

Sunday, November 15, 2020 - "Average Joe - Week 7: From Pain Has Power" - Kevin Dupree

Key Passages: Genesis 42:1-26, Hebrews 12:14-15, John 8:36, 1 Peter 5:10

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Genesis 42:1-26
 - Pain has power...to dictate who we trust, who we love, how we think
 - What pain has power in your life?
- Joseph's brothers were still stuck on the pain they had caused (they thought that was the reason for everything going wrong in their lives)
- Pain does one of two things
 - It can keep us down/hold us back
 - Or it can prompt us to pursue success and achievement in our own strength (Thinking we can turn what was meant for evil into good instead of God)
- Root of Bitterness
 - Hebrews 12:14-15
 - Bitterness = anger and disappointment at being treated unfairly, resentment
- Joseph knew how to get the most of what God took him through
- **God's dream can't come to pass in bitterness** - Kevin Dupree
 - Joseph eventually saw the dream that God gave him come true
 - Not just the good life, the God life
 - Some of us would rather go to our grave holding a grudge than saying, "God have your full way in me"
- WE struggle with the fear of being hurt again
 - Some things we aren't willing to do
 - But God will help us through it
- Joseph remembered the dream and not just the pain
 - Mind stayed on God and not focused on the pain
 - What is driving your life? Pain or God's glory?
 - Joseph didn't forgive right on the spot
 - Had to do the heart work
 - Can't wait until it shows up to process it and work through it
- Some of us look awesome, but deep down there is pain
 - Are we willing to forgive?
 - There is a purpose and a plan to the healing process
 - 1 Peter 5:10 - God is the one who does the restoring (like he did with Joseph)
- John 8:36
 - Will you let Him do the heart work?
 - BE FREE

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What pain has power in your life today? How does it affect you?
2. What has God taught you about a root of bitterness towards Him or towards others?
3. What would it look like for your life to be driven by God's glory instead of pain?
4. How is God asking you to engage in what's going on deep down?
5. Talk about a time when God took you the process of healing and restoration? What was it like? What did you learn?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Psalm 119:1-48 Tues: Psalm 119:49-88 Wed: Psalm 119:89-136 Thurs: Psalm 119:137-176 Fri: Psalm 120

Songs from the weekend: [Mountaintops - *The Belonging Co*] - [Everlasting God - William Murphy] - [Endless Alleluia - Bethel Music] - [Praises (Be Lifted Up) - Bethel Music]