

PART 3: The Legacy Question

DATE: 07-18-2021

START

We all love a good story. Some stories we read about in history books, others we watch on the big screen, and still others we simply recount by telling them. We are all living a story and that story is being written one decision at a time. Some stories live on long after we are gone. We call them legacies.

- Share a funny story that you love to tell.
- What are the most significant decisions that have made up your story so far?
- What comes to mind when you think of the word legacy?

READ

[Genesis 39:8-9](#) (NIV)

But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

THINK

Our lives are made up of countless decisions. With each decision we have the choice to pause and reflect, to think how our decisions affect us and those in our lives, and then make a decision that we are proud to add to our story. The truth is... sometimes things can get in the way of making good decisions. Emotions, pressure, and outcomes all play a role in derailing our best intentions.

- What gets in the way of your decision making process?
- What is something you can do to ensure that your future decisions are made with the best intentions?

Joseph faced many circumstances that were brought on by the actions of others. He was sold into slavery, accused of a crime he did not commit, and put in prison, all by the actions of other people. He could have chosen to become bitter and seek revenge, but instead he chose to continue to make good decisions.. When faced with the decision in the verses above, Joseph chose to do what was right even if it meant that he was unfairly put into difficult circumstances. He did this because he knew what kind of story he wanted to tell.

- How do you respond when someone else's actions cause you to face difficult circumstances?
- Is your life currently made up of decisions that are telling the story that you want to tell?
- What story do you want to tell?

PRAY

"Lord, I know that my story is being written one decision at a time. Help me to make good decisions so that I can honor You in all that I do. Help me to tell a story that I am proud of... a story that points to You. Amen."

ACT

With each new decision you face, ask yourself the question, "what story do I want to tell?" before making your decision.

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ONE CHURCH. RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE.