

Sermon Outline

June 22 – “The Descent”

Genesis 39

Catching Up

We should probably catch up with Joseph and brothers since it has been a bit since we were in Genesis together. We have seen:

- ✚ Jacob’s two wives and his special love for Rachel over Leah.
- ✚ His special love carry over to Rachel’s two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, especially after Rachel’s death.
- ✚ The other ten brothers’ jealousy, heightened after Joseph shared his dreams.
- ✚ The plot to kill Joseph which ended being sold into slavery, ending in Potiphar’s house in Egypt.

This is where we rejoin the story.

Joseph in Potiphar’s House

- ✚ Why did Joseph prosper in Egypt?
- ✚ Why did he reject the invitation of Potiphar’s wife?
- ✚ What was the result of his refusals?
- ✚ What pattern repeats itself while Joseph in in prison?

The Descent

- ✚ Consider the trajectory of Joseph’s story up to this point.
 - What emotions may have been connected with this?
 - What did we learn about Joseph on his way down?

- ✚ What parallels did we see between Joseph and the story of Jesus? Consider Philippians 2:5-8.
 - God’s blessing
 - Rejection because of obedience to God
 - The descent down humiliation
 - Faithfulness despite suffering

Take-aways

- ✚ Behold the love and faithful obedience of Jesus in that he suffered *willingly* for us.
- ✚ We are called to have the *same* attitude as Jesus.

Points to Ponder to Prepare

June 29 – “Pharaoh’s Dreams”

Genesis 41:1-16; 25-40

Start by reading Genesis 40 to learn about the cupbearer and the baker and God’s special gift to Joseph of interpreting dreams.

Then pick up in ch. 41 to hear about the dreams of Pharaoh.

- ✚ What are the two dreams?
- ✚ What explanation does Joseph give?
- ✚ How does Joseph conduct himself before Pharaoh? (Note that Pharaoh was considered to be a small ‘g’ god in Egyptian religion?)

- ✚ Where in this chapter do we see God’s common grace for the people of Egypt and the ancient world?
- ✚ How does God weave this common grace together with his special unfolding plan for Joseph?

Scripture readings for the week

Sunday, June 22	Acts 14:8-28
Monday June 23	John 15:1-35
Tuesday June 24	John 21:1-25
Wednesday June 25	Acts 15:36 – 16:15
Thursday June 26	Acts 16:16-40
Friday June 27	Acts 17:1-34
Saturday June 28	Acts 18:1-22
Sunday June 29	Acts 18:23 – 19:12

Prayer Focus

The annual meeting of the Christian Reformed Denomination, called Synod, took place this past week in Ontario.

Let’s join together for our denomination. Thank God for the support, accountability and encouragement that we receive and extend to fellow CRC churches.

Aks for God’s blessings for the congregations, Classes, and ministries of the CRCNA.

