

When bad  
happens, God  
is still good



Sunday School: July 28, 2013

# God works for the good

Genesis 37-50  
&  
1 Corinthians 11

## Idea for parents

This week when you eat dinner together, review 1 Corinthians 11:23-27 and Romans 8:28. Talk about how in Communion we remember the very bad things that happened to Jesus, but God used them for the good of people who believe.

## God does good things in bad things

There are few stories in the Bible that take as many pages to tell as the story of Joseph. That seems to show how important that this story is. It's important because it is a transition from Genesis to the rest of the Old Testament.

It is easy to want to make Joseph a hero in this story. In a way he is. There are many things he could have done through the story that would have been selfish, but there is only one real hero. That is God. God is the hero because he takes all the bad situations that Joseph and his family get into and made them work out better.

This is important because Israel, God's chosen people, were in a difficult place. God showed his power as the one God through Joseph's story and Egypt. In the same way God uses things in our world for our good. More than anything God used the bad things people did to Jesus for good, because it was the greatest act of God demonstrating his divine power.

## Communion

Communion is an act of remembering how Jesus trusted his father, God, all the way to the point of being the Greatest Sacrifice. People did a bad thing to Jesus, but he allowed it to happen because he knew that through his death, all people can be saved. God did a good work on the Cross.

At communion, all the people who believe this gather to remember and celebrate that we are saved by Jesus' willing sacrifice. We don't have to go through that pain or through that death.

We celebrate together because Jesus died for all of us. Children can join in this celebration because Jesus died for them too. Isaac joined Abraham in the benefits of God's provision. In the same way, children join in our receiving the benefit of Christ's provision.

For more information and question about communion email [cmlt@thewellpa.com](mailto:cmlt@thewellpa.com).