

## **A Story About God's Providence**

Genesis 50:15-21

"But Joseph said to them, 'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.'"

\* Providence -

Joseph's story – Genesis 37-50

1. The home years – Genesis 37
  - Favored by his father
  - Rejected by his brothers
2. The Egypt years – Genesis 39–49
  - Tempted at work
  - Lied about by the boss's wife
  - Thrown in the slammer
  - Forgotten by his friend
  - Exalted at the right time
3. The "understanding the dream" years – Genesis 50

### **Lessons to Remember**

### **This Weeks Small Group and Personal Bible Study Guide**

#### **This Weeks Memory Verse: Romans 8:28**

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

In Genesis chapters 37 through 50, we see the great story of how God kept His hand upon the life of His servant Joseph. Through many trials of life, Joseph received blessings from God. In the end, everything God had purposed in Joseph's life was fulfilled by His power at work in Joseph's life. In Genesis 50:20 Joseph says to his brothers, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." In the same way, God uses even the bad things that happen to us to bring about good in the lives of others and to bring glory to His Holy name.

#### **This weeks lesson: Genesis 50:15-21**

1. What do you learn about God from this story of Joseph's life? (Based on the daily reading from Genesis chapters 37-50)
2. How would you have reacted to your brothers had you been Joseph, knowing the things they had done to him? (Review Genesis chapter 37)
3. What character traits did God build into Joseph?
4. In this lesson, we learn that what is important is what happens through me, not to me. God is with me always and He will bless and use me if I continue to love Him and remain in Him. God will work out His plan through my life experiences if I will simply abide in Him. How does this help you work through hurts, trials, losses, and struggles that come in your life?
5. Share how God has used what appeared to be a bad thing in your life to bring about His good purpose.

#### Daily Reading Schedule: Story of Joseph's Life

Day 1: Genesis Chapters 37 & 39

Day 2: Genesis Chapters 40 & 41

Day 3: Genesis Chapters 42, 43, & 44

Day 4: Genesis Chapters 45, 46, & 47

Day 5: Genesis Chapters 48, 49, & 50