

Genesis 37 — THE FAMILY

Warm-Up Question:

Share one of your favorite traditions when with the family at Christmas, whether now or when you were growing up.

READ: Genesis 37:1-36

I. THE FAMILY: A MONTLEY CREW

- ▶ Describe some of the dysfunction in this family, with Jacob, with Joseph, and with Joseph's brothers.
- ▶ What does it say about Christianity that the founding fathers are so sinful?

II. THE FAMILY: A FATHER AT WORK

- ▶ Read WCF 5.1 to the right. How do you see God at work in this story? How did God use for good what they intended for evil?
- ▶ What are some of the things that have happened in your life where it is difficult to trust God's providence?

III. THE FAMILY: A DIVINE RESCUE

- ▶ What are some of the similarities between Joseph and Jesus?
- ▶ How does the work of Jesus guarantee that you can be in God's family?
- ▶ Do you know you are in God's family? If so, how do you know?

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

God the great Creator of all things doth uphold, direct, dispose, and govern all creatures, actions, and things, from the greatest even to the least, by his most wise and holy providence, according to his infallible foreknowledge, and the free and immutable counsel of his own will, to the praise of the glory of his wisdom, power, justice, goodness, and mercy.

Westminster Confession of Faith 5.1

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