

The Real Pit
Genesis 37:1-5, 19-27

Genesis 37 is the beginning of the story of _____, the favorite son of Jacob. This contributed to serious family problems. So, when his brothers had a chance, they seized him, confined him in a pit, and sold him as a slave. His life was in ____ _____. We may not fear literal pits, but we know that metaphor well.

“Who really got stuck in a pit?” The obvious, _____ answer is Joseph. In fact, _____ were stuck in a pit just as surely as was Joseph. The pit they were in was more _____ for us and more dangerous and _____ than Joseph’s. Theirs was the pit of jealousy, envy, and bitterness.

We could blame their father or Joseph for their pit. But if we do, we miss the point, and anytime we blame _____ for our own situation, we are simply _____ our destructive pit _____.

Here is the truth of envy, resentment, and bitterness: It may have been _____ for Joseph to tell his brothers his dreams, but they were _____. God was at work in Joseph’s life and his brothers’ lives in _____ but for _____.

Every time jealousy, envy, and bitterness and lingering frustration and anger arise in our lives it comes from _____ not matching _____. These come from not _____ God’s plan.

God has a plan for you. It includes coming to repentance and _____ in Christ. His plan is long term but promises _____ and a _____. His plan promises that “in _____ things God works for the _____ of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Each of these promises of God proved to be true.

With God, the _____ thing the world and others may do to you will often become the _____ thing that can happen to you. But for all this to be true, you need to step into God’s plans for you by _____.

Too many pits in your life? There is another street. A narrow one called _____. It begins with putting your faith in Jesus.