

# Joseph



**DISCOVERING THE WAY OF GOD THROUGH  
JOSEPH**

# The Story of Joseph



- The story of Joseph is about the life of a man who is treated unfairly, abandoned, abused and forgotten.
- And yet, Joseph never becomes bitter or resentful, but forgives and keeps his faith in God.
- Joseph is a powerful model for Christian living.

# Joseph's Family Roots



**A FAMILY OF DECEPTION, JEALOUSY AND  
FAVORITISM**



## **Joseph in the Bible**

The story of Joseph takes up more chapters in the Bible than the story of creation.

## **GENESIS 30-50**

- Genesis 30:24-37:2: Birth to 17 Years.

**The history of Joseph's family, including the dysfunction in the family.**

- Genesis 37:2-41:46: 17 Years to 30 Years.

**Joseph is betrayed, sold into slavery and imprisoned.**

- Genesis 41:6-50:26: 30 Years to Death.

**Joseph is ruler of Egypt and reunites with his family.**

# Jacob



## Jacob and Leah

- Jacob is tricked into marrying Leah.
- Jacob hates Leah.
- Jacob has 7 children with Leah and two with Leah's servant.

## Jacob and Rachel

- Jacob marries his first love, Rachel.
- Jacob adores Rachel.
- Jacob has two sons with Rachel and two with Rachel's servant

# Jacob's Family



- **Jacob has a large family, but it is filled with hatred, jealousy and deceit.**
- **Jacob turns a blind eye to all the evils happening in his family.**
- **Jacob only cares about his two sons, especially Joseph, that he has with his favorite wife, Rachel.**

# Joseph



**THE FAVORED SON**

# Joseph: The Favored Son



- “Jacob loved Joseph more than all his sons, because he was the son of his old age; and so he made Joseph a multicolored coat” (Genesis 37:3)
- “And his brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than all his brothers; and so they hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms” (Genesis 37:4)



# Joseph in Egypt



- Joseph is sold into slavery in Egypt.
- He is sold to a captain of Egypt by the name of Potiphar.
- “And God was with Joseph, so he became a successful man” (Genesis 39:2).
- Potiphar makes Joseph ruler of all his household.

# Joseph Faces Temptation



## Facing Temptation

- Temptation will always haunt us.
- Temptation is especially powerful when things are going well for us and we start to forget God.

## Fighting Temptation

- Best weapon of defense for temptation is to run from it immediately.
- Don't open yourself up to temptation. Get away. Resist. Say NO!

# Joseph Defeats Temptation



- Joseph is “well-built and handsome” (Genesis 39:6).
- Potiphar’s wife can’t keep her eyes (or her hands) off Joseph.
- Joseph always says “no!”
- Potiphar’s wife lures Joseph who makes a hasty escape but not before she falsely accuses him of assault her.
- Joseph is thrown into prison.

# Joseph in Prison



**FORGOTTEN AND FORSAKEN**

# Joseph in Prison



- “But the Lord was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer. And the chief jailer committed to Joseph’s charge all the prisoners who were in jail; so that whatever was done there, Joseph was responsible for it. The chief jailer did not supervise anything under Joseph’s charge because the Lord was with him; and whatever Joseph did, the Lord made it to prosper” (Genesis 39:21-23).

# Joseph Interprets Dreams



## The Cupbearer's Dream

- The cupbearer's dream is interpreted by Joseph.
- The cupbearer will be released from prison in three days.
- Joseph tells him: "keep me in mind when it goes well with you."

## The Baker's Dream

- The baker's dream is interpreted by Joseph.
- The baker will be released from prison in three days to be executed.

# Joseph: Ruler of Egypt



**FROM ZERO TO HERO**

# Joseph: Released and Promoted



- The cupbearer is released from prison but forgets to put in a good word for Joseph.
- Two years later Pharaoh needs his dream interpreted and the cupbearer remembers Joseph.
- Joseph tells Pharaoh that Egypt will see 7 years of plenty and 7 years of famine.
- “Since God has informed you of all this, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and according to your command all my people shall do homage; only in the throne I will be greater.”



# Joseph: Ruler of Egypt



- All of the experiences that Joseph went through; being sold into slavery at 17, managing Potiphar's affairs, being thrown in prison and then managing the affairs of the prison. All these were God's way of preparing Joseph for the great task of running Egypt.
- That's the lesson for us, long periods of difficulty shouldn't discourage us. Nor should our memories of when things were bad hold us hostage and keep us back from doing great things. God is with us. And nothing should frighten us, neither difficulty nor success.

# Joseph Sees His Brothers



- Joseph's family in Canaan is starving. They go to Egypt to buy grain, and there come face to face with Joseph.
- “Then they said to one another, truly we are guilty concerning our brother because we saw the distress of his soul when he pleaded with us, yet we would not listen; therefore this distress has come upon us. [And hearing all this Joseph] turned away from them and wept.” (Gen 42:21-24)

# Joseph: Reunited with his Family



- “I am Joseph...I am your brother Joseph , whom you sold into Egypt.”
- “Do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine is still ongoing...therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God.”
- “Because you meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good...in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.”

# Jesus and Joseph



## Jesus

- Jesus was loved by His Father (Matt 3:17)
- Jesus was hated for His words (John 7:7)
- Jesus foretold His future (Matt 26:64)
- Jesus was stripped of His coat (Matt 27:27)
- Jesus was sold for thirty pieces of silver (
- Jesus came as a servant (Phil 2:6)
- Jesus won the respect of the centurion (Lk 23:47)
  
- Over 60 comparisons with Joseph

## Joseph

- Joseph was loved by his father (Gen 37:2)
- Joseph was hated for his words (Gen 37:8)
- Joseph foretold his future (Gen 37:7-12)
- Joseph was stripped of his coat (Gen 37:23)
- Joseph was sold (Gen 37:38)
- Joseph becomes a servant (Gen 39:1)
- Joseph won respect of jailer (Gen 39:21)
  
- Over 60 comparisons with Jesus

# Joseph: Hero of the Bible



**JOSEPH LIVED A LIFE OF FORGIVENESS,  
PATIENCE, FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD'S PLAN**