

SERMON: GENESIS – JOSEPH (Genesis 37)

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November 18, 2018

Every family has brokenness. Just ask Joseph. His brothers hate him so much that they throw him into a cistern and almost leave him for dead. When our families experience brokenness and bitterness, we must love in selfless ways. How thankful we are that our Lord has shown us selfless love!

“Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.” – Genesis 37:3-4

Love can cause us to act in _____ ways ...

1. **Selfish love** _____.

Genesis 37:3-4, Genesis 37:12-14

2. **Selfish love** _____.

3. **Selfish love** _____ in shameful and _____ ways.

Genesis 37:17-20

Godly Love calls us to _____...

Matthew 7:3-5, John 13:35

“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”

– John 13:35

1. **Christlike Love** _____.

Genesis 37:21, James 2:15-16

2. **Christlike Love** _____.

Genesis 37:22, Romans 6:23

3. **Christlike Love** _____.

Genesis 37:26-27, Romans 7:24-25

The principle: **As believers we are _____ with love and compassion!**

“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.” – Psalm 103:2-4



Questions for individual or group reflection:

Have you ever experienced a parent playing favorites?

How does it feel to have the love you desire showered on someone else?

In what ways has your love for one person caused you to favor them to the exclusion of another?

How has your love for someone hurting or struggling encouraged you to solve their problems for them?

Has your need for love caused you to act in ways you regret?

How does Christ challenge us to love others?

How does God suggest we order our loving priorities (Colossians 3:17-23)?

How does loving one another show that we are disciples of Jesus?

For whom is God calling you to advocate?

For whom does your love require you to show mercy?

For whom may God be leading you to step in and act in love?

Read Psalm 103:2-4. In light of what Christ has done for you, what sort of crown are you now displaying to the world?

Taking it home / Memory Verse:

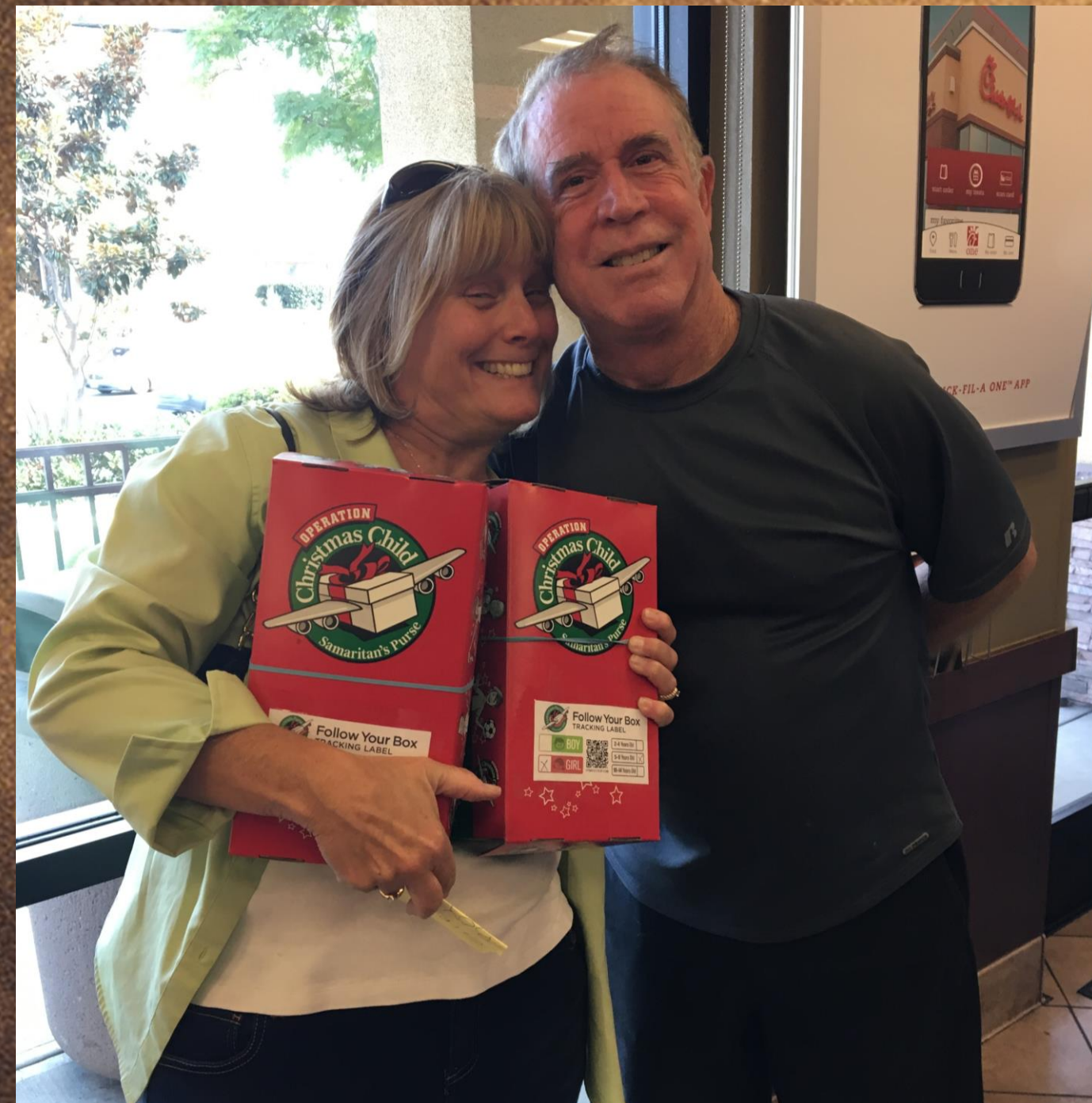
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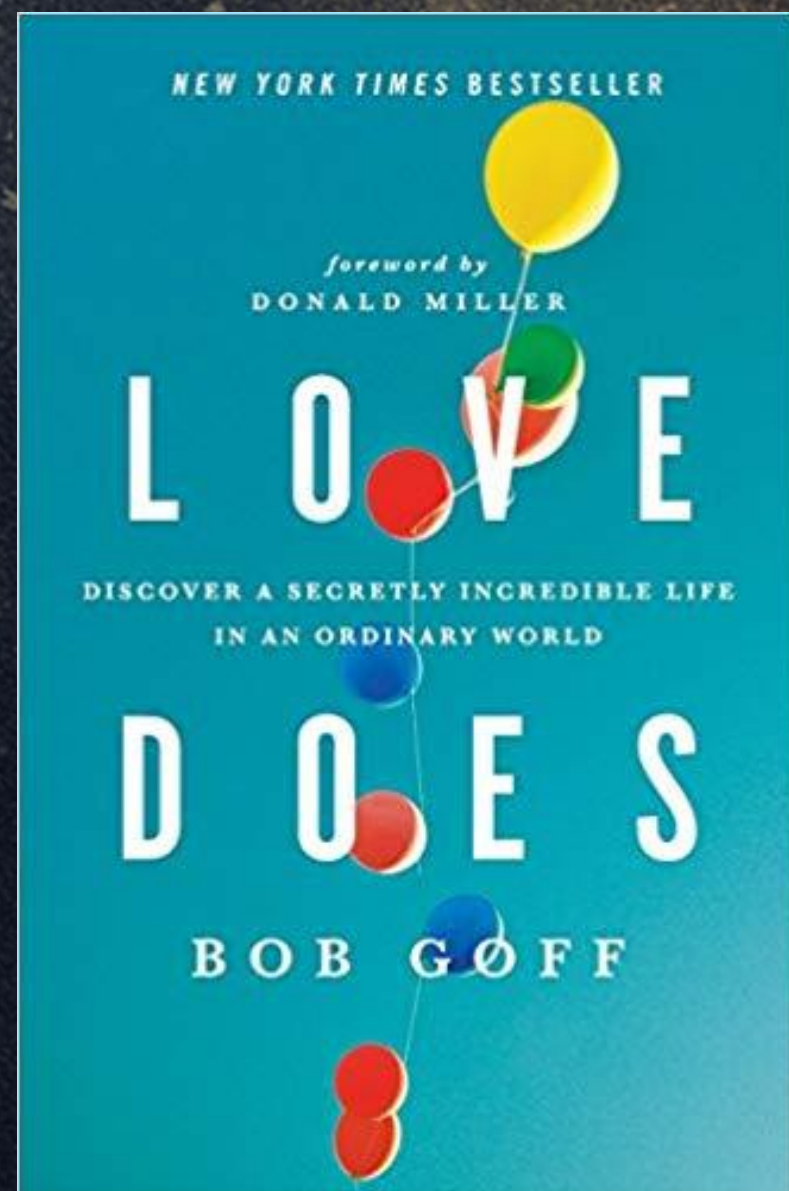
– John 13:35

GENESIS

JOSEPH







“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”

JOHN 13:35

GENESIS

JOSEPH

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⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

GENESIS 37:3-4

³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an **ornate robe** for him.

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GENESIS 37:3-4

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GENESIS 37:3-4

Love can cause us to act in **FOOLISH** ways...

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1. Selfish love **EXCLUDES OTHERS.**

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GENESIS 37:3-4

¹² Now Joseph's brothers had gone to graze their father's flocks near Shechem, ¹³ and Israel said to Joseph, "As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them." "Very well," he replied. ¹⁴ So he said to him, "**Go and see** if all is well with **your brothers** and with the flocks, and **bring word back to me.**" Then he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron.

GENESIS 37:12-14

Love can cause us to act in **FOOLISH** ways...

1. Selfish love **EXCLUDES** **OTHERS.**

2. Selfish love **ENABLES.**

Love can cause us to act in **FOOLISH** ways...

1. Selfish love **EXCLUDES** **OTHERS.**

2. Selfish love **ENABLES.**

3. Selfish love **REACTS** in shameful and **DANGEROUS** ways.

¹⁷ Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. ¹⁸ But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, **they plotted to kill him.** ²⁰ “Come now, let’s kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him.”

GENESIS 37:17-18, 20

Godly Love calls us to

RESPOND DIFFERENTLY ...

³ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

MATTHEW 7:3-5



“By this everyone
will know that you
are My disciples, if
you love one
another.”

JOHN 13:35

1. Christlike Love ADVOCATES.

¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

JAMES 2:15-16

21 When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. “Let’s not take his life,” **he said.**

GENESIS 37:21

1. Christlike Love ADVOCATES.

2. Christlike Love SHOWS MERCY.

22 “**Don’t shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern** here in the wilderness, but don’t lay a hand on him.” Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father.

GENESIS 37:22



For
the wages of sin
is death, but
the gift of
God is eternal
life in Christ
Jesus our Lord.



ROMANS 6:23

1. Christlike Love ADVOCATES.

2. Christlike Love SHOWS MERCY.

3. Christlike Love STEPS IN.

Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood."

GENESIS 37:27

²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

ROMANS 7:24-25

FREEDOM



² Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits— ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion ...

PSALM 103:2-4

The principle:

As believers we are **CROWNED** with
love and compassion!

