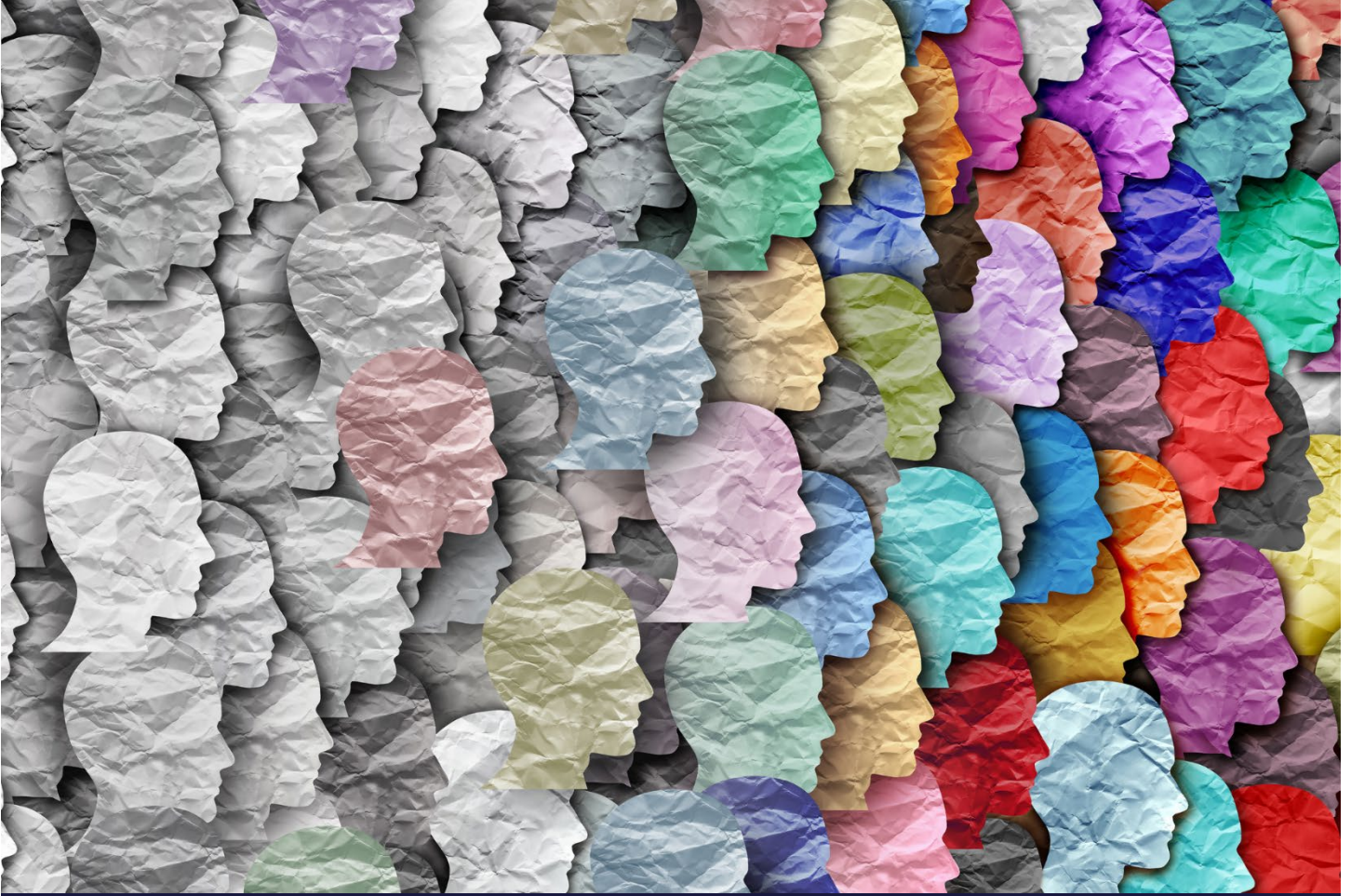


Curriculum



Characters Exposed ***Servant leaders of the Bible***

Joseph: Foresight
Jonah: Awareness
Mary: Listening
Peter: Empathy
Daniel: Community
Abraham & Sarah: Stewardship
Ruth: Growth
Rahab: Persuasion
David: Calling
Joshua: Conceptualization
Paul: Healing

A sample study from the **Characters Exposed** volume begins on the following page.



LEARN: Overview

Biblical Business Training (“BBT”) equips people to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and empowers leaders in a small-group Bible study setting to apply Biblical principles at work. Our mission is [Faith for Work](#) – and our vision is [Leadership for Life!](#)

To find out more, visit www.B-B-T.org.



Curriculum: The *BBT 1-2-3™* Format

BBT curriculum is rooted in Scripture and applicable the day you study it. The *BBT 1-2-3™* format enables the group to have a consistent Biblical basis for discussion.



Agenda – Introduces applicable Biblical principles



Group Leader Guide – Facilitates discussion and allows for shared leadership



Recap – Encourages community and application



LIVE: Sample Joseph

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum reveals how God created all of us for His purposes. But, we are all unique in our character - just like these pillars of servant leadership from the Bible. So, no matter the circumstances of our journeys and even when we fail, doubt, or disobey – God still loves us and redeems us by His grace.

1. **Joseph: Foresight**
 2. **Jonah: Awareness**
 3. **Peter: Empathy**
 4. **Daniel: Community**
 5. **Mary: Listening**
 6. **Abraham & Sarah: Stewardship**
 7. **Ruth: Growth**
 8. **Rahab: Persuasion**
 9. **David: Calling**
 10. **Joshua: Conceptualization**
 11. **Paul: Healing**
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LEAD: Start a small-group Bible study

Start leading today! [Learn more.](#)



PRAYERS



LEARN

From Face-Value

In the movie Iron Man, Tony Stark is a spoiled brat squandering the company his father built and wasting his genius on living the life of an international playboy. But, when he is abducted and held for ransom, he sees his company's products causing suffering and pain around the world. His only companion in captivity is killed and he hits rock bottom. Tony learns from this experience and finally puts his gifted brain to use – becoming Iron Man, a literal superhero. As he learns to value the people in his life and the opportunities he has, he moves from being self-centered to using his gifts for the good of others.

To Foresight

Tony Stark's story bears a shocking resemblance to Beowulf, Gilgamesh, Rocky, and hundreds of others. This is because the story fits an archetype known as *the hero's journey*. In *the hero's journey*, a person with great gifts uses them selfishly until they go through a period of difficulty and hit rock bottom. From here, they learn to use their gifts to serve others and then rise to a far greater position than they could have reached before.

This is often the story of our faith too. God gave us gifts that we can use selfishly to build ourselves up, or we can choose to use them in loving one another and giving glory to God. Joseph is an example of this. He was given the gift of foresight – a pillar of servant leadership. He was a favored child and not only had prophetic dreams but the ability to interpret them. This allowed him to predict and understand the impact of what will happen or be needed in the future. At first, he takes a prideful stance and shows off these gifts. However, when Joseph hits rock bottom, God redeems his suffering and uses him to save the people of Egypt from hardship.



LIVE

Discussion questions: Read the text and scriptures below and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read [Genesis 37:3-11](#). What have your expectations, or the expectations of others, led you to a posture of entitlement rather than responsibility?
2. Read [Genesis 37:19-36](#). What have you had to be knocked down a notch or two in order to acknowledge your pride and submit yourself to God's plan?
3. Read [Genesis 39:1-20a](#). Talk about a time you realized you were doing the right thing, maybe even using your God-given gifts but in the wrong place.
4. Read [Genesis 40:1-8, 41:7b-16, 39-40](#). When has God used your circumstances to change your trajectory?
5. Read [Genesis 45:3-15](#). How have your obstacles ultimately placed you in a position to help others?

Application Question: What people or circumstances is God using in your life to reveal a greater purpose?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



LEARN

Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and review the APPLICATION QUESTION from the previous meeting's RECAP.



LIVE

Discussion Questions: Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question. Be sure everyone has enough time to find the Scripture before the verse is read.

- 1) Read [Genesis 37:3-11](#). When have your expectations, or the expectations of others, led you to a posture of entitlement rather than responsibility?



POINT

God sees the choices you make and the way you treat others regardless of your position.



DEEPER

Joseph was the first child of Jacob and Rachel but Jacob's 11th son. The robe Joseph was given by his father indicated favoritism over the rest of the brothers. As this sign of being their father's favorite wasn't bad enough, Joseph had dreams about his family bowing down to him. Instead of keeping this gift of foresight to himself, he can't help but share his painful dreams with his brothers. This just caused further insecurity and jealousy from his brothers.

Notes:

- 2) Read [Genesis 37:19-36](#). When have you had to be knocked down a notch or two in order to acknowledge your pride and submit yourself to God's plan?



POINT

Joseph's circumstances humbled him to be a useful tool for God's purpose.



DEEPER

Joseph was hated by his own brothers, thrown into a pit, and from there, sold into slavery. Joseph may have hated his circumstances, but God was using them to teach him to be useful regardless of where he was. Our circumstances don't define who we are, God does. When we can humble ourselves before God and obediently seek His will, we can look for how we can serve God's purposes wherever we are.



TIP

For additional discussion, you might ask the group to share how God shaped them through a difficult time.

Notes:

- 3) Read [Genesis 39:1-20a](#). Talk about a time you realized you were doing the right thing, maybe even using your God-given gifts but in the wrong place.



While Joseph's values were fixed on God's ways, those around him in his work were not.



Potiphar's wife lied and threw him under the bus when she didn't get what she wanted. Joseph realized the priorities of the people with whom he worked a little too late and he found himself in prison. Sometimes our work environments do not match our values even if they do match our skills. It is up to us to use our gifts to create change in those environments or move on from those places having learned from our experiences.

Notes:

- 4) Read [Genesis 40:1-8, 41:7b-16, 39-40](#). When has God used your circumstances to change your trajectory?



Joseph used his God-given gift of foresight and gave God the glory, even while in prison.



Two years passed before the cupbearer of Pharaoh remembered the gift Joseph used in prison. Nevertheless, God had a plan and Joseph was not forgotten. While it may take time for others to discover our gifts, we can still utilize them and give God the glory wherever we are in our journey, even when it feels like we have been forgotten.

Notes:

- 5) Read [Genesis 45:3-15](#). How have your obstacles ultimately placed you in a position to help others?



God needed Joseph in Pharaoh's court to save the people from famine, but he did not lord it over them.



Not only did Joseph help Pharaoh and the people of Egypt, but he also forgave his brothers for what they did and saved them and his father from famine. He gave God the glory for all the obstacles he persevered that brought him to the place of forgiveness, grace, and generosity.



For additional discussion, you might ask, "How have you seen positions of authority used for the good of others over selfish glory?"

Notes:

Application Question: What people or circumstances is God using in your life to reveal a greater purpose?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



LEAD

Ask Yourself: Do I have the gift of foresight that I can use to serve those with whom I work?

Joseph was given the gift of foresight – a pillar of servant leadership. This allowed him to predict and understand the impact of what will happen or be needed in the future.

Sample



PRAYERS

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-
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ROADMAP

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum reveals how God created all of us for His purposes. But, we are all unique in our character - just like these pillars of servant leadership from the Bible. So, no matter the circumstances of our journeys and even when we fail, doubt, or disobey – God still loves us and redeems us by His grace.

This lesson is a journey through the many setbacks of Joseph's life revealing how he is ultimately humbled enough to forgive others and use his position and gift of foresight for God's purpose.



LEARN

Joseph let his father's favoritism lead him to a position of entitlement that caused conflict with his brothers. As he was thrown into the pit and then into prison, Joseph learned humility from his circumstances. All of this ultimately prepared him for a leadership position through which God would save many people.

Scripture References for this study: [Genesis 37:3-11](#), [Genesis 37:19-36](#), [Genesis 39:1-20a](#), [Genesis 40:1-8, 41:7b-16, 39-40](#) and [Genesis 45:3-15](#)



LIVE

- Others' Expectations
- Humbling Circumstances
- Purposeful Positions

Application Question: What people or circumstances is God using in your life to reveal a greater purpose?



LEAD

Ask Yourself: Do I have the gift of foresight that I can use to serve those with whom I work?

Joseph was given the gift of foresight – a pillar of servant leadership. This allowed him to predict and understand the impact of what will happen or be needed in the future.