



## My God Lifts Me from the Pits

8:27.23

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers...When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. Genesis 37:2-4 NIV

They saw Joseph from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. They said to one another, "Here come s this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams." Genesis 37:18-20 ESV

So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. 24 And they took him and threw him into a pit... Genesis 37:23-24 ESV

O Lord, God of my salvation, I cry out day and night before you.  
2 Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry!  
3 For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.  
4 I am counted among those who go down to the pit...Psalm 88,

## Wherever I go, God is right there with me

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9 NIV

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Psalm 23:4 NIV

## My God will lift me from the pit

Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. Genesis 41:14 ESV

"Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. Genesis 50:19-20 NIV

"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." Matthew 28-5-6

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Rom 6:6

### **For your LifeGroup and personal growth...**

Being "in the pits" is a great term for how you feel when things are going absolutely wrong.

When was the last time you were in 'the pits'? What did it feel like?

Read Genesis 37 together. Notice how down to earth this story is. What range of emotions would you be feeling if you were Joseph?

What do you usually do when you are in a completely helpless situation? Why do you think God allowed all this to happen? (see Genesis 50:19-20). If you were Joseph, would you think all your troubles were 'worth it' to save the lives of your horrible brothers?

Talk about (and pray about) any pit you may be in.

*If you'd like to grow in your faith and connect with others, LifeGroups are a great place for you. For more information, drop us your name and we'll get back to you (emma@marinerscc.org)*