

**Leaders:** Harvest Student Ministry needs your help! They are doing a bake sale fundraiser on December 17th and requesting that small groups assist in off-setting basic costs by providing needed ingredients in order to have students bake pastries. The needed ingredients include items like flour, sugar, baking soda, oats, chocolate chips, and more. Would you consider asking your group to pitch in and commit to buying an ingredient? Email Zak Graves at [zgraves@harvestsacramento.net](mailto:zgraves@harvestsacramento.net) for complete details.

### **LEARN**

What stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday? What was most helpful, encouraging or challenging to your walk with Christ?

Why is it important that Hebrews 11:22 focuses on the end of Joseph's life and not the "spectacular" earlier parts of his life?

(Joseph's faith at the end of his life shows that he did not waver, and that finishing well in faith is every bit as important as great demonstrations of faith early on in life)

Read Genesis 50:22-26. How would you describe the gospel message rooted in the promise from Joseph "God will visit you"?

(It's a narrative running throughout the Bible. God visits his people by saving them from physical death and temporal enemies, but most importantly from the enemies of Satan, sin, and eternal separation from him. We cannot get to God but he came down to us)

### **PRACTICE**

What is the importance of using the biblical language of "deliverance" to describe salvation and our lives following Jesus?

(It emphasizes our inability to save ourselves and highlights Jesus' power to save)

Does your life demonstrate that you have banked everything on God keeping his promises? What are tangible expressions you can think of that would demonstrate this in a Christian's life?

(some ideas: Trusting God in hardship/suffering, making sacrifice of time/treasure to serve God, not living for pleasures/comforts of the world, whole life worship)

Christ coming to the world is the ultimate fulfillment of "God will visit you" (Read Matt. 1:20-23 and John 1-3, 14). How will you focus on Christ during the busyness of the Christmas season?

(We're less than 1 month from Christmas! Encourage tangible ways people can remain focused on Christ's coming – devotionals, prayer emphases, etc. – in the next month)

### **CHANGE**

What are top 2 traits you want to be known for at the end of your life? How will you specifically seek to grow into those in the near future?

(Leaders: The idea is to promote not waiting to magically become the godly, humble, generous, compassionate, etc. etc. person you want to be! What are you doing today to become the kind of person you want to be later in life?)