

Faith for the Future

Hebrews 11:22; Genesis 50:20-26; Exodus 13:19; Psalm 105:1-6

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Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

March 24, 2020

Hebrews 11:22

²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

Genesis 50:20-26

²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

²² So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father's house. Joseph lived 110 years. ²³ And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation. The children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were counted as Joseph's own. ²⁴ And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." ²⁵ Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." ²⁶ So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Exodus 13:19

¹⁹ Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here."

Psalm 105:1-6

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!
² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!
³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!
⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
⁵ Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
⁶ O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

Personal Reflection Questions

1. In Genesis 50:20, Joseph says that God accomplished good in his life despite his experiences of suffering and mistreatment. What are some of the things that enabled Joseph to make this incredible statement?
2. What are some present circumstances in your life that make it hard to have faith for the future?
3. Psalm 105:5 instructs us to remember the wondrous works of God. Take a few minutes to reflect on some of the major events of your life. How have you seen God perform wondrous works?
4. What effect do you think it had on the Israelites to see Joseph's coffin transported with them out of Egypt, through the wilderness, and into the Promised Land (see Genesis 50:25-26 and Exodus 13:19)? How might this practical physical action nourish their faith? How is our celebration of the Lord's Supper somewhat similar?
5. Psalm 105:42 tells us that God remembers His promises. Why is it significant that God remembers His promises (even when we don't)?