

Joseph in Charge The Life of Joseph

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Key Truth:

When we sow faithfulness in our responsibilities, we reap fruitfulness in our rewards.

After Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams he advises a plan that would help Pharaoh avoid disaster. Pharaoh approves the plan and decides that Joseph would be the person to execute it. Though Joseph experiences what some might call a "meteoric rise" in power, he had actually been preparing for this moment for years. As we look at today's Scripture text, we will draw out three principles that will help us develop a life of faithfulness to God.

DISCUSS

Read **Genesis 41:37-57** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on Joseph in Charge.

DIG IN

Three principles of faithfulness:

1. The Principle of Growing Responsibility (Genesis 41:37-44)

Faithfulness in smaller responsibilities yields the fruitfulness of greater responsibilities.

Describe the "honors" that Pharaoh bestowed on Joseph (vv. 39-45).

Why do you think Pharaoh thought Joseph would be the "right man for the job?"

How had Joseph been preparing for this all along?

2. The Principle of Devotion (Genesis 41:45-52)

Faithfulness in our devotion to Christ in the midst of wickedness yields the fruitfulness of greater spiritual fruit for Christ's glory.

Based on verses 45-52, what are the things that *could* have influenced Joseph to adopt the gods and culture of Egypt?

In what ways did Joseph remain devoted to God while living in Egypt?

3. The Principle of Stewardship (Genesis 41:53-57)

Faithfulness in our stewardship of the resources God entrusts to us in times of plenty yields the fruitfulness of sufficient resources in times of need.

Describe the actions of Joseph which represent good stewardship.

In what ways does Joseph's good stewardship contribute to the success of Egypt during both the plentiful and lean years?

DO

Share with the group any changes that you need to make in order to build greater faithfulness into your lifestyle. Propose a plan to bring that about.