III. HELP OTHERS WHO ARE STILL IN THE PIT (50:21)

A. Help others with their failures (v 21a).

"I Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:1-2

B. Help others with your resources (v 21b).

"19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:19-21

C. Help others with your words (v 21c).

"A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, But perverseness in it breaks the spirit." Proverbs 15:4

"He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit." I Peter 3:10

Pit To Pinnacle Character Trait: Generosity

JOSEPH – FROM PIT TO PINNACLE What To Do When You Are Back On Top Pastor Steve Reynolds

@FB.com/SteveKReynolds @twitter.com/pastorsreynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Discover how Joseph from the Old Testament went from the pit of disappointment to the pinnacle of success and how God can do the same in your life. This six part series features the following messages:

Aug 16	What To Do On The Worst Day Of Your Life
Aug 23	What To Do When Temptation Comes Knocking
Aug 30	What To Do When You Are Stabbed In The Back
Sep 6	What To Do When You Feel Forgotten
Sep 13	What To Do When It All Goes Wrong
TODAY	What To Do When You Are Back On Top

B. TEXT: Genesis 50:15-21 (Pew Bible/Pg. 34/Old Test)

Pit To Pinnacle Character Trait:

Generosity

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARE BACK ON TOP

- I. FORGIVE THOSE WHO PUT YOU IN THE PIT (50:15-19a)
 - **A.** Unforgiveness will trouble you (vs 15-18).

"looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;"

Hebrews 12:15

Four Reasons To Forgive:

- Bitterness will trouble you mentally.

 "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." Proverbs 15:17
- Bitterness will trouble you physically.

 "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." Proverbs 17:22
- Bitterness will trouble you emotionally.

 "The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?"

 Proverbs 18:14

Bitterness will trouble you spiritually.

"26:Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27: Neither give place to the devil."

Ephesians 4:26-27

- **B.** Forgiveness will set you free (v 19a).
 - "30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

 Ephesians 4:30-32

II. PRAISE GOD FOR GETTING YOU OUT OF THE PIT (50:19b-20)

A. Praise God for His timing (v 19b).

"I To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:

3...A time to break down, And a time to build up; 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. ..." Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3b, 11a

"As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him." Psalm 18:30

B. Praise God for His teachings (v 20).

"Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren,"

Deuteronomy 4:9

"3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope." Romans 5:3-4