

**Sermon:** *Fruitful in My Affliction*  
**Series:** *Joseph: Trusting the Goodness of God*

**Scripture:** Gen. 41:1-57  
**Date:** March 8, 2020

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1) What does this passage teach us about God?**

a) Where do we see God keeping his promises to Joseph in this passage? Where have you seen God keeping his promises to you?

**2) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?**

a) How does this story point us to our need for salvation? Read 41:55. Have you “gone to Jesus for salvation and done what he tells you to do?”

b) Joseph is the epitome of wisdom (the ability to navigate the complexities of life by trusting God and loving sacrificially). What can you learn about wisdom from Joseph? (Think about: faith, integrity, patience/longsuffering, courage, sacrifice)

c) Wisdom comes from both the situations of life and the Spirit of God. How does Joseph’s life reveal both of these dimensions of wisdom? How have you gained wisdom both from the situations of life and from Christ himself?

**3) What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace? How does it point to Christ?**

a) Christ can make us fruitful in our affliction. Talk through these stages together and apply them to an area of suffering that you are facing?

- Faith: receiving God’s grace.
- Forget: reorienting your life’s story and releasing others from their debt
- Fruit: courageously facing your suffering and letting God redeem your suffering through sacrificial living.

**APPLICATION**

What is one thing that you will choose to believe from this passage? How will your life be different if you believe it?

**PRAYER**

Praise God for bringing you out of your prison and into his glorious presence. Confess your need for God’s salvation each day. Ask God to make you fruitful even in your “land of affliction.”