

Forgiveness: Redeeming Life's Nightmares

September 25, 2022

Text: *Genesis 45:1-8, 50:15-20*

The Healing Perspective

- God is _____ us.
- God is working out His _____.
- God even uses _____ to accomplish His purpose.

The Blindness of Bitterness

- Bent on payback, we're blind to God's _____.
- When payback is the _____, everything's a _____.

The Forgiving Heart's Best Practices

- Live _____.
- Resolve to not add to the world's _____.
- _____ God's interventions.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- From your perspective, what are some of the worst real-life nightmares that involve the need for forgiveness?
- Why do you think our perspective is essential to the redemption of life's nightmares?
- When Joseph's brothers were working out their evil intent, where was God? What was God doing?
- Why do you think God chooses to work quietly rather than dramatically in most situations? How does that complicate the process of forgiveness?
- How do you think Joseph's story would be different if he were blinded by bitterness?
- Which of the forgiving heart's best practices do find most difficult? Most helpful?
- How does forgiveness speak a better future – a future of life, love, and hope – into existence? What future does bitterness envision? Which future do you prefer?
- When have you found it difficult to see God's interventions? What helps you recognize them?