

## Joseph in Temptation The Life of Joseph

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### Key Truth:

The presence of Jesus Christ enables the servant of God to resist temptation and to endure the earthly consequences of faithfulness.

Chapter 39 picks up where chapter 37 left off. Joseph is taken down to Egypt and sold to Potiphar the captain of Pharaoh's guard. While working for Potiphar, the Lord causes Joseph to prosper and Potiphar realizes he is also prospering because of Joseph. Potiphar's wife also notices Joseph and tries to tempt him. But Joseph flees, leaving his garment behind. Potiphar finds out, becomes angry, and throws Joseph in prison. While in prison, however, Joseph once again prospers and is put in charge of the prison. God's presence with Joseph and Joseph's resistance to temptation result in both his imprisonment and his continued success.

### DISCUSS

Read **Genesis 39:1-23** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on **Joseph in Temptation**.

### DIG IN

#### 1. Success: (Genesis 39:1-6)

In what ways did the Lord grant Joseph success in Potiphar's household?

How would this have been a blessing to Potiphar and his wife?

#### 2. Suffering through Temptation: (Genesis 39:7-20)

In what ways was Potiphar's wife a "truth-twister" and a "blame-shifter?"

Is it also possible for those who give in to temptation to twist the truth or shift the blame? Why or why not?

In resisting temptation, Joseph recognized his true master, fled the scene, and drew upon God's presence. Can you think of a time when it is better NOT to flee the scene when resisting temptation? Explain.

#### 3. Success: (Genesis 39:21-23)

Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of attempted rape. Potiphar became angry and threw Joseph in prison. Of course, this was false and unfair, yet even in prison, the Lord caused Joseph to be successful. In what ways does this encourage you?

Jesus Christ was also falsely accused and put to death because of it. He was tempted in every way, yet did not commit sin (see Hebrews 4:15-16). Since Jesus is now our High Priest, granting us access to the Father, in what ways can Jesus help us resist temptation? What if we fail to resist temptation?

### DO

Take time to pray to your High Priest. Thank him for resisting temptation on your behalf. Ask for strength to resist temptation for his glory.