

Throughout our lives, circumstances and people can hurt or disadvantage us. We can feel that we are the victims in our difficult situations. But if we look at these struggles from the right vantage point, they can become powerful tools in God's hands to shape us into overcomers. In this series, we're going to gain insight into how we can move from being victims to overcomers as we look at how God's plan unfolds in the life of Joseph.

Week Two: What Will Become of Your Dream?

**Text:** Genesis 37

We all have dreams for what our lives will hold. We may even believe God is the author of those dreams. What happens to our faith and our hope when the actions of others seem to crush those dreams? From the life of Joseph, we can learn two things: God has a purpose for our life, and God's path for us will take undesired turns and even pits. In such times we must remember...

- Don't let jealously rob us of seeing God's plan for us.
- Don't quit in the pit.
- Don't doubt that God is in control and he is good.

Discussion Questions: These three larger questions will drive our discussion:

- 1. What did the Holy Spirit say to you through Sunday's sermon and the associated passage?
- 2. What are you going to do about it?
- 3. How can others in the group help you and pray for you so you can do what God told you to do?

## What did the Holy Spirit say to you through the sermon?

- "Two men looked out from prison bars. One saw mud, one saw stars." Do you tend to be one who looks down in tough circumstances or one who looks up? Why do you think that is?
- Read Genesis 37. What are some key things that stand out to you in the story? What do you think Joseph was experiencing in the pit and as a slave on his way to Egypt? Do you think he questioned God's love and goodness?
- As Joseph's brothers plotted his demise they ask, "then what will become of his dreams?" Little did they know that getting him to Egypt was part of God's plan to accomplish his dreams. Share a time when God used the harm someone caused you to advance his will in your life.

## What are you going to do about it?

• Examine Romans 8:28. How has this verse impacted you in times of trouble?

## How can others in this group help you or pray for you?

- How clear was Jesus on his God-given purpose? See John 12:23-33.
- What are some ideas of how we can help ourselves and each other keep God's plan for our lives in focus?