

## **Joseph. Life group study 3.**

### **Leaders notes**

Do not think that one set of notes is only for one life group evening. Feel free to pick and choose from the material as sometimes there is enough for 2 or 3 studies.

### **A few thoughts re Life Groups and what God is saying to the church**

1. We are being encouraged to walk in the Spirit in our lives. This is not just Sunday and churchy things but all the time wherever we are. Having said this it is important to give room for the Holy Spirit to move amongst us so we grow in confidence in using the gifts of the spirit. The primary place for learning together is our Life Groups. So please use Life Groups as places of praying for one another and being open to prophecy, words of encouragement and scriptures that help people. Please also write down answers to prayer and put into the Treasure Box on a Sunday so we remember to give thanks for all He is doing amongst us.

### **Back to Joseph**

#### **Genesis chapter 41**

Ask each person to share about someone they admire in their Christian walk.... Why do they admire the person? This does not have to be a well known person it might be a friend, a family member...the key thing is what characteristics do they see in that person?

We tend to remember people more for who they are than what they have achieved. People want to be known for externals such as achievements and wealth and fame but God is looking inside a person at their character.

Whilst Joseph was in prisons God was refining Joseph's character.

What character qualities does Joseph exhibit in his life after he is put in prison in Egypt? How many can you find? Feel free to travel through the whole story!

Here are some to help if there is no response:-

Patience, integrity, humility, truthfulness.....

A bit of fun with a concordance. (You can often find a basic concordance in the back of your bible but if not try to get one or two for the group).

Take one of the character qualities you discover and find it in the concordance then go round the group and read the verse where this is mentioned.

For each verse ask the question.....

'What does this mean for me today?'  
'What can we learn from this verse?'

Sometimes you might have to look at the context of the verse to discover more. Sometimes you might find it difficult to find an answer so just move on to the next verse in the concordance.

Eg Patience

Proverbs 19:11. A man's wisdom gives him patience.  
A great verse to think about. Where does wisdom come from? Wisdom is using knowledge wisely not just knowledge for the sake of it.

Galatians 5:22. Patience is a fruit of the Spirit. We need to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Proverbs 15:18. A patient man calms a quarrel.  
If we are quarrelsome and argumentative this is a sign of impatience.

You can do this for a number of character qualities linked to Joseph and can talk about how Joseph demonstrated these qualities.

Are there people in the group struggling with circumstances that are difficult?  
Ask: what character qualities are required in this particular circumstance?  
Eg if integrity is required - pray for that  
If wisdom is required - pray for that

Perhaps pray these character qualities for that person. Sometimes we want out of our circumstances when God wants us in them to transform us more and more into the image of Christ. He is making us like gold internally so we can impact others with grace. Be careful not always to ask God to take us out of the situation as this may not be what God wants.

**THERE ARE ENOUGH IDEAS HERE FOR MORE THAN ONE LIFE GROUP -  
PERHAPS 3 or 4!!!!!!!**