

Sermon Discussion Questions for February 10, 2019

Scripture Passage: Genesis 42-50

Key Verse: 50:20

What's Holding You Back? Circumstances and Responses

1. What key point stood out to you in the message?
2. Joseph had his brothers begging for mercy and help. What might have been his response if he was not a follower of God? Justice and punishment are not antibiblical. Would it have been wrong for Joseph to convict his brothers of all their criminal activities against him? How do we balance justice/punishment with mercy/forgiveness?
3. Joseph forgave his flesh and blood, his brothers. What if the atrocities against him had been committed by others? By complete strangers? How does forgiveness fit into the equation?
4. As believers in Christ, what determines our capacity to forgive others? How does Joseph serve as a good model? What about God's forgiveness of us? See Ephesians 2:1-10.
5. God has complete control over all things. He is sovereign. We sometimes like to control things and hate giving up control. Yielding to God's plan for us may involve challenges, difficulties, and perhaps even suffering. How does Romans 8:28 provide us comfort during difficult circumstances and setbacks? Be sure to read the entire verse.
6. Compare Genesis 50:20 with Romans 8:28. Do you think Paul had the Joseph story in mind when he wrote this great theological truth?
 - 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.