

**Title: Broken family, broken dreams**

**Welcome**

Host to welcome people, especially new members.

**Worship**

Lead a time of worship. Ask people to give thanks for anything they have received from or experienced of God over the past week.

**Word**

Read Gen 37v1-24

1. What affect did polygamy have upon Joseph and upon his wider family? Is polygamy outlawed in the Bible?
2. Whose fault was it that Joseph ended up in the cistern?
3. As best you can, draw your family tree. Note on it any significant negative aspects such as trauma, difficult relationships, abandonment, divorce, alcoholism, occult activity, control etc. Also any positive aspects too - loving parents, mature Christians etc. Note any recurring patterns
4. Thinking of your life, particularly the emotional and spiritual aspects, can you trace any of these aspects back to your family tree? (only share what you feel able to share).
5. How does being a Christian help us face our family history in a positive way? How can we deal with our negative emotions? 2 Cor 5v17 2 Cor 19v4
6. What elements in this passage show us that God had a greater plan for Joseph than to end up in pit? How might this help us when we face seeming reverses in our own lives?
7. To what extent can we expect God to reveal to us his plans for our earthly life in addition to our heavenly destiny? Eph 2v6 Ep 1v18 Eph 2v10 Can you give any examples from your own life?

**Witness**

Pray & ask the Holy Spirit to show you how study might affect your everyday lives and pray into this.

Pray for the needs of the group.

Pray for wider needs

**To prepare for next Group (please do this before people leave )**

Person to host the group (Welcome).....

Person to lead short time of Worship .....

Person to lead study (Word section) .....

People to be invited to next group & who to do that

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**Informal conversation** etc.