



When storms come your way, just remember you know the Master of the wind, when sickness finds you, just remind yourself you know the Great Physician, when your heart gets broken, just say I know the Potter. It doesn't matter what we face or go through, Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He is everything we need.

The older we get and the more experience we get, "under our belts," the more we come to realize that our lives of faith don't protect us from adversity. We still suffer pain and heartbreak. In fact, these moments very often "make us" as Christians and confirm for us the power and presence of God. We continue to have hope in Christ and the promise of his salvation because we have experienced his healing presence during our most difficult moments. We rejoice in this hope because we have endured affliction and persevered in prayer. We believe because we have seen that Jesus on the cross is a model for our own crosses, and we know we are never alone. That, above all, is a reason for hope. (taken from "Season of Hope" devotion book)

Servant minded

hope filled

clear about our purpose – make disciples for Christ.

The points from last week's sermon.

August 13, 2023

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

¹ O give thanks to the LORD; call on God's name;
make known God's deeds among the peoples.

² **Sing to the Lord, sing praises!**

Tell of all God's wonderful works.

³ Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ **Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek the Lord's presence continually.**

⁵ Remember the wonderful works God has done,
his miracles and the judgments God has uttered,

⁶ **O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**

¹⁶ When God summoned famine against the land
and cut off every supply of bread,

¹⁷ **God sent a man ahead of them,
Joseph, who had been sold as a slave.**

¹⁸ His feet were hurt with fetters;
his neck was put in a collar of iron;

¹⁹ **until what he had said came to pass,
the word of the LORD kept testing him.**

²⁰ The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free.

²¹ **He made him lord of his house
and ruler of all his possessions,**

²² **to instruct his officials at his pleasure
and to teach his elders wisdom.**

⁴⁵ **Praise the Lord!**

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Now Jacob dwelt in the land where his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan. ²This is the history of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also, he made him a tunic of many colors. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹²Then his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers feeding the flock in Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." So he said to him, "Here I am." ¹⁴Then he said to him, "Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me." So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he went to Shechem. ¹⁵Now a certain man found him, and there he was, wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶So he said, "I am seeking my brothers. Please tell me where they are feeding their flocks." ¹⁷And the man said, "They have departed from here, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan. ¹⁸Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹Then they said to one another, "Look, this dreamer is coming! ²⁰Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, 'Some wild beast has devoured him.' We shall see what will become of his dreams!" ²¹But Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands, and said, "Let us not kill him." ²²And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit which is in the wilderness, and do not lay a hand on him"—that he might deliver him out of their hands, and bring him back to his father. ²³So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him. ²⁴Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their

camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt. ²⁶So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh." And his brothers listened. ²⁸Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.