

## Sermon Discussion Questions for January 13, 2019:

Scripture Passage: Genesis 37:14-35

What's Holding Your Back – Trusting God even especially during difficult circumstances.

1. Have you ever messed something up? A relationship? A job situation? A home DIY repair?
  2. During these times of brokenness and messiness, where did you find encouragement and/or solutions? Did a seemingly impossible situation get resolved and how?
  3. The events in Genesis 37 demonstrate the true evil that can manifest from the human heart. How did God use man's evil deeds to accomplish His Sovereign plan to save a nation? Are there things in your past that were hurtful that you need to let go? Read Romans 8:28. Do you have any bitterness in your heart against someone who has wronged you? The story of Joseph and the emphatic truth of Romans 8:28 provide great encouragement to trust God during difficult times and evil actions.
  4. Satan wants us to focus on our circumstances and problems. He wants us to be distracted and distant from God. God wants us to turn to Him with all our difficulties and brokenness. How does the gospel address brokenness and restoration? Have you embraced the redemptive message of the gospel of Jesus Christ?
  5. What situation or relationship distracts you from fulfilling God's best for your life? Will you turn this over to Him through prayer, meditation on His word and a consistent trust in Him? Lack of forgiving others can hinder prayer and interrupt communion with Christ. Make it a priority to forgive anyone that has caused you harm or ill will.
- Remember to pray for each other's unique challenges and commit to pray throughout the week for one another.
  - Love others as Christ loves you.
  - Fill your mind and heart with the gospel of Christ Jesus.
  - Live out the gospel of Christ which calls for radical Love for God and Love for others.