when you face challenging circumstances? What gets in the way of you being confident that God is always with you?

CHALLENGE: Think of one broken relationship in your life, take this moment to pray about and ask God’s will to be done.

CHAMPION TIP: Read Psalm 62 and spend time in quiet reflection. Ask group members to listen carefully for the word or phrase that captures their attention. Take time to pray back to God your concerns and hopes. Encourage everyone to meditate on these verses throughout the week and to notice how God shows his presence.