Genesis & Generations—November 2, 2010---Episcopal Church Miami Lakes—Father Richard Aguilar

The story of Joseph & his brothers in the book of Genesis in chapters 30 to 50---12 brothers are great-grandsons of Abraham and fourth generation---names are the twelve tribes of Israel who continue the journey of God’s people and God---sibling rivalry, jealously, coat of many colors; Joseph sold into slavery & rises to become a powerful man in Egypt; encounter of brothers, aid in distress and reconciles with all of them---Gen. 30:22-24-Rachel is barren & gives birth to a son---Yosef/Joseph means both to take away (sp) and to add (ysp)

13er generation according to Generations, book, pp.317f –are a Reactive group which is pragmatic, use creativity to question what older generations assume—this generation reacted to being categorized and called selves “Xers.”—born from early 1960’s to early 1980’s—were less protected & criticized in childhood; alienated and risk-taking as rising adults, mellowing into balanced Mid-lifers, and should tend to command respect albeit (less influential than predecessors) in becoming reclusive elders. (p74). Currently Xers are still young adults and entering middle age. Xers were children/youth in the social revolution/Awakening of 1960’s/early 1970’s; rising adults during Inner Driven/expansion of ideas & technology of 1980’s-1990’s, and entering Mid-life in the midst of Crisis/Wars & Economic Recessions of first years of 2000’s. They experiences energy shortages in 1970’s, election of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush as Presidents; Space Shuttle explosion on live TV in 1985; the personal computer in 1980’s; beginning of world wide web in 1990’s; evolution of rock from metal, rap, alternative, grunge, ska; a diverse group in terms of race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc. and have been highest level of college education (60%) of any generation. However, from 1974 to 2004 income levels declined 12% for men of the same age in this thirty year comparison. Famous Xers are: dot.com millionaires, financial crisis of 2008 younger executives; John Bezos (Amazon), Michael Dell (computers); celebrities Chris Rock, Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, Julia Roberts, JLo; sports figures: Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods, Magnificent Seven 1996 Olympics--USA women’s gymnastics team; Williams tennis sisters, David Robinson; musicians: Kurt Cobain, Snoop Dog, Pit Bull, Alicia Keys, Christina Aguilera, Beyonce, and politicomedians Jon Stewart & Steve Colbert ---influence of Gen Xers on the working world---a group that works in order to live not live in order to work!---See list from Forbes via Yahoo Finance on 11.2.10 for America’s Happiest Companies---a significant question is whether Barack Obama, born in 1961 is the first Generation X President? If so, how or how is not President Obama like other Generation Xers and like Joseph and his brothers…Gen Xer movie “Reality Bites” TV show: The Office; TV host: Conan O’Brien & George Lopez; slogans: “Smells like Teen Spirit,” “and I still haven’t found what I’m looking for” by U2; “Recycle!,”Global,”& ” World Wide Web.” Now Xers promise to offer equilibrium, harmony and common sense as elders. May this diverse generation offer experience and wisdom to the new worldview in American society of the 21s century.