

The 4 Loves
“Storge (familial)”
Exodus 20:12, Romans 8:28-30, John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:7-8
February 23, 2025

Sermon Points:

1. Genesis 37-50 – The Story of Joseph.

- A family that practiced deception.
- Joseph, Jacob’s favorite son, told his brothers about his dream that one day they would bow before him.
- History repeats itself; Jacob shows favoritism towards Joseph, much like Jacob’s parents showed favoritism.
- Plotting to kill Joseph, his 12 brothers decide to sell him to Ishmaelite traders. They deceive their father by taking Joseph’s coat and drenching it in goat’s blood.
- Joseph became the slave of Potiphar. But, **The Lord was with Joseph.** Joseph soon became Potiphar’s attendant (Genesis 39:2-6).
- Joseph fled due to seduction from Potiphar’s wife. He ended up in jail. Joseph gets placed in charge of the prisoners by the warden.
- Sometimes, it is through difficult times that God’s grace is revealed.

2. Joseph interprets Dreams.

- Joseph helps interpret the dreams of the Cupbearer and the Baker (Genesis 40).
- The Pharaoh calls for Joseph to interpret his dream. Joseph gives all credit to God for his interpretation. The interpretation is an upcoming famine. The Pharaoh then puts Joseph 2nd in command.

3. The Brothers go to Egypt.

- Joseph recognizes his brothers when they arrive to buy food for the clan.
- Joseph reveals himself to his brothers with weeping and embracing and kissing his brothers.
- The brothers lie to Joseph saying Jacob asked for the brothers to be forgiven.
- Joseph forgives his brothers and assures them that he will provide for them and their families (Genesis 50:15-21)

4. Storge Love

- It is the ability to offer reconciliation.
- We as a church have been called to be a family.
- “Holding a grudge is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die”

