

## Perspective

**Story:** In the 2017 NBA Finals, LeBron James became the first player to average a triple-double. He averaged 33.6 points, 12.0 rebounds, and 10.0 assists per game. The series however ended with a 4 games to 1 loss versus the Golden State Warriors lead by Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, Klay Thompson, and Draymond Green. All James could do was accept the loss gracefully and acknowledge Golden State as one of the greatest teams he had ever seen.

“I have no reason to put my head down,” James said. “I have no reason to look back at what I could have done or shouldn’t have done or what I could have done better for the team. I left everything I had out on the floor every single game for five games in the Finals, and just came up short.”

Lebron could maintain a proper perspective and hold his head up high. He did everything he could have done to win.

### Questions to consider:

Would you be willing to prepare for an opportunity that may possibly never happen?

When you’ve failed to reach your goal or been in a difficult situation, do you typically ask yourself the question, “is it controllable or uncontrollable?”

Did I do everything that I could?

**Context:** Joseph endured many difficult situations. His brothers planned to kill him, but ended up selling him into slavery. As a slave, Joseph was faithful and upright in his master’s house was falsely accused of attempted rape. He spent years in prison and was forgotten by a man he had helped, who could have pled his case with Pharaoh. Despite the hardships he faced, Joseph never grew bitter towards God or those who had wronged him. Joseph saw past the hurt, the dire circumstances and saw a hopeful future. Because of his faith, God elevated him to a position of leadership in Egypt only second to Pharaoh which allowed him to help save the nation of Egypt and his family from famine.

**Scripture:** Genesis 50:15-21

1. Did Joseph’s brothers have a good reason to feel Joseph would get revenge?
2. What is forgiveness? When should you forgive others?
3. Why was Joseph able to forgive his brothers?

**Key Verse:** “you meant evil against me, *but* God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.” Genesis 50:20

### Anchor to remember:

- Be confident in the process and preparation and leave the results in God’s hands.