

LifeLines—March 1, 2020

Sermon Title: "How to View the Unfair Things of Life"

Sermon Text: Genesis 45:1-11

Sermon Outline:

I. Joseph Acknowledged God

II. Joseph Accepted Pain

III. Joseph Avoided Hate

Questions:

1. Life is unfair. Discuss some of the ways in which Joseph's life was unfair and some of the ways in which life continues to be unfair.

2. Four times in this short speech Joseph acknowledged that God had been active in the unfair events of his life. Discuss God's providence.

3. Joseph wasn't bitter over the pain that he had suffered as a result of his brother's having sold him because he saw how God had brought good out of it. How can God bring good out of our unjust, painful experiences?

4. Joseph didn't seek retaliation against the brothers who had hurt him. Rather he sought to care for them. He seemingly was so forgiving because he saw how God had used their sin for good. How can the knowledge that God has used the sins committed against us for good enable us to be forgiving toward those who have hurt us?