

The Hows & Whys of Forgiveness

The Example of Joseph
Genesis 37-50

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Introduction: Every One of Us

Betrayed By Family

Genesis 37

Genesis 37:4

When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

Accused By Employer

Genesis 39

Genesis 39:9

"No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"

Forgotten By Friend

Genesis 40

Genesis 40:14

But when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to Pharaoh and get me out of this prison.

Taking It Home:

Genesis 40:15

For I was forcibly carried off from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing to deserve being put in a dungeon."

Genesis 50:19–20

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.