

Season 1 Study 5: Joseph the Dreamer

THE BIG YEAR

A Journey through God's Word

*How is your Bible reading going? What gems have you uncovered this week?
Anything you find hard to understand or accept?*

1. We live in a world full of temptation. What kinds of things add 'fuel' to the fire of temptation today? Do you think it's harder to stand firm in your faith today than it was a generation or two ago?
2. Joseph often presents as a 'type' of Jesus Christ. In what ways do you see Joseph's life resembling the life of Jesus? What similarities have you noticed?

READ GENESIS 39:1-23 TOGETHER

3. Why do you think Potiphar trusted Joseph so much? What was it about him that made him appear 'trustworthy'? (see vs 3)
4. Why would Potiphar's wife's advances be particularly difficult for Joseph to turn down? What reasons did Joseph give for declining?
5. When Mrs Potiphar finally cornered Joseph, he ran! How can we discern when its time to stand firm in the face of temptation, and when it's time to run?
6. Joseph ends up paying the price for someone else's sin by being falsely accused by Potiphar's wife. He had already suffered much because of his brothers' jealousy. Can you think of any other examples of people in the Scriptures who suffered because of the sins of others?
7. Have YOU ever had to endure hardship because of someone else's sin? Share with the group!
8. If this picture in Genesis 39 is a picture of the gospel and the way that Jesus suffered for our sin, who would we be in the story?
9. Read the following Scriptures: **Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Corinthians 10:12-14; James 1:13-15; Hebrews 12:3-4**. What can we learn about the nature of temptation, and how to beat it, from these verses?
10. What evidence is there at the end of Genesis 39 to suggest that God was still very much 'with' Joseph all along, despite the hardship he encountered? Is this an encouragement to you?

And the patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him and rescued him out of all his afflictions and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who made him ruler over Egypt and over all his household. (Acts 7:9-10)