

Genesis—Sunday Morning Series Overview

Embarrassing Ancestors and Our Glorious Hope

Genesis is all about God making an extravagantly gorgeous Creation to declare His glory and the horror of our ancestors' rebellion against His kingly rule. It was written to remind us of our good God's promise to undo all the terror that our treason has wrought. It shows us our ancestors' faltering walk of faith and His faithful care for them, all the while paving the way for the coming King who would deliver us from ourselves and all who oppose our good God. The New Heavens and Earth will perfectly declare His praise.

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide you:

Submit to God's Authority! We can't separate believing in the God of the Bible and submitting to Him. If we truly believe Him, we will recognize that He deserves (and demands) our absolute allegiance.

Treat Others as God Has Treated Us! As recipients of lavish forgiveness, we should be the first to forgive others who wrong us.

Celebrate His Kindness! Rejoice for in Christ all our sin is forgiven.

GIVING THANKS

Please list some specific things for which you wish to thank the Lord:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional
First Congregational Church of Woodstock

Pastor Doug Warren
November 24th, 2019

Morning Service:

Genesis 50: 1 – 26

The Gospel According to Joseph

1. Joseph Saw God's Authority as Central to the Gospel.
2. Joseph Learned That the Gospel Freed Him to Be Loving.
3. The Gospel Gave Joseph a Future-Looking Hope.

God is shown to be not only the Creator of all that there is but also the faithful Redeemer of His particular people. Faith in this God and His promises of redemption is the source of Joseph's freedom to forgive His brothers and die in hope of what remains to come. How are you (and we together) demonstrating that same hope in the way we live and die?

Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal

4:00 pm

What are you most grateful for this year?

How can we as a community of Christ, care for those God has placed in our lives?

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Once their dad is gone, who is going to keep Joseph from repaying his brothers for their evil betrayal? You can understand why his brothers are nervous after their father's funeral. But Joseph responds with forgiveness. Why?

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Ask Christ to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday AM

READ **Genesis 50:15-26; Ephesians 1:7-14**. DISCUSS, What enabled Joseph to forgive his brothers? How do we see this fulfilled in Christ? How can we find the same freedom from bitterness and vengeance? DELIGHT in the Lord! Express your delight in prayer, singing, dancing, and/or praise. THANK God for freeing us in Christ.

Sunday PM

COME to the Thanksgiving Dinner in the Billings Room this afternoon at 4pm followed by a hymn sing in lieu of the regular evening worship service.

Monday

READ **Genesis 50:1-14; Second Peter 1:16-21**. DISCUSS, How does Pharaoh honor Joseph and his family? Why would this be significant to their heirs departing from Egypt? REJOICE in God's blessings to us in Christ! PRAY, "King of All Creation, You are mightier than Pharaoh or any other king. You are exalted above all rulers. We praise You and adore You. Please help us, Lord, to trust You as we should. Forgive our doubting and embolden us to trust Your promises as true and fulfilled in Christ."

Tuesday

READ **Genesis 50:15-17**. DISCUSS, Why do the brothers react the way that they did? What is Joseph's initial response? Do you think that Jacob/Israel left these instructions? Why or why not? PRAY, for God to give us an accurate awareness of our sin. Ask Him to convict us and grant us repentance in Christ.

Wednesday

READ **Genesis 50:18-21; Isaiah 40:1-2**. DISCUSS, How difficult is it to speak kindly to those who have injured you? Why does Joseph respond this way? PRAY, Ask the Lord to embolden us to speak kindly to our neighbors who have wronged us.

Thursday—Thanksgiving

READ **Genesis 50:22-26; Philippians 4:4-7**. DISCUSS, for what are you especially thankful for this year? Why is this gratitude important in how we treat others? PRAY, "Jesus, help us to trust You. Teach us to walk by faith in Your promise."

Friday

READ **Genesis 50**. DISCUSS, What has God been teaching you from this passage this week? PRAY thanking the Lord for His faithfulness to us.

Saturday

PREPARE for the *gathered worship service* tomorrow. Do what you can *today* to be less rushed tomorrow. READ **Isaiah 9:1-7**. Pray for FCCW to continue to grow in God's grace.

Ephesians 1: 7 – 15

⁷In [Christ] we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.