

The Master of Dreams: Redemption

Dreams change lives.

- Changes families.
- Change the world.

For Joseph the dream had been fulfilled. **The reality is even bigger.**

- Reconciliation is on the way.
- But there one last thing: redemption.

I love the story of Joseph but in many ways it's just as much someone else's story.

- There's one brother who features more prominently than the others. He gets his own chapter.
- **That brother is Judah.**

It's Judah's idea to sell Joseph.

- And while everything is going on with Joseph Judah had his own pain to deal with.
 - Judah's two oldest son's are killed.
 - Out of fear he refuses to give their wife Tamar to his youngest son.
 - She disguises herself and ends up pregnant to Judah and gives birth to twins.

Who was right?

- Tamar did the right thing. Judah did the wrong thing.
- Righteousness is relational faithfulness - not strict morality

Judah is growing and his moment of redemption draws near.

The brother's have traveled a second time to Egypt.

- Joseph is messing with them and conspiring a situation that seems all too familiar.
- A favourite son can be sold for their benefit. Benjamin stays in Egypt and the rest are free to go.
- The last time this happened the brother's gladly chose to break their fathers heart.
- But this time it's different.

Genesis 44 14 Joseph was still in the house when Judah and his brothers came in, and they threw themselves to the ground before him. 15 Joseph said to them, “What is this you have done? Don’t you know that a man like me can find things out by divination?” 16 “What can we say to my lord?” Judah replied. “What can we say? How can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered your servants’ guilt. We are now my lord’s slaves—we ourselves and the one who was found to have the cup.”

[Joseph says only Benjamin must stay - the others are free]

30 “So now, if the boy is not with us when I go back to your servant my father, and if my father, whose life is closely bound up with the boy’s life, 31 sees that the boy isn’t there, he will die. Your servants will bring the gray head of our father down to the grave in sorrow. 32 Your servant guaranteed the boy’s safety to my father. I said, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, I will bear the blame before you, my father, all my life!’ 33 “Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord’s slave in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers. 34 How can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? No! Do not let me see the misery that would come on my father.”

Judah steps in and says I will give my life so that Benjamin can go free.

- This is his redemption.
- This is what breaks Joseph's heart. He knows his brothers have changed. He sees the men they've become.
- He knows the dream God had given him has transformed him and his brothers. That’s the power of pursuing a God-given Dream.

What will happen if you pursue your God-given Dream?

- You will overcome evil in confrontation
 - Not easy, but you will be like God.
- You will bring healing and salvation.
 - It’s never ending but you will change the world.
- You will bring reconciliation.
 - It’s legitimately painful but you will
- You will bring redemption.
 - When we pursue our God given dream we give others the chance to be redeemed.
 - **Without Joseph’s obedience, there was no second chance for Judah.**

Conclusion

People can grow.

People can change through their own pain.

People can be redeemed.

- In different seasons you will be Joseph or Judah.
- Sometimes you'll be both.

Pursue who God has called you to be

Encounter evil

Overcome it

And others will have their second chance

ENM pursue who God has called you to be, pursue the dream God has for you.

- It's not just about you. It never was.
- Pursue, fulfill, reconcile and give other's the redemption they need.
- (Story of how I've facilitated redemption: Mike)

Judah gives way to someone from his tribe: Jesus.

- Jesus pursues his dream.
- Confronting evil. Bringing healing.
- Always meant to be king.
 - And King he is on the cross
 - The king of reconciliation and redemption.