

**“The Conflict Redeeming God”**  
**Genesis 37:2–36**  
**January 14, 2024**

**Rising Conflict (Genesis 37:2–11)**

“If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” (Romans 12:18)

“For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” (James 3:16–18)

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” (Matthew 5:9)

**Erupting Conflict (Genesis 37:12–35)**

“Sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.” (Genesis 4:7)

**Redeeming Conflict (Genesis 37:36)**

“Do you know why Satan is so angry all the time? Because whenever he works a particularly clever bit of mischief, God uses it to serve his own righteous purposes.

So in the long run, God always wins?

Yes.

In the short run, though, it can be uncomfortable.” (Orson Scott Card)

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.” (Genesis 50:20)

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

**Notes**

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## Discuss

- How have you experienced rising and erupting conflicts in your life?
- Has there been a time when you were tempted to hatred and jealousy of someone but had to admit that you were the problem and own up to your mistakes?
- What are the areas of your life where you could be tempted to favoritism or rivalry, and how can you use your position and influence instead to promote peace?
- Is there a way that God redeeming the conflict between Joseph and his brothers encourages you in your circumstances?

## Read

Romans 8:28–30; James 2:1–13; 3:1–18

## Pray

- That the Holy Spirit will enable you to be a peacemaker.
- That the Holy Spirit will help you to trust that God can use all of your circumstances for good.

## Bulletin

- Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00am
- Exploring Membership: January 20 at 8:00am
- Men's Breakfast: February 17 at 8:00am
- Members' Meeting: March 10 at 5:00pm