

Joseph: Colors of the Gospel

Jul 22	<i>Story of a Dreamer</i> **	Genesis 37:1-36
Jul 29	<i>Christmas in July</i> **	Genesis 39:1-23
Aug 5	<i>Finding Opportunity in Obscurity</i> **	Genesis 40:1-23
Aug 12	<i>HE > I (He Is Greater than I)</i>	Genesis 41:1-57
Aug 19	<i>The Original Hunger Games</i>	Genesis 42:1-44:34
Aug 26	<i>Tears of Forgiveness</i>	Genesis 45:1-28
Sep 2	<i>When Israel Went to Egypt</i>	Genesis 46:1-47:31
Sep 9	<i>Between the Dream and the Doxology</i>	Genesis 50:12-21

** Video available at centraliachurch.com/multi-media

COREGROUPS

Here at Centralia Church, we want to instill three values into each and every one of our lives:

Holiness: *leading a Christ-like life*

Community: *finding a place to be connected*

Service: *reaching out in love to serve others*

We believe CORE GROUPS are a catalyst in helping us achieve this together.

We believe an essential part of being a disciple of Jesus is to share this experience with others who are trying to do the same thing. Groups are encouraged to gather, eat together, read and talk about the Bible, pray together and serve together.

Our Core Group ministry will resume in September.

You'll have the opportunity to sign up for a group in August. If you would like to explore what it means to host or lead a group, please contact Pastor Trent in the church office or email him at trent@centraliachurch.com

HE > I (He Is Greater than I) :: Genesis 41:1-57 :: Pastor Dave Bach

Things I want to remember from today's message

MONDAY**Genesis 41:1-57; Ecclesiastes 7:9**

After Joseph had requested help from Pharaoh's cupbearer to get out of prison, he waited two full, long, monotonous years for justice. That's patience. The New Testament word translated as 'patience' literally means to be long-tempered. In the Old Testament the concept of patience is associated with waiting and being 'slow to anger.' This is how God describes himself in Exodus 34:6 he says he is a God who is "compassionate and merciful, and slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." Knowing my own tendency to be stubborn and in a hurry to change my own circumstances, I'm really glad God has a long fuse in dealing with me. As we allow God to grow patience in us, we'll gain an ability to reframe our perspective on life, and we will see and deal with other people the way God does with us.

TUESDAY**Psalms 37:1-8**

I was stuck in traffic the other day, and the guy having a meltdown in the vehicle next to me caught my attention. Apparently he was late for something and it was obviously the fault of the 379 cars in front of him. Now, I realize we all have moments like this where patience is the last thing that comes to mind, and in these moments we forget that others extend us grace and are patient with us. What are some things that trigger impatience in you? At the root of impatience is narcissism and selfishness. Perhaps this is why the bible puts such a high premium on patience. Meditate on, and begin to practice the words from Psalm 37:7, *"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret...refrain from anger...do not fret - it leads only to evil."*

WEDNESDAY**Proverbs 15**

Most, if not all, of us have heard the phrase *"If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say it."* Perhaps that is a modern way of saying that our words can be destructive and inflict wounds in people that are long-lasting. Our words have the ability to put other people in distress. As the Proverb suggests, our speech can create unhealthy anxiety which weighs down the heart. How are you doing in this area? Are there recent words you have spoken in anger, or spoken with an intent to harm, or gossip you have spread, or unhealthy criticisms you have offered that you need to apologize and ask forgiveness for? You may not be able to take all these words back, but you can do the hard work of apologizing and reconciling.

THURSDAY**1 Kings 19:1-8**

Afraid, exhausted, overwhelmed and depressed, Elijah ran away into the wilderness where he collapsed in the shade under a broom tree and asked God to take his life. We've all found ourselves in times and places where we collapse 'under a broom tree'. Oswald Chambers reminds us that if we were incapable of being depressed 'we would have no capacity for happiness and exaltation.' God's prescription for Elijah's depression was simply to rise and care for his physical needs. Perhaps returning to the ordinary things of life helps us find God in the details of our existence. When you are worn out and depressed, God says 'eat and rest.' This may be the most spiritual thing you can do in the moment; you can trust God to refresh your soul.

FRIDAY**1 Kings 19:9-18**

Elijah gives voice to what we often feel. This time he tells God that he feels like he is the only one left who cares about what God cares about. Do you ever feel like you are the only one who cares about certain things or does anything to make things right? God says, hey buddy, go outside the cave you're dwelling in for I'm about to pass by. Elijah complies and witnesses a powerful wind, an earthquake and a fire. Maybe these are symbols of the high drama we deal with, or are representative of how the world tries to get our attention. God is not in these things, he is in the soft gentle breeze of silence. Silence is hard for us because we are accustomed to the noise of the world. Your soul needs to have quiet to hear the still small voice of God's hope.

PRAYER CORNER:

"Dear Lord, Thank you that this way I'm traveling isn't un-charted territory, but a road clearly marked by those who have gone before me. Thank you for their journeys, for what they have learned along the way, and for what I have learned along the way from them. Most of all, thank you for Jesus, who IS the way. Help me to realize that with each step of my pilgrimage, I get a little closer to him. Fix my eyes on him, Lord, so that I won't grow weary or lose heart when the road grows steep and the night grows dark. Especially, I pray . . ." (Eugene Peterson, from Conversations, p. 906).