

BIBLE PASSAGE

14 After burying Jacob, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had accompanied him to his father's burial. 15 But now that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers became fearful. "Now Joseph will show his anger and pay us back for all the wrong we did to him," they said.

16 So they sent this message to Joseph: "Before your father died, he instructed us 17 to say to you: 'Please forgive your brothers for the great wrong they did to you—for their sin in treating you so cruelly.' So we, the servants of the God of your father, beg you to forgive our sin." When Joseph received the message, he broke down and wept. 18 Then his brothers came and threw themselves down before Joseph. "Look, we are your slaves!" they said.

19 But Joseph replied, "Don't be afraid of me. Am I God, that I can punish you? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people. 21 No, don't be afraid. I will continue to take care of you and your children." So he reassured them by speaking kindly to them. Genesis 50:14-21 (NLT)

Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence. Ephesians 3:12 (NLT)

KEY TAKE-AWAYS



If you want to rewatch the sermon, go to manheimbic.org/sermon.

On the sermon page search for accompanying video to this discussion prompt by looking at the title or the date displayed on the front.

To connect with a small group or host a small group, please contact the Faith Formation office at faith@manheimbic.org

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FRESH START

SERMON-BASED DISCUSSION

FRESH START

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals, and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NLT)



FAITH FORMATION
connect. grow. lead.



At Manheim BIC we strive to initiate and nurture a growing relationship with Christ.

For your time together:

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. After a long week of all kind of things, just let everyone arrive.

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - Ask: How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's Word. Use the discussion points. Learn from each others insight. Encourage and challenge each other to live a godly life.

Ask: What is God teaching us today?

Clarify

Make sure that everyone knows what's next. Next in your life with God. Next up within the group. Next in general. Have an applicable mission for the week.

Celebrate

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God. - Ask: What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

GROUP DISCUSSION & LIFE CHALLENGE

Use these notes as discussion prompt for your group, or in your personal time with God.

THE NEW YEAR 2022 MIGHT BRING NEW THINGS. You might face a new start. Or you might just need to look at some areas of your life with fresh set of eyes. Joseph, the Old Testament dreamer, had to restart many times before his true calling as a world leader came to be true.

Pastor Daniel shared his own story of fresh starts he had experienced. And it becomes clear that life can be a series of fresh starts. As you venture into the new year 2022, let's make sure you start out well.

Know who you are in God

Do you know who God has created you to be? Do you know your skill sets? I encourage you to take some time and write down: What you love to do? And where have people pointed out that you actually are good at it? (Maybe even look into a spiritual gifts test).

Write down the results:

Know who your allegiance is to

When things get tough, what are your core-values? Are your core-values anchored in God and His Word? Write down 4-5 core values, things you will never compromise. Make sure they line up with God's core-values.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Allow for a fresh start after a screw-up

The Apostle Peter screwed up big time. As you recall the sermon, in your own words rephrase what it means to be restored with God. Write your own *screw-up-to-restored* story. Now, share your story with at least one other person.

Write your own next chapter

As you go into the New Year, set some goals for yourself. Make sure that you have SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely). Finish these sentences:

My spiritual goal is ...

My fitness goal is ...

My work-related goal is ...

My goal for my wife and I is ...

My goal for my child (fill in the name) is ... [continue for each individual child].

Now order these goals by priority. What is most important to you. With the simple steps you can take control over your life and allow for a fresh start (if necessary). Under God's leadership, take the first step.