

OUT OF THE PIT

WEEK 2 HOMEWORK

DAY 1

1. Read Genesis 37:12–36. What do verses 18–20 reveal about the root of Joseph’s brothers’ anger?
2. Imagine you are Joseph sitting in the pit while your brothers casually eat lunch and determine your fate above you. Write down a list of things you might be thinking/feeling.

DAY 2

1. Imagine you are one of the brothers telling Jacob the lie that his son was devoured by a wild animal. How do you think they felt in verses 34–35 as they witness his intense grief and try to comfort him?
2. Have you ever lived with a dark secret? Joseph’s brothers live with this secret for over 20 years! How do you imagine that would shape a person?

DAY 3

1. Read Genesis 37 again. Take a step back and consider what a life-changing event this is for Joseph.
2. Draw a timeline of your life in your journal. Write some of your major life events on that timeline, identifying

times of joy and success (“peaks”), as well as times of painful setbacks or suffering (“pits”).

3. We will revisit this timeline tomorrow, but for now, take a few minutes to write a prayer to God, asking him to give you his insight on both the peaks and pits you’ve experienced in your life.

DAY 4

1. Pull out your timeline from yesterday. As you look over the milestone events of your life, both good and bad, draw a circle around times in your life that God seemed to be absent.
2. Write out a prayer to God in your journal. Ask him to use this semester to heal any broken places in your relationship with him.

DAY 5

1. Copy Psalm 13 into your journal. Circle phrases that you can identify with from time you’ve spent in the pit.
2. David is clearly suffering and feeling as though God is absent, yet he ends his psalm with words of praise in verses 5–6. Do you get the impression that David might be exercising his faith *despite* his feelings?
3. Have you ever experienced the benefit of praising God even when you didn’t feel like it? Try writing verses 5–6 in your own words in your journal as a prayer of praise to God.