

SOHL  
WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS



"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"

## ***The reaction***

*June 5, 2017*

**GENESIS 50:19-21 NKJV** – (19) Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for *am* I in the place of God? (20) But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive. (21) Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Joseph’s story reminds us that in our broken world, God’s response to our prayers doesn’t always come quickly. Joseph was seventeen years old when his brothers sold him into slavery (**Genesis 37:2**). His final release from captivity came when he was thirty (**Genesis 41:46**), thirteen long years later.

Not everyone is willing to react like Joseph did in his life’s journey. Read **Genesis 37-50** to fully understand Joseph’s struggles. Yet, God was always with him. Many of us have experienced the persecution similar to Joseph’s. Persecuted for doing what is right or simply existing in the life as God designed you. What is often missed in Joseph’s story is that he spent most of his life serving and ministering to others who were experiencing something similar.

Most important in Joseph’s story, though, is his reaction to his brothers. When you read the above passage you realize that Joseph shows no revenge, no anger...no resentment. The next time you find yourself suffering for God and find life unjust, remember, He suffered the same for you and me, never uttered a word, was beaten, spat upon, stabbed and died so that you and I may live.

### SCRIPTURE READING

ROMANS 12:20

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The works we do for one another determine our true strength.