



## REDEMPTION BIBLE STUDY – #8

### **DREAM UNTIL YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE**

The Redemption of Joseph

### **The Story**

Genesis 37:5-8

Then Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Please listen to this dream which I have had; <sup>7</sup> for behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf stood up and also remained standing; and behold, your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf." <sup>8</sup> Then his brothers said to him, "Are you actually going to reign over us? Or are you really going to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

Joseph was a dreamer, but his dreams were provided directly from God Himself. It took many years but Joseph's dreams played out before his eyes and the eyes of his family. Through it we can learn how God watches out for us and sees us through the worst of times and that He is always with us through the obstacles of life.

If I asked who the GOAT (greatest of all time) in the world of is, there would be little argument that Michael Jordan would be the answer. Jordan still holds many records from his time on the court. And more than the numbers, he was always a quality player. A team player that didn't really seem like he cared about the records, but wanted to do his job the best he could and support his teammates that were around him.

When Michael had made his mark on the NBA world his mother began writing children's books. She wrote about family values and more. In one of her books, Big Dream, near the end of the book she wrote, "Saying you want something is fine and well; a good start. Doing something about it is what really counts." At the very end of the books, when the mother puts her son to bed after his first successful basketball game she tells he son with pride, "I guess you aren't just a dreamer, but a doer Michael".

Like Joseph, Michael Jordan was a dreamer. Growing up in the poor southern farm country of Wilmington, North Carolina he dreamt about someday being a basketball star. Like many other young boys all over the world he stood on the court and counted down... "3, 2, 1..." and throws the ball up on "1" and wins the championship game for his team. He was a dreamer.

But as much as he dreamed of stardom, Michael ran into a few roadblocks along the way. From the day he was given his first basketball until the last famous appearance when he was awarded the Presidential



Medal of Freedom, Michael has never lost sight of his dreams. He has been one of the hardest working athletes of all time and is always trying to fulfill the dreams given him.

When you see Jordan holding a trophy, he is not usually showing it off, He is cradling it, and almost like he and his achieved dreams are one... and they are. This is true of all of us.

When Jordan was a sophomore in high school he tried out for the varsity team. This GOAT should have been good enough... But the coach cut him from the varsity team and sent him down to play jr. varsity. I'm sure that his dream was in question, but still he pushed on.

Despite the obstacles that came his way, Jordan did achieve his dream. His fans remember the highlights, the game he played a horrific case of the flu, and his dunks here he left from the foul line, his no-look shots that hit nothing but net and many more.

We tend to forget about the failures that happened along the way. Michael Jordan, the greatest basketball player of all time explained reaching his dreams while traversing life's rocky roads this way...

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my [career](#). I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." This is the same for all of us working to attain our dreams

Proverbs 3:6 tells us, "In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight."

You see that God will make our paths straight when we acknowledge Him in all things. What it doesn't say is that there won't be obstacles along the way. He did say that no matter where our path takes us, He will always be with us. The story of Michael Jordan was not easy... the story of Joseph wasn't easy either, but God knew right where his paths would take him and He went before Joseph through every high and low.

If we just look at the middle and end of the story of Joseph (or Jordan) we will see all of the glory and rewards. However, starting at the beginning and looking at the obstacles we see a different story. I challenge you to read the entire story of Joseph before moving forward with this study. Read Genesis 37 – 50.