

Sermon Notes

Legacy is really about life and living. It's about learning from the past, living in the present, and building for the future. It helps us decide the kind of life we want to live and the kind of world in which we want to live.

Blessed to Be a Blessing - Genesis 12:1-3 - ¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and **I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.** ³**I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**"

Joseph's Dreams - Genesis 37:5-8 - ⁵Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. ⁶He said to them, "Listen to this dream that I dreamed. ⁷There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it, and bowed down to my sheaf." ⁸His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

What dreams has God given you that will shape your legacy?

Joseph in Egypt - Genesis 39:1-2a, 3-4, 6b-8a - Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. ²**The LORD was with Joseph,** and he became a successful man.... ³His master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. ⁴So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had.... Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!" ⁸But he refused.

Faith is birthed in God's presence.

The Lord was with Joseph - Genesis 39:20-22: - ²⁰But while Joseph was there in the prison, ²¹**the Lord was with him;** he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. ²²So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there.

Joseph's Release - Genesis 40:14-15, 23 - ¹⁴But remember me when it is well with you; please do me the kindness to make mention of me to Pharaoh, and so get me out of this place. ¹⁵For in fact I was stolen out of the land of the Hebrews; and here also I have done nothing that they should have put me into the dungeon." ²³Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Faith continues regardless of circumstances.

From Prison to Prime Minister - Genesis 41:39-41 - ³⁹Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you." ⁴¹So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."

Faith moves from inspiration to action.

A Faithful Legacy - Genesis 45:4-8 - "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. ⁸So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt."

Many people overestimate what they can do in the short run and underestimate what they can do in the long haul of a faithful life.

Building a Spiritual House - I Peter 2:4-5, 9 - ⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Building a legacy of faithfulness requires a heart of faith.

Things I would like to remember from today's sermon: _____
