

Cultivate Genesis Study
Chapter 41

Read and meditate on Genesis Chapter 41 this week
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class.

God has big plans for all His children, He has a work to accomplish, He desires to use each of us to bring others into the kingdom. Did you know that God has a plan for you and that He thinks of you often? Ephesians 2:10 tells us, *"For we are **God's workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus to do **good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

He is intimately involved with us and everything about us, our thoughts, plans, purpose, and reward. Just as God was for Joseph, God is for us!

God is a rewarder of those who seek Him. He wants us to trust Him even in the most difficult trials of life just as Joseph did. There was a time of sowing and reaping for Joseph (a waiting period) but in the end, he reaped the good that God had for him.

Stay close to God and wait for Him to bless you with the good things you have sown in His Name.

Read verses 1-7.

Pharoah's dreams took place at the Nile and involved cows and grain. These were two important symbols for the Egyptians.

"The cow is a very significant emblem of fruitful nature among the Egyptians, the hieroglyphic symbol of the earth and of agriculture; and the form in which Isis the goddess of the earth was adored.", and "Corn (grain) is the natural emblem of fertility and nurture." From Barnes Notes on the Bible

In verse 6, the "East wind" referred to is known as khamsin, which is an oppressive, hot southerly or southeasterly wind blowing in Egypt in the spring.

These dreams were very troubling to Pharoah.

1. What are some ways you might be comforted when you are troubled at night?

Read Proverbs 3:24 and Jeremiah 31:26

How do these verses minister to you?

Matthew Poole's Commentary – "**The magicians**, whose profession it was to discover secret and future things; which they did either by the observation of the stars, or by other superstitious practices, and the help of evil spirits."

2. Why do you think were they unable to interpret Pharoah's dreams?

Read Daniel Chapter 2.

3. What similarities do you find in Daniel's experience?

Read verses 9-13

4. Who reminded the cupbearer? _____

5. Was this perfect timing, Yes, or No? Explain your answer.

The cupbearer had forgotten his promise to Joseph. Has anyone ever made you a promise they did not keep? Maybe they forgot!

Have you ever made a promise you did not keep? Is there a way you can work on keeping that promise now? _____

6. Share a time the Lord reminded you of something important that you had forgotten.

Be sure to thank the Lord when He reminds you of things.

Verse 9, *“Then Pharaoh sent word and called for Joseph, and they hurriedly brought him out of the dungeon; and when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came to Pharaoh.”*

In every good work there is a sense of promise and Joseph’s good works and faith in God will begin the process of God’s good promises in his life.

Joseph shaved and changed his clothing to meet the king. Why do think he needed to be cleaned up?

It was the Egyptian custom that only those men who were in mourning would allow their hair and beard to grow.

When we come to meet our King Jesus, we come to Him with all our dirt and filthiness, our God is more concerned with cleaning up the inside of people rather than how we look on the outside.

7. Use your concordance to look up any one of these words: clean, cleanness, cleanse, purify. Be ready to share and explain the Scripture you chose and what it means to you.

8. *Briefly* discuss dressing for church services. Casual churches are more common now than in years past where it was expected that you dress your best for church. Read James 2:2-5

Read verses 15, 16

Have you ever heard the saying “give credit where credit is due?” Joseph spoke honestly to Pharaoh; he knew he had no power to interpret dreams. Joseph has come a long way since his own dreams back in Canaan. Would you say Joseph has exhibited some Spiritual maturity at this point? _____

God sent the dream, gave the interpretation, and God would bring it all to pass!

Rom 11:33-34, *"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?""*

In verse 33, Joseph said, *"And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt."*

Joseph said this not knowing that it would be himself, that Pharaoh chooses for the job.

Pharaoh recognized God's hand on Joseph and Joseph was a faithful servant for God before many witnesses.

How has your witness for our loving, King Jesus been lately? If God is convicting you of something that is hindering your witness, what should you do to change?

Read verses 39-41.

This exact Pharaoh was ruling at this exact time, to move Joseph into a position of power, in order to save his family and the line of the Messiah.

God's plan is now being put into action; Pharaoh needed an administrator.

9. How had God prepared or trained Joseph for this position?

10. Looking back are you able see how God prepared you for a job position, marriage, raising a family, or maybe a ministry?

Have you thanked God for that training? 😊

Verse 46, *"Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt."*

Who else was thirty years old when He began His ministry? _____

Joseph was now known as Zaphenath-Paneah, which means, "The God speaks, and lives."

Verse 51,52, "Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh (forget) and said, "It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household." 52 The second son he named Ephraim (double fruitful) and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering."

Read verse 53-57.

The events happened just as Joseph prophetically said they would.

Read 2Peter 1:21 and 1Corinthians 12:10.

God has a warning in Deuteronomy 18:22 regarding prophesy.

11. We can trust that Jesus is the Messiah, because of the prophecies that He fulfilled. If time allows, dig into the Old Testament to find prophecies that Jesus fulfilled. Knowing these can build your faith and be a tool in sharing the Gospel and the Divine nature of our Savior.

Write down the OT prophesy and where in the NT it was fulfilled.

Horizontal lines for writing.