

# Living By Faith Not Sight

## “My Family Is A Hot Mess”

### Genesis 37:1-11

**EVERY family has Dysfunction it's just a matter of to What Degree.**

**Dysfunction Happens when the Home is NOT Functioning as GOD Intended.**

**Families Living in Dysfunction can make it Very Difficult to Live for God.**

**But as Joseph Proves, it's NOT Impossible...by Faith.**

#### **1. JOSEPH HAD IMPERFECT PARENTS.**

- Can you Imagine the TURMOIL in Joseph's Blended Family?
- Joseph's father, Jacob was a Weak, Ineffective Father & a Classic “Passive Parent.”
- Joseph “the Baby,” Born Late in Jacob's life was Clearly Favored.
- Jacob LOVED Joseph More & he Openly GAVE Joseph More. (v.3)
- Joseph became the HEIR of Jacob's estate.

#### **2. JOSEPH HAD IMPERFECT BROTHERS.**

- Joseph's Brothers HATED him. (vv. 4, 5, 11)
- They envy him for his COAT, their father's AFFECTION & even God's FAVOR.
- Parents must Learn that while they can't Deal with their kids Exactly Alike, they can Love them Equally & Treat them Fairly.

#### **3. JOSEPH HIMSELF WAS IMPERFECT.**

- Joseph was at the Very Least Naïve & may have been a Little Arrogant.
- He WORE his New Special COAT into the fields when he Checked on his Brothers.
- Joseph also Told his brothers about his Dreams of Superiority...
- We Can't Blame Ourselves for the Faults of Others BUT we must Be Real about our OWN Faults & Accept Responsibility.

- How can we APPLY this 1st Message in this series to our Own Lives?

**1. We must LEARN to Look at life in the Long Term.**

2. We must **BE FAITHFUL** to God, in spite of Family.
3. We must know God Wants to **HELP** us **Rise Above** the Negative, even in our **Own Families**. (Jeremiah 29:10-11)
4. We need to know that God **SPECIALIZES** in **Changing** us into His **image**, No Matter How we **Grew Up**.