



Midweek Study Notes
28th November 2021
Prepared by Matt

Giants of Faith - Joseph

On Sunday morning we were taken through the story of Joseph, another giant of faith whose amazing journey was also a prophetic picture of the life of Jesus Christ.

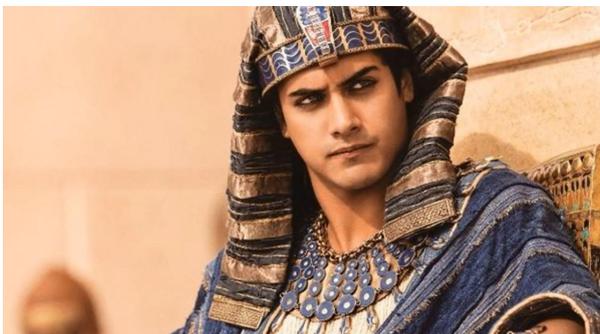
Mervyn gave a great account of the terrible lows and incredible highs that Joseph experienced during his life.



Where do you feel that you currently are on 'life's roller coaster?' If you are currently at a low point, does Joseph's story give you hope for the future?

Joseph is a great reminder of the way in which Jesus reaches in and rescues us during the darkest moments of our life. Just as God intervened when Joseph was thrown into prison, Jesus entered into the prison of our sin, taking the blame and paying the price.

Joseph is part of the 'Hall of Faith' in **Hebrews 11:22**, where he is mentioned with the words *'By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.'*



Interestingly, this verse says nothing of what Joseph achieved in his life, reminding us that none of us need to be defined by our past successes or failures. If we are in a relationship with Jesus, we can *always* look forward to the future, and to the place that God is preparing for us in heaven.

Are there failures in your past that you struggle to leave behind? Why might we also not want to be defined by our past successes?

Further Discussion Suggestion

Reread **Philippians 2:1-11**, which Bradley read to us on Sunday morning. *What do you think Croftlands Community Church would look like if we were all truly 'one in spirit and of one mind,' and if we all valued others above ourselves?*

Suggestions for Prayer

Mervyn reminded us of the importance of being still, especially when we are the kind of person who tends to rush from one thing to the next! *Spend a few minutes as a group being still and silent before God.*



Mervyn also spoke to us about the Jewish people, who he described as the royal family among the nations. They still carry the blessing given to Abraham all those thousands of years ago, meaning that they have never been - and *will* never be - forgotten by God.

Spend some time in prayer for the country of Israel using the following pointers:

Pray for protection from the ongoing threat of war and terrorism in the country.

Thank God for the ways in which Israel is leading the way with their scientific, medical, technical and conservation work.

Pray for a deep unity in the spirit among all believers in Israel that allows for an effective working together, regardless of political ideologies.

Pray for the protection and effectiveness of ministries within and outside Israel that are reaching out to Jewish people with the good news of Jesus Christ, discipling new believers and establishing congregations.

Pray that Christians around the world will be bold in their advocacy and prayers for Israel.