



## TIC Connect Group Discussion Guide

14-20 July 2019 | Genesis 37-45

**The Message.** God is sovereign over history and over our lives. Evil deeds of humans do not make His plan fail. Trust in God – that He is in control.

**Context.** Egypt was a large and thriving kingdom for at least a thousand years before Joseph came. The Egyptians were wealthy and had massive natural resources. They were educated and had no real enemies at the time. Guzik.

### Observation & Meaning

1. What is God’s sovereign plan (37:1-10)?
  - a. What does the way Joseph responds to God’s plan tell us about his issue?
  - b. Read 37:2 and 41:46. How long does it take for the plan to come to pass?
2. Observe what evil deeds do humans do and what does God do to overtake it.

What evil deeds do humans do?	What does God do to overtake evil?
37:18-19: _____.	37:21-22: _____. 37:23-24: _____.
Reuben could have simply rose up and said, “This is wrong! We can’t do this!” He didn’t because though he wanted to do right by Joseph without alienating his brothers and his desire to be nice to everyone failed to prevent a great evil. Guzik.	
37:25-28: _____.	37:28,36: _____. 39:2-6: _____.
Later, Gen. 42:21 described the conviction of sin they ignored at that moment. ... the brothers said: <i>We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us.</i> When Joseph was cast into the pit, he pled with his brothers, and they ignored his cries as they ate their meal. Guzik.	
39:7-20: _____.	39:21-23: _____. 40:1-22: _____.
The dominating theme is that Joseph succeeded because of the blessing of God. The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man (Gen.39:2). His master saw that the Lord was with him and ... the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand (Gen.39:3). The Lord blessed the Egyptian’s	

house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had (Gen.39:5). Guzik.	
40:23: _____.	41:8-9 : _____.
	40:39-41: _____.

3. How is Joseph's character and his relationships with God proven?
  - a. 39:3 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. 39:9 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. 40:6-7 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. 41:16 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. 50:18-21 : \_\_\_\_\_.
4. How does God prepare Joseph for his mission?
  - a. 39:2-6 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. 39:21-23 : \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. 41:39-43 : \_\_\_\_\_.

### Application

5. ECF. How can disappointment in life affect our character, perspective, and relationship with God?
6. Christ-Centeredness. Read 50:20. What is God's plan behind all of these?
7. Why we should not be bitter against God?
8. How does this understanding affirm our hope in Jesus Christ?

### Insight

God may certainly speak through dreams and many passages of Scripture show this (Gen. 20:3; 28:12; 31:11; 31:24; Num. 12:6; 1 Sam. 28:6; Joel 2:28; Mt. 1:20; 2:13; 2:22). However, not every dream is a revelation from God. We must be careful about putting too much weight on dreams. First, dreams can come just because our minds are busy: A dream comes through much activity... For in the multitude of dreams and many words there is also vanity. (Eccl. 5:3, 5:7). Second, the Bible warns that false prophets might use dreams to give weight to their message (Deut. 13:1-5, Jer. 23:25-28). Guzik.

### Resources

Guzik, David. *Genesis*. Enduring Word Commentary. Enduring Word Media, 2012.