

The Life of Joseph: Week 6 ~ Chapter Five: Pure in Potiphar's House

Part 1: Joseph, Friend of Heaven (Gen 39:1-3 & Psalm 105:16-21)

In Genesis 37, it is never said that Joseph walked with God, spoke with God or that God was with Joseph. In fact, God is not mentioned a single time. However, in the opening lines of Chapter 39, it is mentioned three times that God was with Joseph. **What brought about this change?**

It is my belief that: (1) Joseph _____ God in the empty cistern and (2) that during the caravan ride to Egypt God revealed some portion of the _____ of his dreams.

Faith is believing the Word of God; the promises of God concerning the future...

(See Rom 10:17, Gen 6:17-18, Gen 12:1-3)

Heb 11:22 says that Joseph lived by faith. How could Joseph walk/live “**by faith**” if God never understandably spoke anything to Joseph or promised anything to Joseph concerning his future?

**The only instance recorded when God ‘spoke’ to Joseph was when God gave Joseph the dreams.
Oddly enough, the dreams were about his future...**

It could be argued that Joseph walked by faith, like Noah & Abraham because Joseph believed the Word of God concerning his future, as was revealed to him in his dreams. It could be argued that the dreams must have been made intelligible to him, if he was to place his faith in their _____.

We do not know that for sure, but what we do know is that...

Joseph knows the Lord now. The Lord is with Joseph. Joseph is walking with the Lord. Potiphar knows that God is with Joseph. God is blessing the labor of Joseph.

It is my belief that God comforted Joseph on the caravan ride, _____ him that he had not been abandoned and that he had a plan for him. It is my belief that this profound _____ with God was the basis for...

Joseph’s ability to remain _____, to work _____ and to remain sexually _____.

If God was not communicating with Joseph...then Joseph’s character was a result of his own _____ and not faith in God’s Word.

Part 2: Joseph, Diligent in Vocation (Gen 39:4-6)

Joseph’s _____ was not primarily owing to Joseph, but rather to the Lord. However, I do believe that Joseph’s positive response to his _____ and his trust in the Lord was also a _____ of this blessing.

I believe the Lord blessed Joseph’s labor because Joseph was passing the ‘first test’. That is; in spite of all that happened to him, Joseph was choosing to believe the Lord & work diligently unto the Lord.

The years at Potiphar’s house reflect the 7 years of plenty which are to come. At Potiphar’s house, Joseph will _____ the responsibility, the discipline and the integrity of faithfully managing _____ a time of MUCH luxury, plenty and ease. In prison, he will learn the disciplines needed to work _____ during years of little, years of famine and years of despair.

**Joseph will need to manage a little-bit of MUCH well, under Potiphar’s _____...
if he is to manage a whole-lot of MUCH well, under Pharaoh’s _____!**

Before God will hand over the keys to all the silver and all the food in the kingdom of Egypt to Joseph.... He wants to know that Joseph can be trusted with the most valuable possession in the house...

Part 3: Joseph, Pure in Temptation (Gen 37:6-20)

The scene for great sin is set when a painful past, meets _____ and _____.
Joseph has a very painful past, coupled with power & privacy!

Joseph states three reasons for refusing to commit adultery in this way...

1st her husband, Potiphar, has been very gracious to Joseph and giving him much.

2nd he would be putting at _____ the high position that he had been placed in.

3rd it would be committing a 'sin against God'.

Joseph was telling Potiphar's wife these things, but it is as though he was 'preaching to himself' and
_____ himself of all the _____ not to give in.

Joseph _____ his 'Shechem' and _____ to even be with her.
He realized the dangers of being near her and avoided her as much as possible. Joseph
_____ that with many temptations, you cannot rely on will-power time and time
again. He knew that he had to _____ himself from the situation all together.

The stripping of the second robe is significant for many reasons...

1st it represented that the affluent life of 'esteemed-servant' had been stripped. 2nd, He had passed the first stage of his training. He had been a faithful steward of MUCH! 3rd it represented the beginning of the second stage of training...being treated as a criminal and being a faithful during times of trouble.

**Joseph would need these skills if he was to manage well during the years of famine,
and if he was to treat his criminal brothers with compassion.**

Chapter Five: Life Lessons

#1 We must _____ that the same God who was with Joseph is with you
and I! And He is _____ to empower us & guide us in the same way!

#2 We must consider the people who we can/will hurt with our sin. We must consider all the things we have to lose if/when we commit a great sin.

#3 We must avoid the _____, places or products which consistently
_____ opportunities for sinful behavior.

#4 We must realize that the future of families, _____ and nations may hang in the balance of our temptations.

#5 Difficulties, trials and temptations may befall us...but they are not to
_____ or destroy us, they are to _____ us into the kind of person we need to be for a certain place, position or time.