

# SG

Your group matters.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

Name a food/meal that you never liked as a kid but have since changed your mind. What caused the change?\*

1. Our families of origin have a huge impact on “how we got here”. Read **Genesis 37:1-5**. Young Joseph seems clueless as to how exposing his brothers and bragging to them about his dreams might be received, while his brothers were quick to take offense and go on the offensive. How do you act in love in volatile situations like these and what impact do such actions have on them?
2. Pastor Tony reviewed how God both moved Joseph (**Genesis 37:6-11**) and allowed him to experience great difficulty (**Genesis 37:19-20, 28; 39:11-23; 40:23, 41:1-13**). What do you see in Joseph’s response that might help you respond well when you experience unforeseen challenges?
3. “Whether today is amazing or devastating, God is with us and can help us grow into what ‘being there’ means.” Pastor Tony challenged us to be like Joseph in how he responded to adversity. Review the list of verses and bullets under “Being there...” in the Message Notes. Which of these challenges you most and what steps will you take to ask for God’s help in this area?
4. Pastor Tony reminded us that God can “connect dots that you only see as periods.” Why is it important to praise God in our difficult circumstances and how can you see the next “period” as a “connecting dot” in your life?
5. Read the “Don’t miss this...” section of the Message Notes. Joseph didn’t wait to serve until he was in a more comfortable position, but faithfully served even when his circumstances were “less,” even as a slave and a prisoner! What circumstances in your life are hindering you from serving? Could it be that God is asking you to serve despite those circumstances, and if so, what steps will you take this week to make that happen?

Day One: [Matthew 2](#); [Psalm 91](#)

Day Two: [Leviticus 1](#); [Proverbs 29](#)

Day Three: [Romans 13](#); [2 Samuel 11](#)

Day Four: [James 4](#); [Jeremiah 25](#)

Day Five: [Job 29](#); [Acts 7](#)

## PERSONAL GUIDE

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner’s Bible Reading System.

\*This week’s Icebreaker provided courtesy of the Sauk Rapids’ Nash Small Group.



# RIVERSIDE CHURCH



## MESSAGE NOTES



### “Being There”

Aug 25, 2024 • Tony Myles

MYRC.CHURCH



# "Being There"

Aug 25, 2024

Pastor Tony Myles

Caption this...

What are the most important elements of what it means to be truly spiritual and growing in spirituality?

What does God want the most from us?

Caption this... (**Genesis 39:20**)

Whether today is amazing or devastating, God is with us and can help us grow into what \_\_\_\_\_ means.

And you may ask yourself... "Well, \_\_\_\_\_?"

- You have a \_\_\_\_\_ that tells you what \_\_\_\_\_ to matter. (**Genesis 37:1**)
- The decisions of your \_\_\_\_\_ have impacted where you are today. (**Genesis 37:2-3**)
- You were handed an \_\_\_\_\_ from peers you grew up with. (**Genesis 37:4**)
- Somewhere in the midst of it all, you became aware of "\_\_\_\_\_." (**Genesis 37:5**)

When God moves you... (**Genesis 37:6-11**)

- don't fall in love with your \_\_\_\_\_ of it.
- don't assume being moved equals \_\_\_\_\_.
- don't supersize "\_\_\_\_\_" over \_\_\_\_\_.
- don't overlook the beautifully ugly \_\_\_\_\_ factor.

What you may experience...

- Sibling/co-worker \_\_\_\_\_ (**Genesis 37:19-20**)
- Feel sent away into \_\_\_\_\_ territory (**Genesis 37:28**)
- "\_\_\_\_\_" in some form (**Genesis 39:1**)
- Harassment positionally, physically, sexually or otherwise (**Genesis 39:11-12**)

- Untrue accusations or \_\_\_\_\_ (**Genesis 39:14, 16-17**)
- Being put into a \_\_\_\_\_ (**Genesis 39:20**)
- Being \_\_\_\_\_ (**Genesis 40:23**)

Being there...

- What if you kept a pure heart in \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 37:5**)
- What if you honored \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 37:12-13**)
- What if your \_\_\_\_\_ became a way for God to work? (**Genesis 39:2-5**)
- What if you called sin \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 39:9**)
- What if you thought \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 39:20-23**)
- What if you didn't read your \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 41:15-16**)
- What if your elevation can only come after \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 41:39-41**)
- What if your scars and wounds helped you become a \_\_\_\_\_? (**Genesis 50:20**)

So are you legit?:

- **P:** Praise God that He can \_\_\_\_\_ that you only see as \_\_\_\_\_.
- **R:** Release any selfish desire to work your way up (so Jesus can \_\_\_\_\_).
- **A:** Ask the Lord about \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Y:** Yield to the Holy Spirit and what He says is \_\_\_\_\_, no matter what.

Don't miss this...

You're always going to be discouraged about your future unless you're following Jesus in the \_\_\_\_\_. You might imagine God wants you to do "\_\_\_\_\_" but know that He has much for you to do in whatever you think is "\_\_\_\_\_."

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or hard copy). \*MYRC.LINK/CONNECT or text **riverside** to **94000**



**SMALL GROUP**  
guide on the back



# "Being There"

Aug 25, 2024

Pastor Tony Myles

Caption this...

What are the most important elements of what it means to be truly spiritual and growing in spirituality?

What does God want the most from us?

Caption this... (**Genesis 39:20**)

Whether today is amazing or devastating, God is with us and can help us grow into what being there means.

And you may ask yourself... "Well, how did I get here?"

- You have a culture that tells you what seems to matter. (**Genesis 37:1**)
- The decisions of your family have impacted where you are today. (**Genesis 37:2-3**)
- You were handed an identity from peers you grew up with. (**Genesis 37:4**)
- Somewhere in the midst of it all, you became aware of "something." (**Genesis 37:5**)

When God moves you... (**Genesis 37:6-11**)

- don't fall in love with your first draft of it.
- don't assume being moved equals maturity.
- don't supersize "next" over now.
- don't overlook the beautifully ugly human factor.

What you may experience...

- Sibling/co-worker jealousy (**Genesis 37:19-20**)
- Feel sent away into unfamiliar territory (**Genesis 37:28**)
- "Slavery" in some form (**Genesis 39:1**)
- Harassment positionally, physically, sexually or otherwise (**Genesis 39:11-12**)

- Untrue accusations or gossip (**Genesis 39:14, 16-17**)
- Being put into a prison (**Genesis 39:20**)
- Being forgotten (**Genesis 40:23**)

Being there...

- What if you kept a pure heart in sharing about God? (**Genesis 37:5**)
- What if you honored authority? (**Genesis 37:12-13**)
- What if your hard work became a way for God to work? (**Genesis 39:2-5**)
- What if you called sin wicked? (**Genesis 39:9**)
- What if you thought inside the box? (**Genesis 39:20-23**)
- What if you didn't read your resume? (**Genesis 41:15-16**)
- What if your elevation can only come after preparation? (**Genesis 41:39-41**)
- What if your scars and wounds helped you become a forgiving healer? (**Genesis 50:20**)

So are you legit?:

- **P**: Praise God that He can connect dots that you only see as periods.
- **R**: Release any selfish desire to work your way up (so Jesus can work His way in).
- **A**: Ask the Lord about everything.
- **Y**: Yield to the Holy Spirit and what He says is Normal, no matter what.

Don't miss this...

You're always going to be discouraged about your future unless you're following Jesus in the moment. You might imagine God wants you to do "more," but know that He has much for you to do in whatever you think is "less."

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