



EVERYDAY

HERO

## Faith in God's Purpose: Lessons from Joseph

Discussion Guide | June 16, 2019

Hebrews 11:22 and selections from Genesis 37-50

### Questions for Study and Discussion

1. Imagine going on a trip without knowing the destination, or working on a task without being told anything about the larger project of which it's a part. (If you have personal stories like this, feel free to share!) Why is knowing the "bigger picture" important and valuable?
2. Briefly review what you know about the life of Joseph from Genesis. (This may mean working as a group to recall stories from his life, or scanning Genesis 37-50 and identifying some big take-aways.) What stands out to you about Joseph?
3. Read the following passages from Joseph's life. After you read each one, comment on how Joseph's relationship with God impacted his decisions and / or his responses. (Or maybe think of it this way: How did the reality of God's greatness and goodness influence Joseph in each of these situations?)
  - Genesis 39:1-9
  - Genesis 39:19-23
  - Genesis 50:15-21
4. What do you learn about God in the story of Joseph? How do these truths about God invite you to trust in His presence and purpose in your life?
5. Read Romans 8:28-30: What does this passage teach about God's purposes, and the "bigger picture" of what He's doing?
6. Reflect more broadly on the gospel - Jesus dying for our sins and offering us true and eternal life with God. Why are these gospel truths essential to keep in mind as we consider the "bigger picture" of who God is and what He's doing?
7. How will this "bigger picture" influence decisions you're facing this week, or situations you're in the middle of right now? What does this look like in practical terms?
8. Are there specific ways you sense God wants you to change personally, in line with what you've learned from Joseph's life? What steps can you take this week to keep in mind the "bigger picture" of who God is and what He's doing?
9. **Challenge: Memorize Hebrews 11:1-2:** 1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for.