



The Making of a Leader

Genesis 37

OPEN

What are the characteristics of a good leader (be it in a home, community or work environment)?

Do you think of yourself as a leader? Why or why not?

DISCUSS

To familiarize yourself with Joseph, have someone read (or share the reading) of Genesis 37.

- What did Joseph have going for him (Gen 37:3)?
- Why would this have been significant for Joseph as the 11th born son in a family?
- What do observe about Joseph's character as a young man (37:7)?
- What was the result of Joseph's arrogance within his family (37:4, 8, 18-28)?

"Leaders are made, in part, by somebody who truly believed in their potential."

- Who has invested themselves into your life over your years?
- As you reflect, how has your life been impacted by the ripples of their influence in your life?
- In whom have you invested in your lifetime?
- Are you investing in someone now? How?

Do you believe God can use a leader from any background? Why was Joseph an unlikely person to become a great leader?

Do you believe people (leaders) must experience brokenness as part of their development in life (and for fulfilling God's purposes for them)? Why or why not?

How have you been broken in your life? What has been the result (good or not so good)?

Summary: Leadership Lessons from this Study

1. "Leadership is a potent combination of two things: Character and strategy. But if you have to be without one, relinquish strategy." --General Norman Schwarzkopf
2. "One person can make a difference, and everyone should try." --John F. Kennedy Jr.
3. Leaders are made, in part, by SOMEBODY who truly believed in their potential.
4. God can make a *technicolor* leader from any background.
5. Before God can MAKE a leader, there are things he may need to BREAK.

NEXT STEPS

- Reflect on the leadership lessons from this study.
- Read the whole story of Joseph (Genesis 37-50) each week during this series.
- Ask yourself if you really believe you can be a leader/influencer for God's good--right where you are now.
- Ask someone who knows you well this question: *What, if it was finally broken or changed, would make me an even better influence in the lives of others?*