

NEHEMIAH



The Integrated Leader

Integrating faith into every area of our lives

SESSION 3- INTEGRATING MY HISTORY

Nehemiah 1:5- Then I said: “Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant of love with those who love Him and keep His commandments...”



NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER

Nehemiah's "**Credit to God**" *Nehemiah 1:5*– "O LORD, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands..."

- ✦ Nehemiah remembered that *because of God's covenant* with **Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, Solomon** and all the people of Israel, they had been *preserved* and they had *prospered* as no other nation- despite the intense opposition they had suffered in the past!

BACKGROUND- A BRIEF HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

2100BC- Genesis 12:1-4- God commanded Abraham, “Leave Ur, **go to a land which I will show you**...I will bless those who bless you and those who curse you I will curse... and in your seed, all the families of the earth will be blessed.”



HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

Hebrews 11:8-10- “By faith, Abraham left, even though he did not know where he was going...he lived in tents...because he was looking forward to a city with foundations, whose architect & builder is God!”



HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

Genesis 14:18-20 (cf.- Hebrews 5-7)-

When Abraham approached the city, Melchizedek, King of Salem (“Jeru—Salem”), a “King & Priest”, approached him, dwelt in peace together with Abraham

Then, they made a covenant with each other, and shared bread and wine.

Abraham’s descendants would occupy this city (“City of David”)

Melchizedek- a picture of Jesus Christ



Genesis 22- Abraham, offering up his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice- a picture of Jesus Christ

✦ Hebrews 11:19 (NASB)- "...he received him back as a type (of Christ)

✦ Genesis 22:2- The site of this offering- "Mt. Moriah"



HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

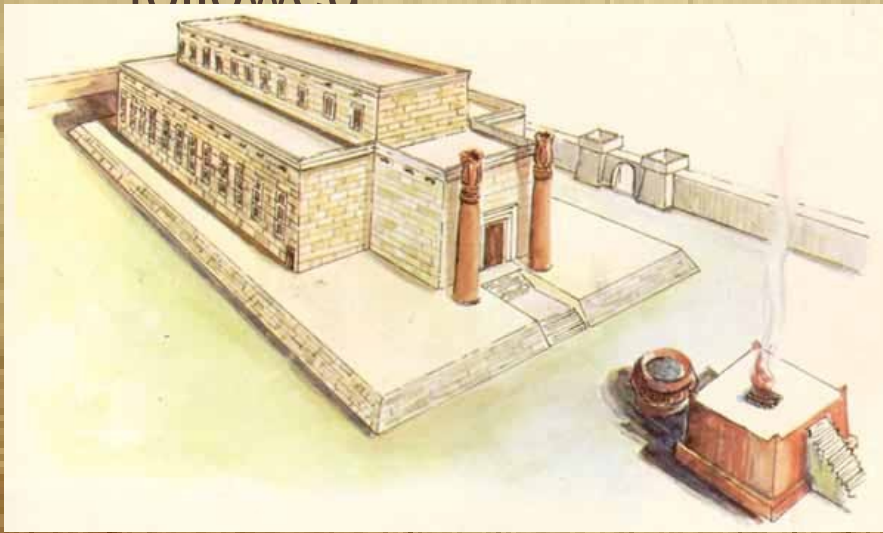
2 Samuel 24:18-25- 1100 years later- David buys Araunah's field (the site for the city of Jerusalem and the Temple); he unites the 12 tribes of Israel around Jerusalem, shares the vision for building the temple and gathers resources for it.



HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

2 Chronicles 3:1-

Solomon builds the
first temple; revival
followed



HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

586 BC- *2 Kings 25:8-12*-
Nebuchadnezzar
destroys the city, carries
away the inhabitants
into captivity in
Babylon.



HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

538BC- *Ezra 4:7-23*- After the Jews returned, they attempted to rebuild the walls earlier in the reign of Artaxerxes I; but, after the protests of Rehum and Shimshai, the king ordered the Jews to cease building.



NEHEMIAH'S PLACE IN HISTORY

Nehemiah had a sense of history and a sense of his place in history. He came to an awareness of his role to rebuild the walls. He knew that he was God's man "for such a time as this" (*Esther 4:14*)



DO WE HAVE A SENSE OF OUR HISTORY AND OUR PLACE IN HISTORY?

History of New Jersey-

Turning point of the
American Revolution

-Washington's
Headquarters

-Jockey Hollow

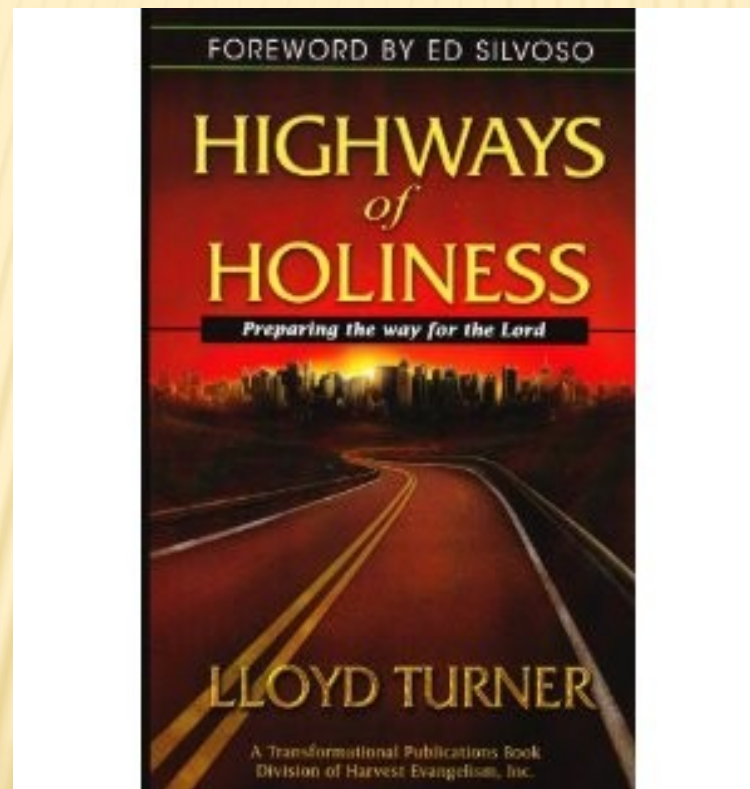
-Battle of Trenton

1st Capital- New York City



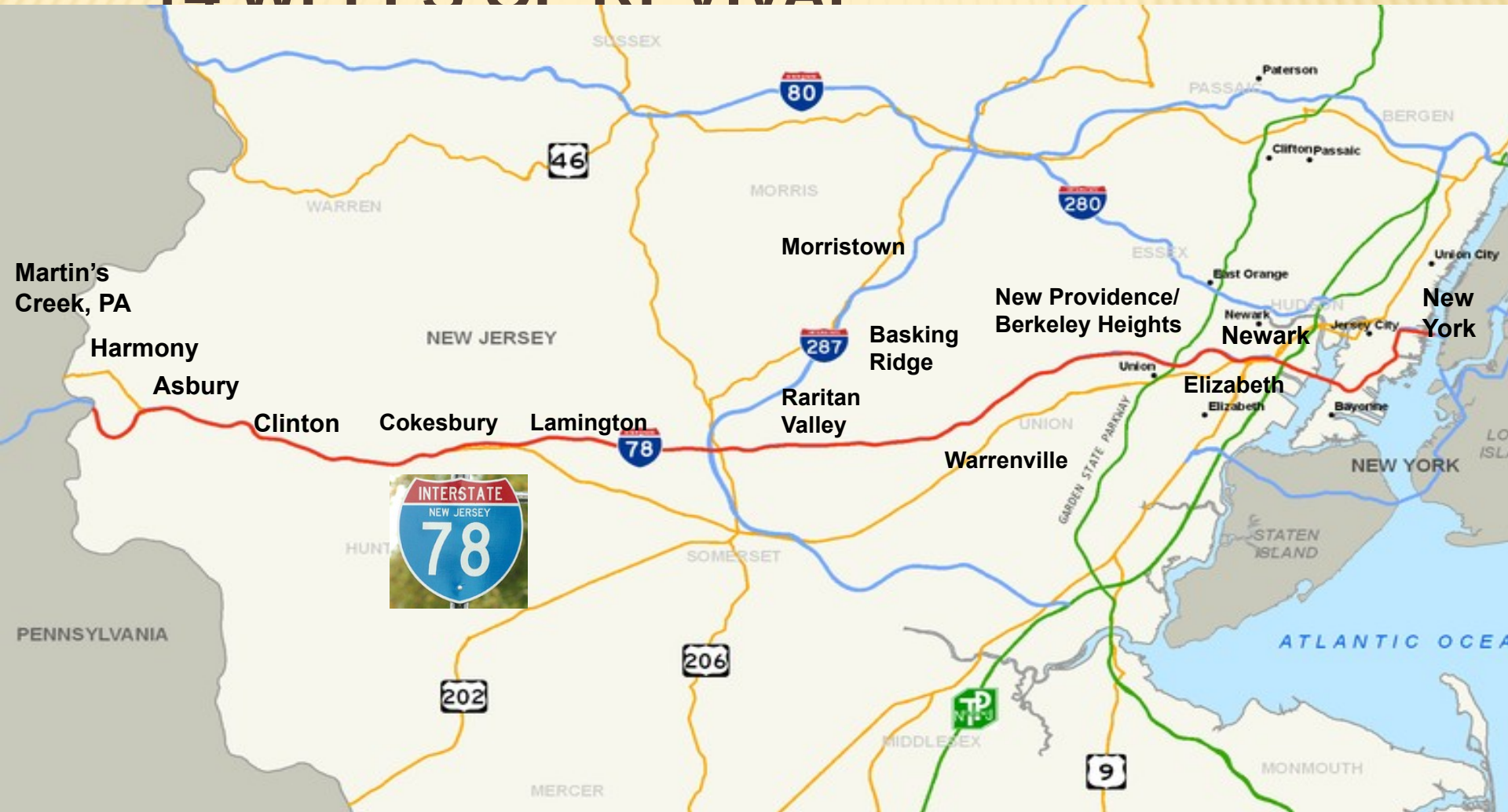
WHAT ABOUT US?

BOOK- “HIGHWAYS OF HOLINESS”



HISTORY OF REVIVAL- RT. 78 IN NEW JERSEY-

“14 WELLS OF REVIVAL ”



HISTORY OF REVIVAL- NY/NJ METROPOLITAN

AREA

John Soper- “The Next Great Awakening”

Book- “Highway of Holiness”

1st Great Awakening- Theodore Frelinghuysen,
1720

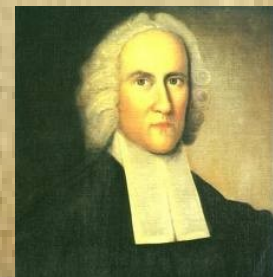
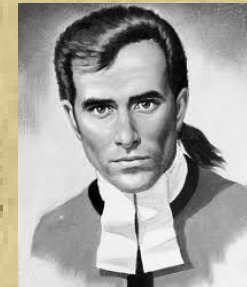
David Brainerd- Ordained in Newark, ministry to
former slaves and Indians in Princeton &
Freehold (“Father of Cross-cultural Missions”)

Jonathan Edwards- “Concerts of Prayer”
movement

Princeton University

Columbia University

Rutgers University



HISTORY OF REVIVAL- NY/NJ METROPOLITAN AREA

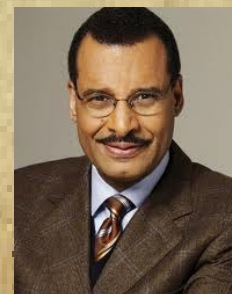
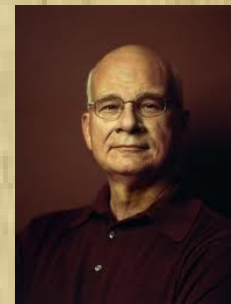
**Second Great Awakening-
“Fulton St. Revival”- 1857,
NYC-**

**Jeremiah Lanphier- The
Noonday Businessmen’s
Prayer Meeting**

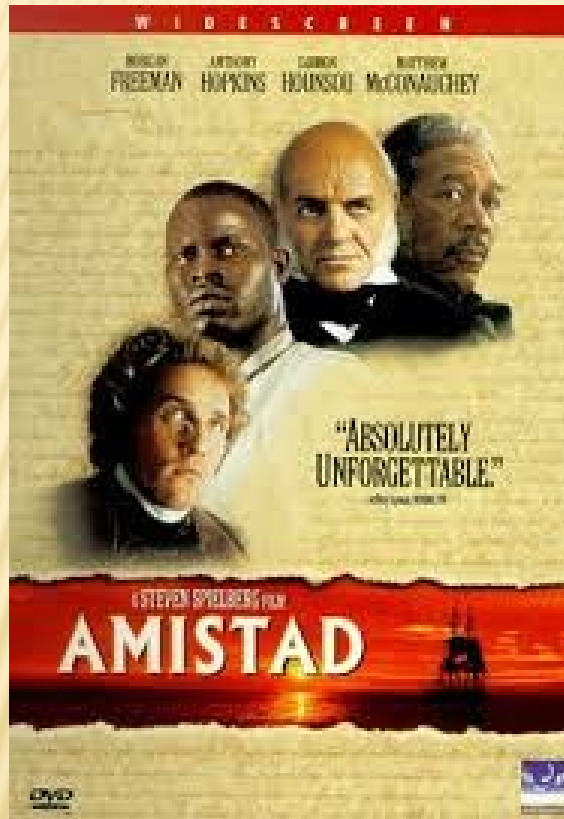


SIGNIFICANT IMPACT MINISTRIES IN THIS AREA

- ✘ Christ Church (David Ireland)
- ✘ Brooklyn Tabernacle (Jim Cymbala)
- ✘ Times Square Church (David Wilkerson)
- ✘ Redeemer Presbyterian Church (Dr. Tim Keller)
- ✘ Christian Cultural Center, Brooklyn (Dr. A. R. Bernard)
- ✘ Liquid Church (Tim Lucas)



“AMISTAD”



Knowing our place in history

QUESTIONS WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES:

- ✘ What is our place in the divine program?
- ✘ What is our place in history?
- ✘ What God is doing in this area?
- ✘ How do we fit in?

APPLICATION

As Nehemiah thanked God and praised Him for what He had already done in his life, so also we need to review our history before the Lord, and thank Him for what He has already done.

Application Question:

Complete the “Life Graph” exercise

Two Examples: Joseph & Esther

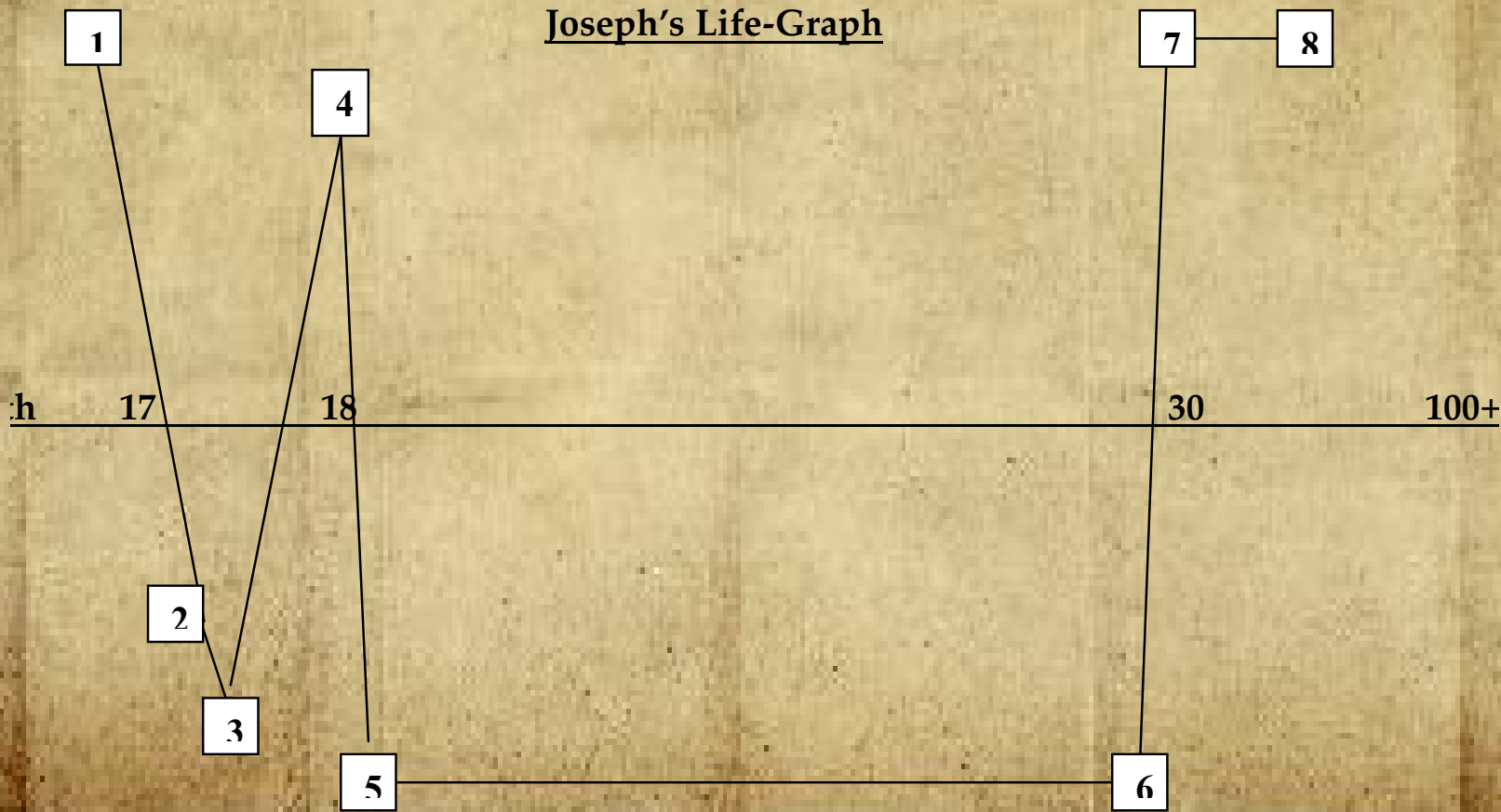
ROMANS 8:28- JOSEPH

Romans 8:28- *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”*

- 1) Joseph receives his “coat of many colors”, showing his father’s favor toward him.....+5
- 2) Joseph shows his brothers his gift, and they become angry.....-3
- 3) His brothers put him into a cistern, and sell him into slavery.....-4
- 4) Joseph is elevated to a high position in Potiphar’s house.....+4
- 5) Joseph was falsely accused by Potiphar’s wife.....-5
- 6) Joseph in prison; forgotten for nearly 12 years!.....-5
- 7) Joseph interprets Pharaoh’s dream, is elevated to 2nd in command in Egypt.....+5
- 8) Joseph reunited with his brothers and his family, reconciles with them.....+5

JOSEPH'S "LIFE-GRAPH"

Joseph's Life-Graph



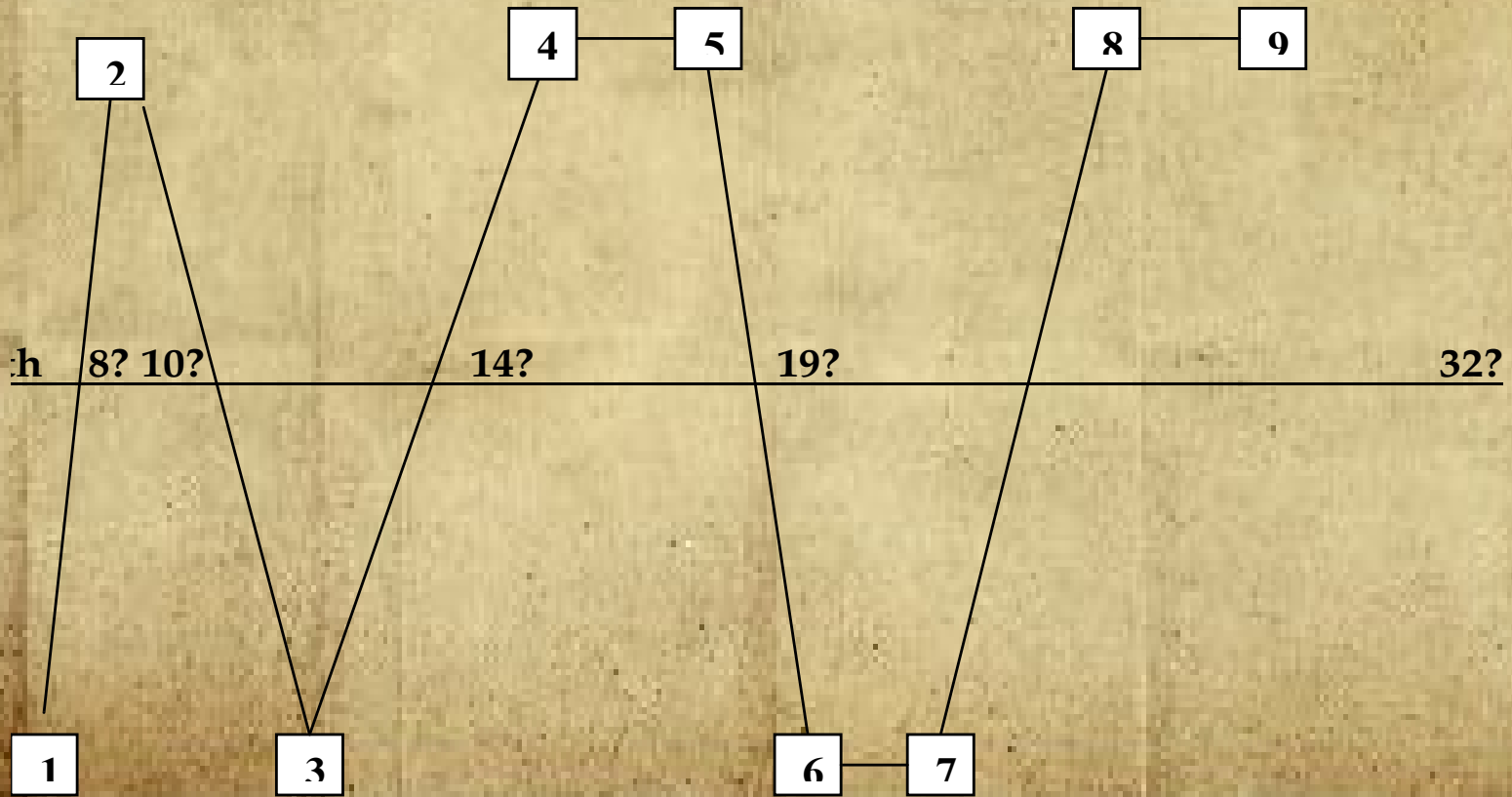
ROMANS 8:28- ESTHER

Romans 8:28- “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

- 1) Her father & mother died while Esther is a young girl.....-5
- 2) Esther is raised by her cousin, Mordecai.....+4
- 3) Esther and Mordecai are carried off into exile, enslaved in a foreign land.....-5
- 4) The king was attracted to Esther and she become the king's wife and queen.....+5
- 5) Esther wins favor with the king, becomes his closest confidant.....+5
- 6) Esther's people, the Jews, threatened to be exterminated by Haman.....-5
- 7) Esther counseled by Mordecai to reveal her Jewish identity, risk death.....-5
- 8) The king listens, the Jews delivered, Haman

ESTHER'S "LIFE-GRAPH"

Esther's Life-Graph



JESUS & THE CROSS!

The ultimate example of Romans 8:28- “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”



MY “LIFE-GRAPH”

Small-group time: briefly explain your lifeline. Explain how these events have shaped who you are up to this point. Then, pray for one another, thanking God for what He has done in both the good times and the bad times.

INTERPRETING MY "LIFE-GRAPH"

Genesis 50:20- *"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."*

Jeremiah 29:11-13- *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*

Romans 8:28- *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."*

“AMAZING GRACE”



ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT WEEK



- ✦ Read Swindoll- Chapters 5-6
- ✦ Read Amerman, Chapter 4 (p.43-47 “Assessing My Choices and Convictions”)
- ✦ In your journal, prayerfully think through and answer application questions- p. 44 & 47
- ✦ Swindoll- Write two paragraph summaries of Chapters 5-6

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