

Dream Killers

Genesis 37

Genesis is known as the “Book of Beginnings.” It contains so many events and people. Joseph is the son of Jacob. His grandfather is Isaac. His great grandfather is Abraham. A lot of times in the Bible, the Lord is referred to as the “God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.” Joseph isn't mentioned. Yet, the Lord has fourteen chapters of Genesis devoted to Joseph. That's more than any other character in Genesis, even Abraham. His brothers hate him because he tried to do what was right. Though all those around Joseph despised him, God comes to him at night in a dream and reveals his future. God knows exactly who he is and tells him what his life is going to produce. His brothers hate him even more because of his dreams. Verse 20 says, “...we shall see what shall become of his dreams.” Joseph didn't come up with the dreams, God gave them to him. Just like in Joseph's life, there will be “Dream Killers” in your life that will try to keep you from doing God's plan. Let's look at a few of them.

1. D _____ - Genesis 37:10 (Jacob, his father)

- Discouragement can come from the most unlikely places. We must remember that our joy must not only come from the Lord, but also be in the Lord. Encourage your children, family, friends, church family to seek the Lord's guidance in their lives.

2. D _____ - Genesis 37:24-28 (his brothers)

- Joseph was thrown in a pit and his brothers sold and sent him away to the Ishmeelite traders. Unfortunately, people can be fickle. Those that stand with you in the beginning, may not be there in the end.

3. D _____ - Genesis 39:7-10 (Potiphar's wife)

- It says in verse 7 that she “cast her eyes upon Joseph...” In verse 10 says, “she spake to Joseph day by day...” It was constant and consistent. I like Joseph's response in verse 9 “...how then can I do this wickedness and sin against God?” Some people know that they're wrong and in sin but they're only satisfied in dragging others down with them.

4. D _____ - Genesis 40:8-12, 21-23 (Butler)

- In verse 23 it says that the butler forgot Joseph. People will disappoint us. It is going to happen. When people fall, don't gloat or turn Pharisaical. Weep and pray for and with them.

Do you know what you should expect out of people...nothing really. That doesn't mean that we shouldn't trust and build relationships with people. Remember though, they couldn't kill Joseph or his dreams. The process of God giving you His plan (dream) and seeing it come to fruition can be difficult. While you're waiting, remember three things: feel His presence (you're not alone), follow His path (be consistent), find His providence (He has a day to day will to accomplish).

Genesis 37:20 “...we shall see what will become of his dreams.” They had no idea how right they were. In Genesis 50:18-20, they saw the dreams come true “But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”

