



DEVOTIONAL STUDY GUIDE • JOSEPH, WK 2 • FEB. 11, 2024

Another Really Big & Evil Lie

Devotional: Read Genesis 37:12-36

During the second week, delve into the aftermath of Joseph's brothers' betrayal. Joseph's brothers, consumed by jealousy, committed a grave act against him. Explore the emotional and spiritual implications of betrayal within family dynamics, acknowledging the pain it inflicts. Joseph's response to adversity and being treated with contempt becomes a model of grace and resilience, emphasizing the importance of forgiveness in the face of familial wounds. This week invites us to reflect on our own experiences of betrayal, recognizing that the journey to healing often involves extending forgiveness. As we navigate the complexities of family relationships, Joseph's story inspires us to cultivate emotional and spiritual maturity through forgiveness and grace.

Questions

- How did **Joseph's brothers' jealousy** contribute to the betrayal he experienced?
- Discuss **the emotional and spiritual impact** of the brothers' decision to sell Joseph into slavery.
- In what ways did Joseph **cope with the emotional turmoil** of being betrayed by his own family?
- Can you relate to Joseph's experience of being **unfairly treated or misunderstood** by family members?
- How did Joseph's **reaction to betrayal** reflect his emotional and spiritual maturity?
- Share a **personal experience** of dealing with family betrayal. How did forgiveness play a role?
- **Analyze the consequences** of the brothers' actions on Joseph's emotional and spiritual health.
- **Discuss strategies for coping** with and forgiving family members who have deeply hurt you.
- **Reflect on Joseph's resilience** in the face of adversity. How can we apply this to our own challenges?
- In what ways did God work **through Joseph's difficult circumstances** for a greater purpose?
- Write/Share a personal experience where you've had to **summon courage and faith** to confront family dysfunction or contemptuous treatment. How did Joseph's story **inspire or resonate** with your own journey of forgiveness and healing?
- Considering Joseph's courage in forgiving his brothers despite their contemptuous treatment, how can we **cultivate a similar mindset of grace and forgiveness** in our own relationships, particularly within our families, when faced with betrayal or hostility?

Closing Application Idea: Forgiveness Letter

As you contemplate Joseph's forgiveness amidst betrayal, consider writing a forgiveness letter. Identify any family members or individuals who have hurt you and express your willingness to forgive them. Be honest about your emotions but focus on releasing the burden of resentment. This letter can be a personal exercise, providing closure and initiating a healing process. You may choose to send the letter or keep it as a symbolic gesture of your commitment to emotional and spiritual maturity through forgiveness.