

THE RESPONSE OF A LIFETIME

PART 4: PLAYING GOD

Imagine being betrayed by your own family, sold into slavery, abandoned in a foreign land, and forgotten in prison. For Joseph, this was reality, but now he holds all the cards. The tables have turned, yet instead of acting out of revenge, he tests his brothers, waits, and finally responds in a way that reflects God's faithfulness.

CONNECT

If you were president for the day, what changes would you make?

LEARN

You will watch a shortened version of a message from this series to set up your group discussion. Watch the full message sometime this week as a reminder of what you talked about today.

APPLY

After sharing what stood out from the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. How does the idea that God can work through our misfortune challenge or encourage you personally?
2. Read Genesis 50:18–20. What does Joseph's question of "Am I in the place of God?" reveal about the difference between trusting God and trying to control our own?
3. How does Joseph's example inspire you to forgive or extend grace to someone who has hurt you?

WRAP UP

Take a few minutes this week to reflect on one moment in your life that didn't go as planned but later made sense. Write it down, and thank God for what he was doing behind the scenes.

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PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank you for Joseph's example of faith in the midst of betrayal and pain. Help us to trust you when life doesn't make sense and when we feel powerless. Teach us to respond to hurt and injustice in ways that reflect your character, not our own anger or fear. Give us courage to extend grace, patience to wait on your timing, and eyes to see how you are at work even in our misfortunes. In Jesus's name, Amen.