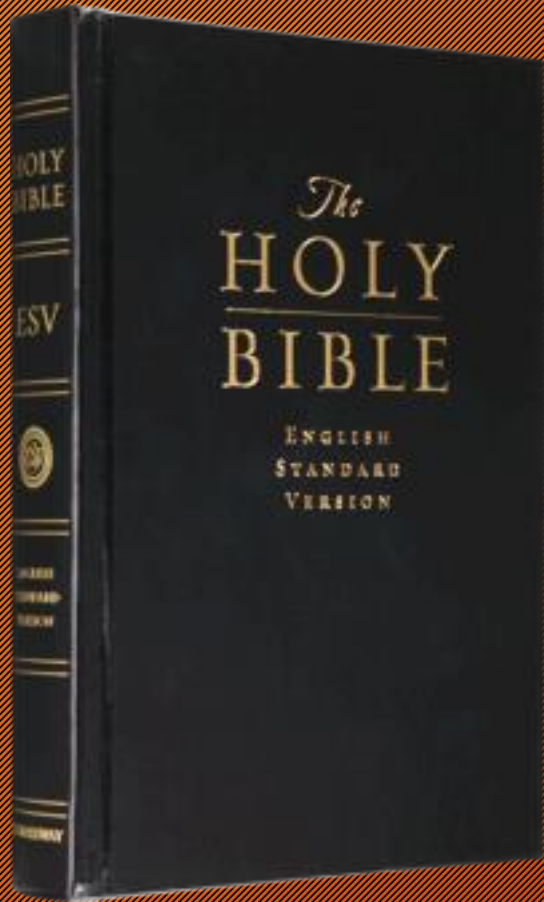


Climbing Higher in 2016

Pastor Brian
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Genesis 37-45



Family History

- a. Father lied to his Father
- b. Father cheated uncle
- c. Father deceived by Father-in-law
- d. Mother distrusted God
- e. Mom gave concubine to Father
- f. Mom died during childbirth
- g. He was favored by his father, but hated by his brothers



Progressive Sanctification

Sanctification=set apart from sin to holiness



Progressive Sanctification

- a. Brother plotted to kill him (37:18-21)-protected
- b. Thrown into a pit (37:22-24)-protected
- c. Sold to Ishmaelites (37:25-28)-God's plan
- d. Sold to Potiphar (37:36)- God's plan
- e. Successful in life (39:1-6)-Lord with him
- f. Tempted by Potiphar's wife (39:7-10)-resisted
- g. Grabbed by Potiphar's wife (39:11-13)-fled
- h. Potiphar's wife accused him (39:14-18)
- i. Thrown into prison (39:19-23)-Lord with him
- j. Forgotten by cupbearer (40:23)
- k. Put trust in man NOT God (Psalm 146)
- l. Prominent position (41:37-45;53-57)



Family Reconciliation

- a. Brothers come to Egypt (42:1-6)
- b. He speaks harshly to them (42:7-8)
- c. Kept Simeon (42:24)
- d. Returned Money (42:25)
- e. Brothers returned (43:1-15)
- f. Love and compassion for Benjamin (43:30)
- g. Tested brothers (44:1-34)
- h. Revealed himself (45:1-3)
- i. Forgave the brothers (45:4-15)



Joseph as a Picture of Christ

- a. Dysfunctional families
- b. Beloved by fathers
- c. Obedient to fathers
- d. Tempted
- e. Hated and rejected by brothers
- f. Sold as slaves
- g. Met physical needs of others
- h. Falsely accused and unjustly punished
- i. Arrested
- j. Elevated to power
- k. Forgave those that had wronged them



Application

1. Joseph expected God to work. We must expect God to work.
2. Reconciliation was possible only because Joseph had suffered and triumphed. We must reconcile with God through Christ.
CROSS + RESURRECTION = RECONCILIATION
3. Joseph was enabled by God's grace to wipe out the pains and bad memories of the past and make a new beginning.
4. We frequently need to "take off" the old hurts and pains and put on a new attitude of faith and love.
5. Joseph had 2 sons:
 - Manasseh = forgetting
 - Ephraim = fruitful
6. We can be "forgetful" and "fruitful".





How has God used 2015 to shape us for 2016?