REVIEW:

Brothers throw Joseph into pit.

Genesis 37:29-36 Then Reuben returned to the pit, and indeed Joseph was not in the pit; and <u>he</u> tore his clothes. (30) And he returned to his brothers and said, "The lad is no more; and I, where shall I go?"

- (31) So they took Joseph's tunic, killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the tunic in the blood.
- (32) Then they sent the tunic of many colors, and they brought it to their father and said, "We have found this. Do you know whether it is your son's tunic or not?"
- (33) And he recognized it and said, "It is my son's tunic. A wild beast has devoured him.

 Without doubt Joseph is torn to pieces." (34)

 Then Jacob tore his clothes, put sackcloth on his waist, and mourned for his son many days.
- (35) And all his sons and all his daughters arose to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted, and he said, "For I shall go down

into the grave to my son in mourning." Thus his father wept for him.

Genesis 39:1-23 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him down there.

(2) The LORD was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. (3) And his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD made all he did to prosper in his hand. (4) So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all that he had he put under his authority. (5) So it was, from the time that he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field. (6) Thus he left all that he had in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate.

Egyptian saw the Lord was with Joseph, the Egyptian saw the Lord was with him, the Lord made all prosper under the hand of Joseph, and the Egyptian was receiving the blessing of the Lord because of Joseph. Potiphar did not worry about anything because he trusted Joseph with all. The common denominator is the LORD.

Psalms 1:1-3 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

In these several passages we hear the

- (2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.
- (3) He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

Psalms 37:4-5 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. (5) Commit your way to the

LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. (7) And it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." (8) But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. (9) There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

A) Joseph was a man of integrity.

Proverbs 20:7 The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.

B) Joseph was a man of conviction.

1 John 2:27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and

is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

(10) So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her. (11) But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside, (12) that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside. (13) And so it was, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and fled outside, (14) that she called to the men of her house and spoke to them, saying, "See, he has brought in to us a Hebrew to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice. (15) And it happened, when he heard that I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me, and fled and went outside." (16) So she kept his garment with her until his master came home. (17) Then she spoke to him with words like these, saying, "The Hebrew servant whom you brought to us came in to me

to mock me; (18) so it happened, as I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me and fled outside." (19) So it was, when his master heard the words which his wife spoke to him, saying, "Your servant did to me after this manner," that his anger was aroused. (20) Then Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were confined. And he was there in the prison.

- A) This woman tempted Joseph every day.
- B) When she could not prevail she resorted to force.
- C) Joseph fled and wanted nothing to do with it. Yet was accused of sexual assault.
- D) The woman then insulted her husband. ""See, he has brought in to us a Hebrew to mock us." ""The Hebrew servant whom you brought to us" Sin likes to blame.
- E) Potiphar was angry...Yet, I am a firm believer that he was not angry at Joseph as much as about his wife. I believe Potiphar knew his wife was a sexual predator and troublemaker. I believe this may not have been the first incident. I believe Potiphar was upset

because he had no choice but to react and that meant taking his most precious asset to prison. Not death as commanded.

F) Sin destroys the blessings that God has for you.

A DEEPER PERSPECTIVE:

If you do not know the story let me quickly help you but please take a moment to read it through out the week. Joseph goes to prison, he prospers in prison. He meets two men who have dreams. Joseph interprets his dream. The interpretation is correct and the one is released and goes back to the command of the Pharoah. Pharoah has a dream and no one can interpret it. Then the man remembers Joseph who interpreted his dream and brings him to Pharoah. Joseph interprets Pharoah dream and is then set as second in command of all Egypt.

- ---- Was the accussation of the woman against Joseph part of God's plan?
 - A) What if Joseph was being tempted?
 - B) What if Joseph was pleading for deliverance?

C) What if God knew that the only way to get Joseph out of Potiphar home was adversity?

We may not know all those answers but what we do know is that God works all things for good to those who love God. Yes, even those who struggle, those who are tempted, those who are fallen, those who cry out, even those who are none of that but are comfortable and God needs to give them a better assignment for their faithfulness.

The CALL TO SURRENDER ALL