

Trials & Blessings



MEMORY VERSE: "God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him."
James 1:12



GENESIS 39:1-6 Serving Potiphar

1. Potiphar, the captain of the guard for Pharaoh, bought Joseph to be his slave. Why was Joseph successful? vv. 2
2. Read verses 3-6. Joseph was given more responsibility which required more work on his part. What does Colossians 3:23 tell us about our work?
3. How would you feel if you were sent to a foreign country and never heard or saw anyone in your family again? Can you think of a time when you had to rely on God alone?



GENESIS 39:7-12, 16-20 Falsely Accused

4. Potiphar's wife wanted Joseph to notice her and she tempted Joseph day in and day out. Read verses 7-12. How did Joseph handle the situation?
5. How did Potiphar's wife frame Joseph? What happened to Joseph? vv. 16-20
6. When you face temptations, will you be faithful to God? What might Joseph's example teach us about dealing with temptation?



GENESIS 39:21-23 Serving in Prison

- 7. How did God show Joseph His “faithful love” in prison?

- 8. How do you think Joseph felt when he was thrown in prison and later as God provided for him?

- 9. How has God turned a hardship into a blessing in your life?

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

As Christ followers we are promised both trials and great blessings. When we work hard and more importantly, draw near to Jesus, He will draw near to us. Whatever hardship you face, God will be there to protect you and provide for you.

PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Lord,
Thank You for all the promises in Your Word. Please help me to remember these promises when I face trouble. Help me to seek Your strength and Your power. Please help me to do my jobs well without complaining so that I can be a leader for You. I trust your plan for my life.
I love you. Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



None of these terrible circumstances changed or defeated God’s plan for Joseph’s life.

Do you ever feel like God has abandoned you? What do you learn from this lesson about God?

*Look back at the blessings you wrote down in week one and remember them when you face trials.



Genesis 39:1-6, 7-12 & 16-20, 21-23 (NLT)

1 When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt.

2 The LORD was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. 3 Potiphar noticed this and realized that the LORD was with Joseph, giving him success in everything he did. 4 This pleased Potiphar, so he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned. 5 From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master's household and property, the LORD began to bless Potiphar's household for Joseph's sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished. 6 So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn't worry about a thing — except what kind of food to eat! Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man,

7 and Potiphar's wife soon began to look at him lustfully. "Come and sleep with me," she demanded. 8 But Joseph refused. "Look," he told her, "my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. 9 No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God."

10 She kept putting pressure on Joseph day after day, but he refused to sleep with her, and he kept out of her way as much as possible. 11 One day, however, no one else was around when he went in to do his work. 12 She came and grabbed him by his cloak, demanding, "Come on, sleep with me!" Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he ran from the house.

16 She kept the cloak with her until her husband came home. 17 Then she told him her story. "That Hebrew slave you've brought into our house tried to come in and fool around with me," she said. 18 "But when I screamed, he ran outside, leaving his cloak with me!"

19 Potiphar was furious when he heard his wife's story about how Joseph had treated her. 20 So he took Joseph and threw him into the prison where the king's prisoners were held, and there he remained.

21 But the LORD was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the LORD made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden. 22 Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. 23 The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The LORD was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.

Slave - one who belongs to another; serves another.

Temptation - anything that attracts a person to do something unwise, wrong, or opposed to God's will.

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