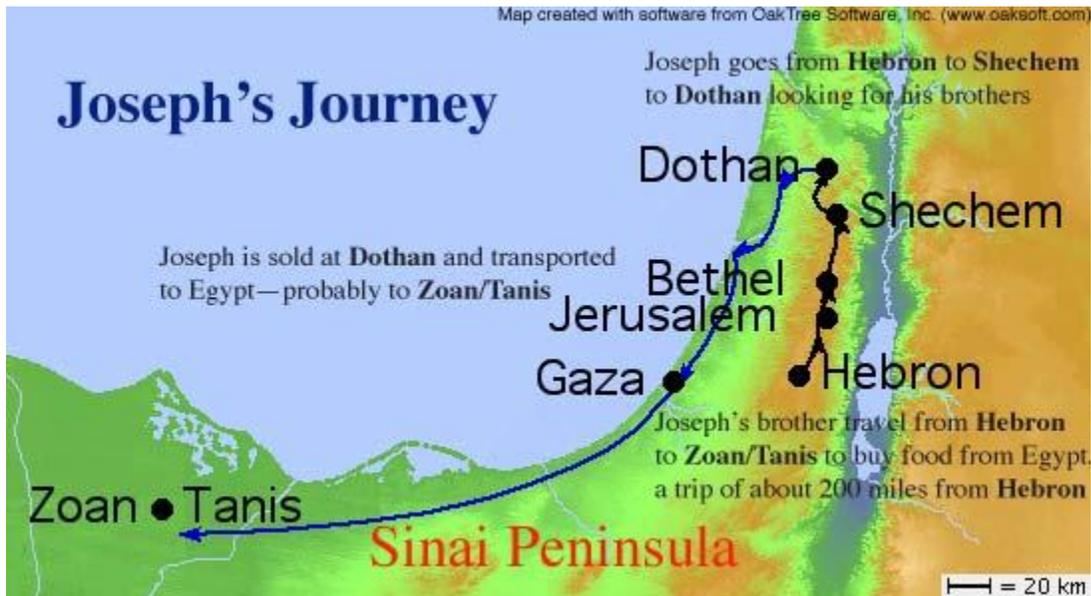


## Equation – Lesson 4 Handout



### John 16:33 (ESV)

<sup>33</sup> **I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."**

### Romans 8:28 (NASB95)

<sup>28</sup> **And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.**

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### Psalms 29:11 (AMP)

<sup>11</sup> **The Lord will give [unyielding and impenetrable] strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.**



**Genesis 39:1-2 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there. THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian.**

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**Isaiah 41:17 "The afflicted and needy are seeking water, but there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst; I, the Lord, will answer them Myself, as the God of Israel I will not forsake them."**

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**Psalms 94:14 "For the Lord will not abandon His people, nor will He forsake His inheritance".**

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**1 Samuel 12:22 "For the Lord will not abandon His people on account of His great name, because the Lord has been pleased to make you a people for Himself"**

***God always has a purpose for where we are – even if it is not where we want to be.***

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**Genesis 39:3-6 Now his master saw that the Lord was with him and how the Lord caused all that he did to prosper in his hand. So Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he owned he put in his charge. It came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house and over all that he owned, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the Lord's blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field. So he left everything he owned in Joseph's charge; and with him there he did not concern himself with anything except the food which he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.**

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**Christyn Taylor:**

**<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rebeccataylor1>**

**Multiple hospital stays with my daughter were exhausting, but I held faith. Losing Brian's family members one by one until there was only one left, who was then diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer, was incomprehensible, but I still held faith. Being hospitalized seven and a half weeks with a placental abruption was terrifying but I held faith. I held to the faith that God works for my good, and though I did**

**not necessarily understand the trials I trusted God's bigger, unseen plan.**

**God and I had a deal – I would endure the trials that came my way as long as He acknowledged my stopping point. He knew where my line had been drawn, and I knew in my heart He would never cross it.**

**He did. I delivered a stillborn baby girl. With my daughter Rebecca still at home on a feeding tube and her future health completely unknown, it was a foregone conclusion that this baby we so wanted and loved would be saved. She wasn't. My line in the sand was crossed. My one-way deal with God shattered.**

**Everything changed in that moment. Fear set in, and my faith began to crumble. My "safety zone" with God was no longer safe. If this could happen in the midst of our greatest struggles, then anything was fair game. For the first time in my life, anxiety began to overwhelm me.**

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**I have spent weeks trying to figure out why a God I so love could let this happen to my family at such a time. The only conclusion I came to was this: I have to give up my line in the sand. I have to offer my entire life, every minute portion of it, to God's control regardless of the outcome.**

**My family is in God's hands. No lines have been drawn, no deals made. I have given our lives to the Lord. Peace has entered where panic once resided and calmness settled where anxiety once ruled.**

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**Philippians 3:13 (NASB95)**

**<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,**

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***God always has a purpose for where we are – even if it is not where we want to be.***