

**Introduction:** In a fallen world “the rock” of evil, injustice, and betrayal will happen to all of us sooner or later.

- *“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.”*

Peter – 1 Peter 4:12 (NIV)

- *“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.”*

Paul – 2 Timothy 3:12,13 (NIV)

- Who has wounded, betrayed, abused, abandoned, forsaken, forgotten, lied to, or hurt you more than anyone else?

**Question:** How do you overcome the evil aimed at you?

### 1. Joseph's journey \_\_\_\_\_ how to overcome the evil aimed at you.

- **God sovereignly allowed Joseph to be . . .**

1. Born in a \_\_\_\_\_ family. Genesis 37
2. \_\_\_\_\_ by his siblings. Genesis 37
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to a foreign land. Genesis 37
4. Sold into \_\_\_\_\_. Genesis 39
5. \_\_\_\_\_ of rape. Genesis 39
6. Sent to \_\_\_\_\_ unjustly. Genesis 39
7. \_\_\_\_\_ by a "friend." Genesis 40

- **Joseph's response to evil circumstances . . .**

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ – he learned and adapted.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ – he used his gifts where he was.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ – he refused to "bail out" on God's agenda for his life.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ – on God's time and place.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ – he faced his issues and forgave others for theirs.

2. Joseph's secret to overcoming evil involved something he \_\_\_\_\_, something he \_\_\_\_\_, and something he \_\_\_\_\_ to do.

- **What he knew:** Nothing comes into our lives by accident. It is either decreed or allowed by an all-wise, sovereign God for our good. Genesis 45:5-8
  - Application: I am never a \_\_\_\_\_! (see Romans 8:28-29)
  
- **What he did:** He blessed those who cursed him. Genesis 45:9-13
  - (see Romans 12:14, 21)
  - Application: I will do \_\_\_\_\_ to those who hurt me, in a safe and appropriate way.
    - (see Matthew 5:43-48)
  
- **What he refused to do:** Take revenge. Genesis 50:15-21
  - (see Romans 12:17-21)
  - Application: I will choose to \_\_\_\_\_ (release) those who hurt me from the retribution they deserve because Christ has done that for me.
    - (see Matthew 6:14-15)

**Question: How do you overcome the evil aimed at you?**

1. Choose to \_\_\_\_\_ the person(s) who have hurt you.

**Forgive → Forgiving → Forgiven**

**Choice → Process → Resolution**

2. Begin \_\_\_\_\_ daily for God to bless the person(s) who hurt you (30 days).

3. Do one act of \_\_\_\_\_ this week for the person(s) who hurt you (if possible and if appropriate).