CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Joseph – God Shapes A Leader (Genesis 41:39-40)

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God has chosen to work through people to accomplish His mission. We will see in this lesson that God looks for one who is faithful, then He grows that person into the servant leader needed for that purpose. **Have you been selected, then challenged to grow and meet the demands of the work or service?**

INTRODUCTION

Young Joseph's life was threatened when he brought back a bad report on the behavior of four of his brothers as they returned from pasturing the flock at a distant grazing area. At seventeen, he was the youngest of the ten half-brothers and the son of Jacob's beloved wife Rachel who had recently died. Jacob displayed overt favoritism by giving Joseph a multicolored tunic. Joseph further enraged the brothers by sharing his dream of them bowing down to him. This hostility resulted in the brothers selling Joseph, as a slave, to some merchants in a caravan that was passing by where the sons were grazing their flocks. The brothers reported his loss as an apparent attack by a wild animal. **Can you share how you saw a favoritism situation mediated?**

GOD BLESSES HIS FAITHFUL

Genesis 39:2-4 The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. When his master saw that the LORD was with him in everything he did, Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. (NIV)

Joseph was sold to an Egyptian named Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard. **Have you experienced a time God seemed to bless all that you did? (Mathew 25:23)**

JOSEPH PUT IN THE KING'S PRISON

Genesis 39:20 When the master heard his wife's story he burned with anger and put Joseph in prison, with the king's prisoners. (NIV)

Potiphar's wife repeatedly attempted to seduce Joseph. He refused, saying he could not do a wicked thing against his master and sin against God. She told her husband that "your Hebrew slave attacked me." **How do you keep from giving your adversary a foothold to accuse you. (1Peter 5:8-11-) (2Timothy 2:22).**

God gave Joseph favor with the Captain of the Guard. He was put in charge of prisoners. Two of Pharaoh's servants, a cupbearer and a baker were imprisoned. They shared their mysterious dreams with Joseph. He prayed and God revealed that Pharaoh would soon review their charges. The cupbearer returned to the palace. Pharaoh had double dreams which no one could explain. The cupbearer remembered Joseph and he was called to interpret. Joseph replied to Pharaoh, ***"It is not in me, God must give it."*** **Can you share when you gave God credit for your success?**

SEVEN YEARS: ABUNDANCE THEN FAMINE

Genesis 41:15-37 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one as wise and discerning as you." (NIV)

Joseph was made prime minister of all Egypt. He collected one-fifth of the grain during the years of plenty and sold the grain to the people during the famine. **How have you provided for others in such times?**

JOSEPH'S FAMILY COMES TO EGYPT

Genesis 42:3 Then ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. (NIV)

The brothers did not recognize Joseph as he quizzed them about their family. He put them to several tests to bring them to repentance. Finally, Joseph provided for the entire family to resettle in the NE section of Egypt. Sixty-six came in 1875 B.C. They grew in this protective environment to a nation of over a million by their exodus in 1445 B.C. **Can you share how God is shaping a legacy for your family?**

A PRAYER

Almighty God, thank You for constantly revealing how my destiny is in Your hands. Please direct my steps during the remainder of my life journey. I pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen.