

Talking Points: Who Knows Tomorrow? Delivered by Elder Charles Tangwan on Nov 11, 2018

The Story of Joseph: Genesis 42:3-18

We are all familiar with the story of Joseph and what he suffered at the hands of his brothers.

Joseph was one of Jacob's 12 sons, and was greatly loved by his father, (who even sewed him a coat of many colours as a sign of love).

His brothers were jealous of him and plotted evil against him.

They threw him into a pit and later removed him and sold him as a slave to the Egyptians.

They lied to their father that he had been eaten by a wild animal.

In Egypt, Joseph kept on trusting God and doing everything he had to do with diligence and the fear of God.

He upheld his integrity because he could not afford to sin against God, and so was falsely accused by Potiphar's wife who lied against him just because Joseph was making love with her at her command.

Still trusting God, though Joseph was sent to prison, he kept a close walk with God.

Then from prison, God raised him to be the Prime Minister of “Mighty Egypt” by interpreting the king’s dream.

As he was in charge of food supplies to Egypt, and neighboring countries, his brothers suffering from famine, came to Egypt to buy food.

Joseph recognized him.

After many encounters, Joseph now decided to reveal himself to his brothers in pain and with loud cries.

Joseph had forgiven them and need to know if their father who he loved so much was still alive.

This revelation shocked his brothers because they had done so much evil but their brother did not revenge on them.

Instead, Joseph saw their affliction on him in the eyes of God’s plan to save humanity.

Joseph's story is an inspiration for us to know that the plan for our lives is not in the hands of man, but in God's hands.

God uses the obstacles on our path to lift us up to where he wants us to be.

All we need is to keep trusting and loving God and living for him, because of who he is to us.

Never let bitterness and unforgiveness keep you out of God's will.

Keep living for God.

Jesus says, forgive those who have hurt you so badly and pray for your enemies.

Remember that the Bible tells us that God will set a table before us in the presence of our enemies.

Conclusion:

Put God in the first place.