

Genesis—Sunday Morning Series Overview

Embarrassing Ancestors and Our Glorious Hope

Genesis is all about God making an extravagantly gorgeous Creation to declare His glory and the horror of our ancestors' rebellion against His kingly rule. It was written to remind us of our good God's promise to undo all the terror that our treason has wrought. It shows us our ancestors' faltering walk of faith and His faithful care for them, all the while paving the way for the coming King who would deliver us from ourselves and all who oppose our good God. The New Heavens and Earth will perfectly declare His praise.

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide you:

Remember! God has remained faithful to us. Remember His mercy and do not forget His loving-kindness throughout the ages.

Rejoice in Christ's Favor. Christ is even now rejoicing over us as God's people. Give Him praise and glory for all that He does.

Repent for Taking Him for Granted. Turn from other sources of comfort and look to Christ alone.

The Life of Faith—Sunday Evenings in Hebrews

Rooted in God's Promises & Running to New Jerusalem

The book of *Hebrews* was written to encourage and exhort God's people who were tempted to turn back from the gospel. They were reminded that the promise of salvation comes through the Son who reveals His Father's glory and provides Sabbath rest. This is the basis for the Christian hope as we await the New Jerusalem whose architect has secured our resurrection life in the eternal city of peace.

Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional
First Congregational Church of Woodstock

Pastor Doug Warren
October 13th, 2019

Morning Service:

Genesis 40 – 41

Joseph – Interpreter of Dreams

1. Joseph Understands God Is the King of History.
2. God Will Not Forget His People.
3. Jesus Remembers Us Still.

This passage starts out with Joseph forgotten in the confines of another pit like the one into which his brothers threw him. He is used by God to bring blessing to others, but they too forget him. In God's timing he is not only remembered, but brought to Pharaoh himself where he testifies to the sovereignty of the true King. Even now Jesus is seated at the right hand of majesty interceding on our behalf so that we are remembered as coheirs with Christ.

Evening Service:

Hebrews 11: 17 – 26

Resurrection Faith

1. We All Face The Terror of Death.
2. Do You Believe that God Can Raise the Dead?
3. We Are Called to Face Death with Resurrection Faith.

God has promised that there is more to life than a span of days. He guarantees eternal life in Christ. How does this work? What did our spiritual fathers and mothers teach us in the way they lived and died? How are we to trust Christ in our daily lives because of the power and reality of resurrection?

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Joseph is given an extraordinary gift. Ultimately it is not for him. In fact it brings him a great deal of suffering. But the sovereign God of all things works through his dreams and dream interpreting to bless Pharaoh, Egypt, and the whole world. How has He gifted us and for whose benefit? How do we trust Christ in using these gifts?

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Ask Christ to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday AM

READ **Genesis 40-41; First Timothy 6:13-16**. DISCUSS, What comfort is there in knowing that God is the sovereign King of all History? Is it just wishful thinking? How do you know? Why does the King get to determine the timing of things? REST today as you meditate on God's complete sovereignty. THANK God for His faithfulness to His promises.

Sunday PM

READ tonight's passage: **Hebrews 11:17-26**. DISCUSS, What difference would it make if there was no resurrection? Is it evident from your life that you are counting completely on Christ's promised resurrection? How are you tempted to hedge your bets? PRAISE God for the certainty of Christ's resurrection.

Monday

READ **Genesis 40:1-23**. DISCUSS, Have you ever felt forgotten like Joseph? How does the gospel show us that God has not forgotten us? PRAY for God to reveal to us how we might serve others in His name. Ask Him to reveal to us more deeply our desperate need for Christ.

Tuesday

READ **Genesis 41:1-13**. DISCUSS, How long does Joseph wait in jail? Who gives Pharaoh his dreams? Who is there to interpret the dreams? PRAY, "Lord, help us to know with certainty Your absolute control over all history. Teach us to trust You fully and completely. Help us to wait on Your perfect timing.

Wednesday

READ **Genesis 41:14-36**. DISCUSS, What did God reveal to Pharaoh? Who benefitted? How does this fit with the promise to Abraham? Who brings plenty and/or famine? Why is this the case? How does our trust in Christ demonstrate this? PRAY, Ask God to enable us to trust Him in difficult circumstances.

Thursday

READ **Genesis 41:37-57; Daniel 2:46-49**. DISCUSS, How do these to passages compare? What is the significance of God's people being placed in positions of authority in pagan nations? PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for being our faithful King."

Friday

READ **Genesis 40-41**. DISCUSS, What has God been teaching from this passage this week? PRAY thanking the Lord for His faithfulness to us.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the gathered worship service tomorrow. Do what you can *today* so that you will be less rushed tomorrow.

READ **Genesis 40-41**. Come to worship tomorrow expecting to hear from God through His Word and to learn more about our God together. Pray for FCCW to continue to grow.

First Timothy 6: 13 – 16

"I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen."