

Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC.....	Pastor Phill
WORSHIP VIDEO	King of Kings
PRAYER	
UPDATES	Pastor Phill
CHILDREN'S TALK.....	Apphia and Hannah
WORSHIP VIDEO.....	Blessed Assurance
BIBLE READING	Genesis 39:1-20
MESSAGE	Taught by Pastor Phill
WORSHIP VIDEO.....	I will trust my Saviour Jesus



Through the Storm ~1
 The choice we face in the storms of life
 Genesis 39:1-20

"My own experience is something like this, I'm progressing along the path of life, in my ordinary contentedly fallen and godless condition absorbed in a merry meeting with my friends for the morrow or a bit of work that tickles my vanity, a holiday or a new book, when suddenly a stab of abdominal pain that threatens serious disease, or perhaps a headline in the newspaper that threatens all of us with destruction, sends this whole pack of cards tumbling down. At first I'm overwhelmed, and all my little happinesses look like broken toys, but then slowly and reluctantly bit by bit, I try to bring myself into the frame of mind that I should be in at all times. I remind myself that all these toys were never intended to possess my heart, that my true good is in another world and my only real treasure is Christ. And perhaps, by God's grace, I succeed, and for a day or two, I become a creature consciously dependent on God and drawing its strength from the right sources. But the moment that threat is withdrawn, my whole nature leaps back to the toys. God has had me for but 48 hours and then only by dint of taking everything else away from me. But let Him sheathe that sword for a moment, and I behave like a puppy that when the hated bath is over, if you have dogs, you know exactly where this is going, I behave like a puppy that when the hated bath is over, I shake myself as dry as I can and I race off to reacquire my comfortable dirtiness, if not in the nearest manure heap, at least in the nearest flower bed." C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain.

- It is human _____ to return to bad habits once the _____ associated with those bad habits is _____.
- What have I been doing that almost led to my _____?
- What should I _____ doing now?
- Our superpower: The instinctive ability that _____ you to be better for _____ that _____ your way or _____ your way.
- We didn't _____ the pandemic, it _____ us. But it left us with _____.
- Our superpower: our _____-ability.
- The response that has the potential to reverse the natural course of things, isn't _____.

- **Never _____ the power of a _____ response.**

'You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.' Genesis 50:20 NIV

'Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.' Genesis 37:26-27 NIV

'Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.' Genesis 39:1 NIV

'The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, Joseph found favour in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph.' Genesis 39:2-5 NIV

- **Joseph _____, as if God was _____ him when it looked as if God had _____ him.**
- **How would someone in our circumstances _____, if they like Joseph, were _____ that God was _____ them?**

'Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"' Genesis 39:7 NIV

'But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. No-one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even to be with her.' Genesis 39:8-10 NIV

'Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined.' Genesis 39:20 NIV



SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

1. Where have you felt the most pressure during this season? Financially? Relationally? Spiritually? Something else?
2. Is there anything you should have been doing that would have better prepared you for what you are currently experiencing?
3. Did you grow up assuming if God was with you, things would go well for you? Or something similar?
4. Who do you respect most? Why? Does it have anything to do with their response to adversity?
5. Read Genesis 39:1–20. What stands out to you about this passage? What circumstances happened to Joseph that were out of his control? What are some of the natural responses Joseph could have had to those circumstances?
6. Is there anything you would do (or would have done) differently if you were confident God was with you?
7. Is there an area where you are reacting as expected rather than exercising your "responsibility"?
8. Pastor Phill said, 'Never underestimate the power of a measured response. We have no idea what hangs in the balance of our decision to respond rather than react to events we did not choose. Our responses can make us better.' Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Watch us on



Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch.