

# Background & Beginnings

Genesis 37:1-17 // February 19, 2023



## PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.

## REFLECT/CONNECT

- What was your biggest takeaway from the Abraham series?
- What's something you are thankful for this week?

## REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

## GROW IN THE WORD

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.



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The author shifted focus from Jacob to tell the story of his sons, and especially his son Joseph. Joseph served his father faithfully from a young age. Because of Jacob's love and preferential treatment of Joseph, his brothers hated him (v. 1-4).

- How is this story connected to the story of Abraham? Notice the setting of verse 1 and see also Genesis 17:8; 28:4.
- How would you describe the family dynamics present in Jacob's family? See also Genesis 35:22-26 for some background.
- What familial challenges have you faced in life?

Joseph told his brothers about a dream he had about how he would one day rule over them. Joseph had a similar dream a second time, and again told his brothers and also his father about it. His brothers' hatred and jealousy grew (v. 5-11).

- How would you describe each of the characters based on their words and actions in these verses?
- Can you identify with Jacob, Joseph, or his brothers? If so, which and why?
- What do you learn about the corrupting power of envy and jealousy from these verses? See also Proverbs 14:30; Romans 13:13-14; James 3:14-16.

