

Joseph

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I. Introduction - The overarching principle to Joseph's life is that the way up is down.

II. There are five "P"'s to Joseph's life.

A. Perennial home. (Genesis 39)

1. Joseph had some trouble with his brothers.
2. Joseph was trapped by his brothers.

B. Pit.

1. God used unusual means to prepare Joseph.
2. It is unlikely that he saw himself as a savior when he was in the pit.
3. The only way out of the pit was up. Joseph learned that salvation comes from above.

C. Potifer.

1. Potifer bought Joseph from slavery and whatever Joseph did prospered. (Genesis 39:33)
2. Potifer's wife tempted Joseph, and he fled youthful lust. She blamed Joseph though.

D. Prison.

1. God was with Joseph in prison. (2 Chronicles 16:9)
2. Joseph was prosperous in making God first. (Joshua 1:8, Philippians 1:13, Philippians 4:22)

E. Pharaoh.

1. Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams and was put in a high position.
2. Joseph through his sons became the head of two tribes.
3. The way up is down.

III. Everything happened to Joseph because what men meant for evil God used for good. (Genesis 50:20)

Application questions

1. What does it mean that the way up is down?

2. How does Joseph illustrate this?

3. How can you look at your life differently based upon this principle?
