

God is in control.

Lesson for Sunday, January 4, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

- ⇒ Happy New Year! What could 2026 hold for us as a church? Or for you as an individual? Or for your family? Or for your career or relationships?
- ⇒ If there is one thing we know for certain at beginning of a new year, it is that we have no clue what this year may hold. That thought is a little unsettling, isn't it?
- ⇒ But there is another fact – established clearly in the Word of God – that Christians must cling to. God is sovereign. God is in control.

BIBLE STUDY:

1. The _____ Life of Joseph
 - a. Division 1 – _____ to Egypt (Genesis 37)
 - b. Division 2 – _____ in Egypt (Genesis 39-40)
 - c. Division 3 – _____ of Egypt (chapters 41-50)
 - i. The climax of Joseph's story comes in the last chapters of Genesis. After a life of mistreatment, disappointment and endless tragedy, the tide finally appears to be turning when Joseph's brothers appear in his presence seeking food.
 - ii. In chapter 45 when Joseph finally reveals himself to his brothers. Instead of revenge, he shows great insight into God's sovereignty in his life. Read verses 4-9 and point out the following phrases:
 1. Vs. 5 – "for God did send me"
 2. Vs. 7 – "God sent me"
 3. Vs. 8 – "but God"
 4. Vs. 9 – "God hath made me"
2. The _____ of God's Sovereignty
 - a. Joseph's life is a powerful reminder that God is always in control even when it seems like He is not.
 - b. There are three truths that we need to remember from Joseph's life in relation to God's sovereignty.
 - c. First, God is sovereign over _____.
 - i. God's purpose was not dependent on people, and it could not be deterred by people.
 - ii. How does it make you feel to know that God is not dependent on you for His purposes?
 - iii. Is it possible that God has put certain people in your life (that you might not like) that He is using to fulfill His purpose in your life?
 - d. Second, God is sovereign over _____.

- i. God used and caused events to accomplish His purpose in Joseph's life.
 - ii. When circumstances don't seem right, we typically stress out. But just like Joseph, we have the same promise of God's presence.
 - iii. What difference would it make in your life if you could remember that God is sovereign over life's circumstances?
- e. Third, God is sovereign over the _____.
- i. God directed all the details for His purpose.
 - ii. Knowing God has His hand in our lives at all times, why is it difficult to trust His sovereignty in our present circumstances?

APPLICATION:

- ⇒ What was Joseph's responsibility throughout the ups and downs of his life? He simply had to be faithful in the moment.
- ⇒ God is sovereign; Joseph was not.
- ⇒ God is still sovereign; we never will be.
- ⇒ Our job is to be faithful in the place and the time that God has placed us in.