



This week we start an eight-week journey through the life of Joseph. The story of Joseph is an Old Testament favorite. It's a story of family dysfunction that leads to slavery, loneliness and abandonment but ends with Joseph saving Israel. So often we don't dwell on the pain that Joseph experienced. We don't think about what went through Joseph's mind in the bottom of the cistern. Open your Bible to Genesis 37 and look at this well-known story through a new perspective. As you discuss the questions below, look for ways that God is at work in Joseph's broken dreams.

1. International Justice Mission exists to protect people in poverty from violence by rescuing victims, bringing criminals to justice, and restoring survivors to safety. Share what you know about modern day slavery with the group.
2. **Read Genesis 37:1-4.** Joseph was raised in a dysfunctional family. Share what you learned from your family of origin and how you would like to create a better home for your roommates, immediate family, or those you live with.
3. Joseph had two dreams from God that related to his family. **Read Genesis 37:5-11.** Joseph knew how to interpret dreams but didn't know how to care for people. Where do you want to excel in caring for people and what needs to change?
4. **Read Genesis 37:14-18.** Joseph's brothers plotted to kill him. Scripture has much to say on murder. (See Exodus 20:13, 21:14, Matthew 5:21-26, and John 8:44.) What do you think gives a group of people the ability to dehumanize others?
5. We are called to love and protect others. (See Genesis 4:9, Malachi 2:16, 1 Corinthians 13:7.) Is there someone in your life that you need to do a better job at loving or protecting? What could Joseph's brothers have done to protect their brother?
6. **Read Genesis 37:26-28.** Neal shared some statistics on modern day slavery. Use your phone to quickly see what you can learn about modern day slavery. What bothers you most? What can you do to start helping free people from slavery?
7. Joseph was sold into slavery and his brothers lied to their father about his whereabouts. **Read Genesis 37:29-36.** Keeping in mind how many dreams seem to be broken here, where do you see God at work in your own broken dreams?
8. Close your time in prayer. Pray for an opportunity to invite a friend to meet Jesus.