

How to Lean on the Lord - Genesis 49:22-26

Wisdom from the Curious Life of Joseph – Part IV

Message Discussion Guide

Connect

- Just in a sentence or two, when was your life most like a rollercoaster?

Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read Genesis 49:22-24.
 - The Scripture describes a time in Joseph's life when archers were firing at him metaphorically. What times do you think the Scripture is talking about?
 - What does it mean that Joseph was steady, strong, and agile during the struggles of his life?
- Read Genesis 49:24-25.
 - What were the five titles used to describe God in these verses?
 - Consider each of the five titles one at a time. What do each of the titles communicate about God?
- Read Isaiah 26:3 and Matthew 6:33.
 - Define what each of these phrases mean in this passage:
 - Perfect peace
 - Mind stayed on you
 - He trusts you
 - How could Isaiah 26:3 dramatically change how we live our lives?
 - How could Matthew 6:33 reorder our daily lives?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.
 - What are the three commands given in this passage?
 - What is one thing common to each of these commands? How often are we to engage in these three activities?
 - How could this verse dramatically change how we live our lives?

Respond

- In what ways do people look to their past, their circumstances, and their future to find peace, strength, hope, and joy? Why are those things never reliable sources of spiritual and emotional health and stability?
- Thinking about this message and the previous messages, if someone asked you to share Joseph's secret for living a life of peace in turbulent times, what would you say?

Bonus for Thinkers

- What did it mean for a father to give his children his blessing in the Old Testament? How and why has that changed?

First Baptist Nacogdoches Bible Reading Plan

Day	Scripture
Monday (5/11)	Genesis 49:22-26, Isaiah 26:3
Tuesday (5/12)	Mark 1:1-20
Wednesday (5/13)	Mark 1:21-45
Thursday (5/14)	Mark 2:1-28
Friday (5/15)	Mark 3:1-35

Daily Devotion Questions

Monday (5/11) — Genesis 49:22-26, Isaiah 26:3

- Review the “Respond” questions from yesterday’s message discussion guide.

Tuesday (5/12) — Mark 1:1-20

- What was John’s attitude toward Jesus (1:7)? What are some ways you can demonstrate the same kind of attitude toward him in your decisions and activities throughout the day?
- Re-read 1:12-13. What are the strongest kinds of temptations that Satan brings into your life? Jesus was ministered to by the angels in his temptation, how can you seek spiritual help when you are tempted?
- What did Jesus mean by “Fishers of men” in 1:17? What are two specific ways you can be fishers of men this week?
- Read Mark 1:4, 9-11. In what ways was Jesus’ baptism different from yours? In what ways was it the same? How does it encourage you to know that you were baptized much like your Savior?

Wednesday (5/13) — Mark 1:21-45

- The people recognized an unusual authority in Jesus’ teaching (1:22, 27). What do you think that meant? What led to his words having such great authority? How can you have more authority in the things you say?
- What does 1:35 say about Jesus and his relationship with the Father? Why do you think Jesus needed to pray? What does Jesus’s practice of prayer say about how we should approach prayer?
- We learn three things about Jesus’ prayer in 1:35-37. What time did he pray? Where did he go to pray? How long did he pray? What do the answers to these questions teach us about our daily devotions?
- Read Mark 1:28, 34, 43-45. Why do you think Jesus asked people not to tell of his miracles of healing? (Answer is partly in 1:38.)

Thursday (5/14) — Mark 2:1-28

- Which of the two miracles (2:5-11) was more beneficial to the paralyzed man, the physical healing or the forgiveness? Why? Spend a minute or two thanking the Lord for the forgiveness he has given to you.
- In your own words, why did Jesus eat and spend time with the roughest and most sinful people in his culture (2:15-17)? How can you reach out and connect with people outside your comfort zone?
- In 2:27, Jesus says the Sabbath was made to be a blessing to man. How can it be a blessing to us? What do you need to begin to do today so that you can have a rest day this coming week-end?
- Read Mark 2:1-4. Make a list of all of the hardships, difficulties and obstacles the friends must have faced as they brought the paralyzed man to Jesus.

Friday (5/15) — Mark 3:1-35

- Jesus saw the attitude of the Pharisees (3:1-6) and it made him angry and grieved (3:4). Describe the attitude that so troubled Jesus. Do you struggle with this same attitude from time to time?
- We see the beginning of the call of the disciples in 3:13. Jesus still calls people to serve him today. How do you feel the Lord has called you to serve him and his body (the church)?
- In 3:21 we learn that Jesus’ family didn’t understand or accept who he was. We’ve all experienced this at some level with family or friends. Write down two ways it encourages you to know Jesus faced the same situation. How did Jesus overcome this rejection (3:33-35)?
- Read Mark 3:1-6. What are ways people have similar ungodly attitudes today?