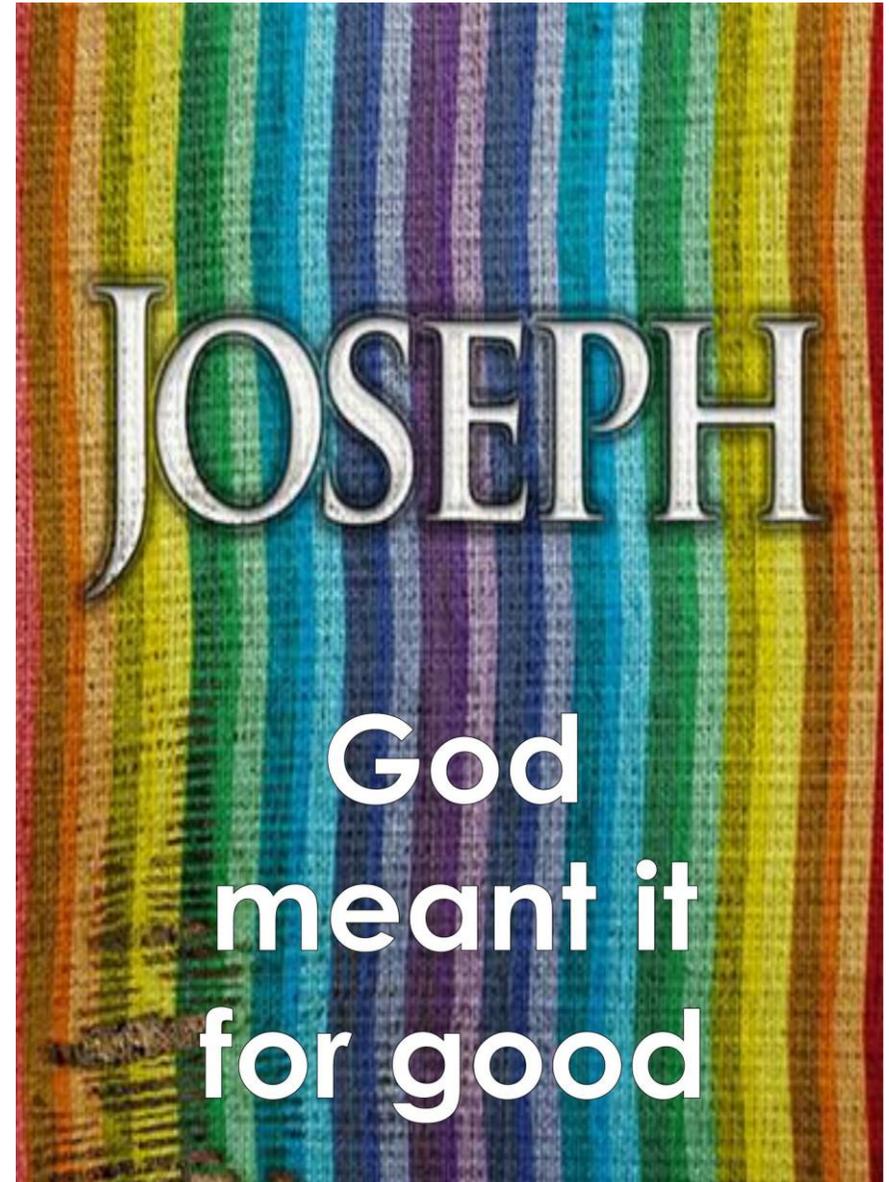


Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>“For I know the plans I have for you”</b> Genesis 41
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>“When God calls, he equips”</b> Genesis 41:37-57
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>“A Family Crisis”</b> Genesis 42: 1-38
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	<b>“Total Forgiveness”</b> Genesis 42:17-38
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>“We are family”</b> Genesis 42-43
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>“The Great Invitation”</b> Genesis 42-43
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>“An attitude problem”</b> Genesis 44
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>“Reconciled, I’m reconciled”</b> Genesis 45
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	<b>“Amazing Grace”</b> Genesis 45:16-28
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>“An encounter with God”</b> Genesis 46:1-30
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>“Blessed to be a blessing”</b> Genesis 46:1-34, 47:1-27
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	<b>“God meant it for good”</b> Genesis 50:11-26



**Viewfield Baptist Church, Dunfermline**

**Sermon Series  
February – September 2019**

Any regular attendee at School concerts will have heard countless renditions of 'Any dream will do!' Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice's musical 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' has certainly brought awareness of Joseph's name to contemporary society - but has it contributed to our understanding of the historical Joseph, and his role in the Bible's big picture?

The Bible Story of Joseph, from the Book of Genesis, is one of heroic redemption and forgiveness. Joseph was the most loved son of his father, Israel, and was given the famous robe of many colours. When Joseph reported having dreams of his brothers, and even the stars and moon, bowing before him, their jealousy of Joseph grew into action. The brothers sold him into slavery to a traveling caravan of Ishmaelites who took him to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh's guard.

In Egypt, the Lord's presence with Joseph enables him to find favour with Potiphar and the keeper of the prison. With God's help, Joseph interprets the dreams of two prisoners, predicting that one of them will be reinstated but the other put to death. Joseph then interprets the dreams of the Pharaoh, which anticipate seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh recognizes Joseph's God-given ability and prompts his promotion to the chief administrator of Egypt.

Shortage of food in Canaan forces Jacob to send his sons to buy grains from the Egyptians. Benjamin, Joseph's younger brother remains at home as Jacob fears of losing him, as he did Joseph. When Joseph finally encounters his brothers again, he deliberately conceals his identity. He accuses them of being spies and tells them to return with Benjamin or he will not sell them grain. The ongoing famine forces Jacob to reluctantly send his sons back to Egypt with Benjamin, and they are unexpectedly invited to dine at Joseph's house. Joseph then tests the character of his brothers by placing a silver cup in the sack of Benjamin and falsely accusing him of theft. When Judah offers to stay in place of Benjamin, Joseph knows that his character has changed and reveals that he is their brother. Joseph explains they need not feel guilty for betraying him as it was God's plan for him to be in Egypt to preserve his family.

He said to his brothers: **“You meant it for evil but God meant it for good.”**

He told them to bring their father and his entire household into Egypt to live in the province of Goshen because there were five more years of famine left. Joseph supplied them Egyptian transport wagons, new garments, silver, and twenty additional donkeys carrying provisions for the journey. Jacob is then joyously reunited with his son Joseph.

Throughout this story we see the hidden hand of God and we see that God was working all things together for good and for his glory.

Any glance at the first book of the Bible will show that, in terms of sheer space, the story of Joseph is of some considerable importance.

Although no tribe is named after him, and the Messiah is not descended from him, Joseph nonetheless occupies a crucial role in the Bible's drama of redemption. Ultimately Joseph's story is about God's intention to save, not just Joseph's family, but bringing, through Judah, a Saviour for the world.

Jesus taught us that the key to unlocking the whole Bible is to see it as a book about himself. Every story whispers his name.

As we study this story I trust we will learn more about the providential will of God and that ultimately God is working for our good. I hope you can join on this journey as we study this story together.

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**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

**“The Young Dreamer”**

Genesis 37:1-11

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

**“If you lack wisdom, ask for it”**

Genesis 37:1-11

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**“God has a plan”**

Genesis 37

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**“You meant it for evil, God meant it for good”**

Genesis 37:12-36

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

**“How to respond in difficult circumstances”**

Genesis 39

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**The 3 ‘R’s of temptation**

Genesis 39

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**“Coping when life stinks”**

Genesis 39

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

**“When the going gets tough”**

Genesis 40