



Moving Past Your Past

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¹ So Jacob settled again in the land of Canaan, where his father had lived as a foreigner. ² This is the account of Jacob and his family. When Joseph was seventeen years old, he often tended his father’s flocks. He worked for his half brothers, the sons of his father’s wives Bilhah and Zilpah. But Joseph reported to his father some of the bad things his brothers were doing. ³ Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe. ⁴ But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn’t say a kind word to him. ⁵ One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. Genesis 37:1-5 (NLT)

**Where we are from _____
where we end up.**

**Where we are from _____
where we end up.**

¹⁴ “Go and see how your brothers and the flocks are getting along,” Jacob said. “Then come back and bring me a report.” So Jacob sent him on his way, and Joseph traveled to Shechem from their home in the valley of Hebron.... ¹⁸ When Joseph’s brothers saw him coming, they recognized him in the distance. As he approached, they made plans to kill him. ¹⁹ “Here comes the dreamer!” they said. ²⁰ “Come on, let’s kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns. We can tell our father, ‘A wild

animal has eaten him.’ Then we’ll see what becomes of his dreams!” Genesis 37:14, 18-20 (NLT)

How Did Joseph Move Past His Past?

1. He relied upon God as he _____ to do the next _____ thing.

- In his _____.

⁵ From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master’s household and property, the LORD began to bless Potiphar’s household for Joseph’s sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished.

⁶ So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn’t worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat! Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, Genesis 39:5-6 (NLT)

²² Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. ²³ The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The LORD was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.

Genesis 39:22-23 (NLT)

- In his _____.

⁷ and Potiphar’s wife soon began to look at him lustfully. “Come and sleep with me,” she demanded. ⁸ But Joseph refused. “Look,” he told her, “my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. ⁹ No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God.”

Genesis 39:7-9 (NLT)

2. He relied upon God for all the _____
of his _____.

⁵¹ Joseph named his older son Manasseh, for he said,
“God has made me forget all my troubles and everyone
in my father’s family.” Genesis 41:51 (NLT)

3. He relied upon God for the _____ of
his _____.

⁵² Joseph named his second son Ephraim, for he said, “God
has made me fruitful in this land of my grief.”
Genesis 41:52 (NLT)

¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They
are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and
a hope. Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

⁵“... It was God who sent me here.... ⁷ God has sent me ahead
of you.... ⁸ So it was God who sent me here...”
Genesis 45:4-8 (NLT)

My Next Step Today Is To...

- Take my life with it’s advantages and deficiencies and give it all to God, making Jesus my Lord and Savior.
- Stop using my past as an excuse and instead rely upon God and his purposes.
- Remember that I am a son or daughter of God and that I am not bound by my past but have freedom in the future he is preparing for me.
- Memorize or meditate on Jeremiah 29:11