

Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.

INTRODUCTION 11/08/2015

Joseph's dreams serve as a source of hope in the midst of suffering. He had confidence in the revelation of his future and turned to God for it to come true. Joseph could give credit to God for his rise to power because of God's prior message concerning his future in Genesis 37:5-11.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. How has God communicated with humanity throughout biblical history? What does this act of communication reveal about God?
- God pursues a relationship with humanity (Genesis 3:8-9; Ezekiel 34:11-12; Luke 15). This naturally requires that God extend himself down toward humanity in a manner that man can comprehend. Based on 1 Corinthians 2:7-12, why is this process necessary and how does it occur?
- 3. What role does Jesus have in revealing God, the Father (John 14:8-10; Colossians 1:15, 19-20)?
- 4. The Bible provides an account of how God has revealed himself. What purposes do the authors expect the text to serve? See Luke 1:1-4 and John 20:30-31.

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17.
5. To experience the intended purposes of scripture in this passage, what needs to happen? How do the instructions in verses 14 and 15 inform your responsibility regarding your faith and the reading of scripture?
6. "What you have learned" presupposes an action on the part of the Christian. In what ways have you sought to learn about Jesus? What sources have been the most reliable? Least reliable?

Read Psalm 119:9-16.

- 7. The individual who wrote this Psalm seems to know God and what makes for a peaceful life. This comes from his love for and obedience to the words and decrees of God. How does this message move from text on a page to transforming his life?
- 8. Identify at least four things the author actively does in order to give these words meaning in his life?
 - a.
 - b.
 - C.
 - d.
- 9. Romans 12:3 states that the transformation of our minds results in a revelation of God's character and purposes. Why is this transformation necessary? How do you begin your partnership with God in this process of transformation? What step(s) do you need to take?

MOVING FORWARD

Reading and meditating on the Bible results in a renewal of the mind. This does not simply reveal the process, but also the intended product or goal. The Psalms are a great place to begin. Many of them reveal the nature and character of God, while confessing one's dependence upon him. Consider starting with Psalm 23, 33, 63, 91, or the book of Philippians.