It's Not Fair

Genesis 39:1-6 Week of June 9, 2024

BELONG

Ask this Ice Breaker Question: Share some of your most vivid memories from going to camp when you were growing up (activities, food, sounds, pranks, ruggedness, etc)

BELIEVE

Have someone in your group read aloud: Genesis 39:1-6

Leader Context (not to be read aloud):

Egypt was the most powerful country in the known world. It was the Babylon of its time. God didn't keep Joseph out of it, but rather He sent Joseph into it so that God could save Egypt, Jacob's family, and countless others.

Ask these questions to prompt group discussion:

1. Potiphar entrusted Joseph with everything he owned and consequently witnessed great success ("blessing"). Was this coincidental or was there something else at play here? (read together Gen. 12:1-3, Gen 26:3-4; Gen 28:14)

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

- God is connecting the dots for generational blessings:
 - Gen 12 Abraham
 - Gen 26 Isaac (son of Abraham)
 - Gen 28 Jacob (son of Isaac)
 - Gen 39 Joseph (son of Jacob)
- 2. Instead of being honorable Joseph could have chosen to play the victim and remain resentful. Why do you think he didn't choose to go that route?

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

- Bitterness is like a cancer that eats away at us if we hold onto it.
- Corrie Ten Boom chose forgiveness rather than bitterness. "Forgiveness is to set a prisoner free, and to realize that prisoner was you."

• BELONG, BELIEVE, BECOME: better together | 1

3. Read together Jer 29:4-7, Matt 5:14-16, and Col 3:22-24. What posture does God want us to have in all situations?

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

• God calls each of us to always be a blessing to those around us (no matter how good or bad the situation we find ourselves in)

BECOME:

Ask this question:

4. Think about the various circles of influence in your life (family, school, work, etc). How does Joseph's example to Potiphar's household impact your perspective? Do you need to make a change in one of your circles?

<u>Bonus Challenge</u>: Think of a difficult person or situation in your life and ask God to reveal how you might be a blessing. If you feel so inclined, share your ambition with a friend who can cheer you on and pray for you.

Close by praying together.