

# Joseph in Pharaoh's Court

## The Life of Joseph

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### Key Truth:

Because God is sovereign over the affairs of mankind, we can trust him to carry out his will

Through Joseph's interpretations of Pharaoh's dreams God reveals what he is going to do. He also brings it about. Since we know God is the Creator of Everything, he must therefore be in control of everything. In this important chapter in Joseph's life, the thing that shines through is that God reveals truth and makes truth happen. Will we take God at his Word?

### DISCUSS

Read **Genesis 41:1-36** and name the phrases in the text that speak of God's sovereign care. Discuss with the group why God's sovereignty is an important attribute to be reminded of when going through difficulties.

### DIG IN

Three ways God expresses his sovereign care:

1. **God's Timing for Joseph:** (Genesis 41:1-13)

Describe how the timing of Pharaoh's dreams is an example of God's sovereign timing in Joseph's life, as well as his family and the Egyptians.

Knowing what we do about the Egyptians' worship of the Nile River for its fertility, why would Pharaoh have been troubled by these two dreams?

2. **God's Provision of Joseph:** (Genesis 41:14-24)

Read **Genesis 41:16**: What does this tell you about God's provision and Joseph's faith?

Why was it important that God had given Joseph himself to Pharaoh as a gift more than just the interpretations of his dreams?

3. **God's Wisdom from Joseph:** (Genesis 41:25-36)

Pharaoh's dreams end with disaster (for example, the skinny cows swallowing up the plump cows), yet Joseph moves beyond the dreams to give Pharaoh a Plan to avoid disaster. Restate that plan in your own words.

Why do you think the magicians and wise men (Genesis 41:8) would have been no help at all here?

In what ways does the wise plan Joseph shared with Pharaoh illustrate the gospel?

### DO

Share with the group an instance in your life when you trusted God's timing even when it meant going through great difficulty. Reaffirm your commitment to the truth that He knows better than me.