



Sermon Series: "Story"

Series Description: As we set out to examine the theme of 'story' over these twelve weeks, we'll be zooming in on twelve well-known Old Testament characters. In these real life, historical stories, we will see the way God takes lives filled with small successes and great failures and, as a master craftsman, turns them into a grand masterpiece of divine origin. We will also see that all of our stories and all the stories that make up our city are no less a part of God's story than any other.

Story of the Week: Joseph from Genesis 50:15-21

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Sermon Summary: The tendency for many Christians is to see suffering and hardship as evidence that God is either absent from our lives or unable to help us. But what if the problem is our perspective? What if the problem is that we have our eyes on ourselves and not on the grace of God? → Joseph lived a life of suffering for many years until God put him in a position of privilege. Rather than exploit his position for himself he 1) used it to save and rescue those who sold him into suffering many years earlier and 2) recognized that it was *because he suffered* that he was able to save so many.

1 – Sermon response

How did God speak to you through the sermon and the story of Joseph? Was there anything new that you learned about his life and story?

2 – Seeing the tension of the passage. Read Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph and his brothers had two very different views of the suffering that Joseph went through. What are those two different views? What causes people to have differing views on the same suffering?

3 – Seeing the tension in our lives

Share an experience in which you went through suffering or deep hardship. How did that experience affect you? How did that experience affect your view of God? Why do you think people's suffering affects their view of God?

4 – How does the Gospel relieve the tension?

Because Joseph took the cup of suffering, he was able to save his brothers (and ultimately the nation of Israel). How does Jesus taking the cup of suffering for us transform the way we see Him, ourselves, and our circumstances in this life?

5 – What are our takeaways?

From the experience you shared previously or from another time, how did you see God use it for good? How do you see your suffering and hardship as a tool to point people to the grace and love of God? How have you already been able to see your story of suffering help someone see the grace of God?

PRAYER: *What are the things we can pray for in times of suffering?*

All Church Announcements

- **YOUR STORY:** A way to share how God has worked in supernatural ways to redeem your story is through our online story page! You can submit a written or recorded story. You can even interact with our virtual story wall. It's at: www.resonatemovement.org/story
- **BAPTISMS:** Our next Baptism event is Sunday, November 21. If you would like to learn more about baptisms, we have an online class you can watch, and prayerfully consider taking your next step in following Jesus in baptism: www.resonatemovement.org/classes.
- **NIGHT OF THANKS:** Resonate's Night of Giving Thanks is going to be a church-wide evening of musical worship! Stop by to join together in worship with song after song led by Resonate's Worship Team, all to give glory and praise to our God. This event will be hosted at Resonate Fremont's campus at 7:00PM on Friday, November 19th. No reservations required.