

Reuben and the other brothers' source of despair were different but similar. How so? How were their responses to their despair different? Think back on moments of despair in your life related to sin – your sin or someone else's. How did you respond and why?

Jacob and Joseph's source of despair were different but similar. How so? How were their responses to their despair different? (You may need to read ahead in Genesis to get a better picture of Joseph's response). Think back on moments of despair in your life that were related to circumstances or choices outside of your control. How did you respond and why?

3. APPLY THE TRUTH

Are you experiencing despair in any area of your life right now? If so, what is the source of that despair and how can you apply the Gospel to help you come through it? Use the four questions tied to the four types of despair to help assess your life and heart in this area. Ask a fellow Small Group member to pray with you over this area of despair.



THE PIT OF DESPAIR

Genesis 37:12-36

May 4, 2025

GOD IS NEVER _____, AND HE IS ALWAYS WORKING.

I. I despair when _____ feels absent. – v. 18-36

1. The Brothers' Despair – Where is God in my _____?

Trust God to bring about His _____.

2. Reuben's Despair – Where is God in my _____?

Trust God to _____ His way.

3. Jacob's Despair – Where is God in my _____?

Trust God to _____ in His time.

4. Joseph's Despair – Where is God in my _____?

Trust God to work every circumstance out for His _____ and our good.

II. Christ Connection

III. Gospel Application

God is working even in the _____
of our lives for His glory and our good.

God is always working so I can turn from despair to _____.

Stewardship Report:

Last Week: \$11,658

This Month: \$45,987

Last Month: \$65,446

Monthly Budget: \$51,012



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THE PIT OF DESPAIR

May 4, 2025

Genesis 37:12-36

1. CONNECT TO THE TEXT

Do you think despair in our society is on the rise, decline or stable and why? What evidence can you give for your opinion? How can we as believers help combat despair in our circles? What are our best tools/ways to do that?

2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

Read Genesis 37:12-36. What evidence of God's presence and providence do you see in this text? How/why did each person fail to see God's hand working in the moment? (The Brothers, Reuben, Jacob, Joseph) How did this failure to believe God was at work in their circumstances impact their lives/response? Looking back on your life, where can you see now that God was working but didn't see it then?

