



# LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Turbulence*

Scripture: *Genesis 45:1-8*

Date: July 27-28, 2019

Message: *Enduring  
Turbulence*

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—[ LET'S START ]—

This week, we had a chance to hear from many of Wooddale's global partners. Did you know that there are several LifeGroups that have taken mission trips to visit various partners around the world? What would you think about our group doing something like that? If we did that, are there some global partners that you would be interested in serving? What would keep us from doing something like this?

—[ LET'S TALK ]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work. Pray for the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
2. We have reached the end of the Turbulence series. Through the series we have learned:
  - Prayer is the key to getting above turbulence.
  - Don't make your battles your own but hand them over to God. Learn to be still in the storm so you can hear His voice calling you to be faithful.
  - Instead of obsessing about your worries:
    1. Focus on God.
    2. Receive His love.
    3. Walk in His ways.
    4. Pursue His purposes

Which of these is most difficult to practice for you? Which brings you great comfort?

3. This week's sermon gave an overview of the life of an Old Testament man named Joseph. His life had been full of ups and downs, and now shortage of turbulence. He was sold into slavery by his own brothers when he was just 17 years old. He was falsely accused of raping his master's wife. He was forgotten about by a prisoner who promised to intercede for him in front of Pharaoh. Eventually he rose to be the right hand man of Pharaoh, overseeing a plan to save Egypt from an impending famine. Eventually, the brothers that sold Joseph into slavery came to Egypt to find food for their family. They unknowingly found themselves in front of the brother that they had sold into slavery. In Genesis 45:1-8, Joseph revealed himself to his brothers. Read the passage together as a group. What strikes you about what Joseph tells his brothers? How have you seen God use suffering in people's lives to bring others to faith?

—[ LET'S ACT ]—

Global partners ought to be considered some of the modern day heroes of the church. This week, we had a chance to hear from several of our global partners. Consider inviting a global partner to come speak to your LifeGroup the next time you meet. You can call Wooddale Worldwide for contact information of our global partners. There is also a weekly prayer email that is sent out with updates from our partners around the globe. Consider adding yourself to this email list so that you can pray for our global partners in a more tangible way. You can get on the list by emailing [Carol.Buchanan@Wooddale.org](mailto:Carol.Buchanan@Wooddale.org).

—[ SERMON REVIEW ]—

- Prayer is the key to getting above turbulence.
- Don't make your battles your own but hand them over to God. Learn to be still in the storm so you can hear His voice calling you to be faithful.
- Instead of obsessing about your worries:
  - Focus on God.
  - Receive His love.
  - Walk in His ways.
- Joseph was his father's favorite son.
  - His brother sold him into slavery at age 17
  - He ended up in the home of one of Pharaoh's officials, named Potiphar.
  - Potiphar's wife tried to seduce him and when he fled falsely accused him of rape.
  - Joseph languished in prison for many years.
  - While in prison Joseph interpreted the dreams of two fellow inmates.
  - One inmate promised to intercede for Joseph in front of Pharaoh, but forgot all about it.
  - Eventually, Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams and rose to prominence in Egypt, overseeing the efforts to provide for the nation during 7 years of famine.
  - Joseph's brothers eventually appear before him looking for help for their family.
  - Joseph forgives his brothers, revealing himself to them and letting them know that what they meant for evil, God meant for good.
  - Joseph's response to his suffering prefigured Jesus.
- When we face suffering, we can ask one of two questions:
  - "Jesus, why me?"
  - "Jesus, what do you want to accomplish through this suffering that you're allowing in my life right now."
- The first question focuses on me, the second one focuses on Christ. The first is full of doubt, the second is filled with faith.

—[ NOTES ]—