

Scripture: The Law of Love (Ex. 20) – Genesis 42:1-24 Joseph Series #10
Singing: 284:1, 2, 5 – 141:1 – 203 – 83:1-2 – 415:3, 4

You miss out the beauty of communion with God if you hide your sins.

I. God points out that *hiding your sin is a true joy killer*

A. We learn about their struggle to hide their sin: Gen. 42:21-22

1. Consider the vain ways to deal with the sense of *guilt and shame*

2. Hiding sin not only affect you: it affects the victim

B. Learn from David's experience: *Ps. 32:3-5*

II. God points out that He will not reconcile with you if you hide sin

A. Famine and Joseph's actions awaken sleeping consciences (41:57-42:6)

B. What is God teaching through Joseph's treatment?

1. Each sin hinders reconciliation and communion

2. Whose fault if you experience what Joseph's brothers experienced?

a. consider Gen. 42:24; Is. 55:7-9; Micah 7:18-20; 1 John 1:9

b. consider Proverbs 28:13

III. So God's call and invitation is for you to be a true man before Him

A. God calls and invites you to draw near to Him in faith: Heb. 10:22

1. "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:8)

2. Yet you need to draw near with a *true heart*.

B. Don't interpret God's silences as His unwillingness to pardon (vs. 24)

**Remembering:**

1. What made the brothers hate Joseph?
2. Someone has hurt you or is hurting you. Who would you talk to about that?

Listening:

3. What do people do to get of the nagging of their heart about theirs sins?

4. Why was it very loving when Joseph tested the honesty of his brothers?

5. Perhaps you do pray and seek God but it seems God does not answer. What most likely is your your problem?

6. What is true heart?

Reflect:

7. Joseph's brethren were hiding sin. Could it be you are doing that also?

8. Remember the example of the 'spiked floor.' What will you do if you find that you are living on a spiked floor?

9. "But the other person doesn't want to reconcile with me!" Then what does God ask you to do? Check the last verses in Romans 12.