9-WEEK STUDY ON THRIVING IN EXILE

WEEK 2

Exile: There's No Place Like Home

Joseph

WEEKLY READING

Primary text from this week: Genesis 37, 39, 40, 41 Secondary text from this week: 1 Peter 2:11-12

Read ahead for next week: Exodus 1-15

GETTING STARTED

Goals for this session: To understand that, as aliens, our allegiance to Jesus demands that we do the right thing even when it would be easier to do the wrong thing.

Missed the sermon? Watch it at www.youtube.com/venturamissionary

Break the Ice: Who is one person who has had a significant influence in your life? What is it about that person that impacted you so profoundly?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1. What was one thing was meaningful to you from Pastor Doug's message?
- 2. As you think about Joseph's story, what stood out about his life, his challenges, or his eventual success?
- 3. Pastor Doug talked about the fact that Joseph refused to compromise with Potiphar's wife. What are some of the ways that people are tempted to "get close to the line?"
- 4. Read **James 4:4.** What do you think this verse has to do with Pastor Doug's message? What do you think James means when he talks about being a "friend of the world?"
- 5. Pastor Doug talked about the importance of having someone in your life who has "permission to pry." Do you have someone like that in your life? Why or why not?
- 6. Read 1 Peter 2:11-12 and compare it to Jesus' words in Matthew 5:14-16 and answer the following questions:

What similarities and differences do you notice between the two passages?

What do these passages tell you about how our actions influence the people around us?

Do you agree that our "good deeds" cause others to glorify God? How have you found that to be true in your experience?

ALIENS



WEEK 2

PRAY

Pray for each other: Have the group leader or a volunteer pray for each group member to resist the temptation to compromise this week.

Pray on your own: Ask God to show you one area of your life where you have been compromising your integrity. Ask for the Holy Spirit's help to be an overcomer.

ACTION STEPS

If you don't already have a trusted accountability partner in your life to whom you've given "permission to pry," identify someone you can trust and ask them to be your "accountability partner."

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