

**LifeGroup Study Sheet**

Sept 8th – Living the Dream – Genesis 37

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

**Quick Review**

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

**Introduction**

Did you ever feel growing up that your parents played favorites? How did that affect you as a child? If you are a parent, have you ever caught yourself playing favorites with your kids – either consciously or subconsciously? How did that affect your other kids?

**Digging In**

**Question 1: Read Genesis 37:1-4.** How does Jacob loving Joseph more than his other sons affect the dynamic and relationship of the rest of the family? How did jealousy affect the rest of Joseph's siblings? Can you relate to this type of family dysfunction? How has jealousy affected your life and family before?

**Question 2: Read Genesis 37:5-11.** Joseph starts to have certain dreams and starts telling his family about these dreams. In this day, having these types of dreams meant it was divine communication from God, or it was God sharing something important to be taken seriously. When Joseph shares his dreams, the results are negative and not positive. How do you think you would respond when you are given this type of information from a family member? How do the brothers respond? How does Jacob respond after hearing Joseph's dream?

**Question 3: Read Genesis 37:12-28.** These verses show Joseph's brothers plan to get rid of Joseph! They conspire a plan to kill him, and eventually sell him into slavery. These brothers were so jealous of him, they plotted to get rid of their brother in a horrible way. Think about this from Joseph's perspective. Would you share God's "dream" for your life if you knew it would result in your family treating you like this? Have you ever seen jealousy in your own life wishing for harm to other people? What ways do you try to justify your own jealousy and sin?

**Application:**

1. Whose dream are you currently living? Your dream, your parents dream, the American dream? God's dream for your life?
2. Satan will try to stop you from living God's dream for your life! Just like Joseph's brothers.
3. Remember a "life-detour" is not a "road-block." Trust in the sovereignty of God!

**Praise / Prayer Requests**

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

**Adoration** – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

**Confession** – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

**Thanksgiving** – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

**Supplication** – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?