

2023



# INSECURE

“LOVE STORY” SERIES

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What do you do when your money doesn't match your dream? What do you do when how you're being handled doesn't match your dream? What do you do when you've been assigned to something, but it doesn't go with what God showed you? And if you're not careful, you will become insecure. You have to be secure to know what God has already spoken. And if He said it, it has to happen.

The *Love Story* series concludes with a parallel of an HBO show entitled, “Insecure” and the life of Joseph in the Bible. If anyone had a valid reason to be insecure, it was Joseph. We see his life through the lens of friendship, partnership, and relationship and learn that God was with him throughout his journey.

## THIS WILL BE A RECORD BREAKING YEAR.

### THE DEFINITION OF INSECURE:

- Uncertainty
- Anxiety about yourself
- Lack of confidence

### THE DREAM

*Genesis 37:5a NIV - Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers,*

*Genesis 37:9a NIV - Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers.*

- When God gives you a dream you have to be careful who you share it with. The dream is to show what God wants to reveal in your life.
- God only gave Joseph a dream twice. You can't be insecure about what God showed you.
- When God gives you a dream, He will give you faith for your dream.

*What dreams has God given you? What, if anything, about the dream has made you feel insecure?*

## BE CAREFUL NOT TO SHARE YOUR DREAMS WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE NIGHTMARES.

### FRIEND: JOSEPH AND THE CUPBEARER

*Genesis 39:21 NIV - the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.*

- The right friends help you cultivate your dream.
- When God puts His favor on you, nobody can stop it.

*Who has God put around you to help you with your dream?*

Genesis 40:14 NIV - *But when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to Pharaoh and get me out of this prison.*

- God's plan for you is bigger than your insecurities. He doesn't think lowly of you just because you are in a low place.

Genesis 40:23 - *The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.*

- Sometimes abandonment feels like abuse. When friends forget, God gives you faith.
- Never underestimate a season. God doesn't waste seasons. You thought God was delaying you, but He was preserving you.

*Have any friends ever abandoned you? In what ways did it cause you to feel insecure?*

Genesis 41:9 NIV - *Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "Today I am reminded of my shortcomings.*

- When you don't understand a season, keep your mouth off that season.
- The same God that made your friends forget has the power to make them remember.
- You thought you were forgotten, but it just wasn't your time.
- God will let a problem be created that needs what you're carrying. Let your favor reflect your confidence.

*What made you feel forgotten? How did God remind you and others of who you are?*

**HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT FRIEND CIRCLE?**

**THEY TALK ABOUT YOUR DREAMS.**

**HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN THE WRONG FRIEND CIRCLE?**

**THEY TALK ABOUT YOU.**

## **PARTNERSHIP: JOSEPH AND PHARAOH**

Genesis 41:41, 57 NIV - [41] *So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."* [57] *And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph because the famine was severe everywhere.*

- When you get called, you cannot be insecure. The world needs your gift and it will make room for you.
- Keep doing what you're doing behind closed doors. One opportunity can shift everything.
- Don't let your Potiphar experience affect your response to Pharaoh's invitation.

*What is your gift? How are you using it to glorify God? Who has God sent you to be a partner with you?*

**YOU CAN LET ONE PARTNERSHIP SHUT YOU DOWN, OR YOU CAN CONTINUE TO LET GOD FLOW THROUGH YOU.**

**RELATIONSHIP: JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS**

Genesis 37:4, 23-24, 28 NIV - *When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, **they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.** [23] So when Joseph came to his brothers, they **stripped him of his robe**---the ornate robe he was wearing--- [24] and they took him and **threw him into the cistern.** The cistern was empty; there was no water in it. [28] So when the Midianite merchants came by, his **brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern** and **sold him** for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.*

- Joseph's family:
  - Hated him
  - Verbally abused him
  - Threw him
  - Pulled him out
  - Sold him
- Family relationships prepare you for the real world. The enemy begins to try to sow insecurity in you from a young age.
- Sometimes everyone will applaud you but your family. What was supposed to crush you will make you stronger.

*What happened in your family that showed you how strong you are?*

*Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans on a person's heart but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.*

**LOVE RESTORED**

Genesis 45:15 NIV - *And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.*

- Genuine love is powerful enough to restore, mend and heal fractured relationships.

*Who in your family wronged you, but God instructed you to forgive them? How was the relationship restored?*

**IF YOU MAKE IT OUT OF YOUR FAMILY, YOU CAN MAKE IT ANYWHERE. YOUR FAMILY IS YOUR TRAINING GROUND.**

**REVELATION OF LOVE**

Genesis 50:20 NIV - *You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives*

- The love of God is more powerful than any trick of the enemy.

*What has the enemy tried to use to harm you that became a blessing to you? What was the impact of the blessing?*

*Isaiah 60:22 - When the time is right I, the Lord will make it happen.*

- You're not forgotten, you are just not needed yet. You're not late, you are on time.

## **TRUST THE TIMING OF GOD.**

### **QUESTION**

*What insecurities are you letting go of in this record-breaking year?*

### **DECLARATION**

*God is breaking off all the insecurities that developed from friendships, partnerships, and relationships. I will see my dream manifest in this record-breaking year and wear my confidence unapologetically. Allow me to re-introduce myself.*

### **PRAYER**

*Heavenly Father, thank You for showing me that the insecurities the enemy showed me were only to reveal my strength. You have taken every flaw and issue and used it for Your glory. While I felt forgotten and left behind, thank You for reminding me that I am not forgotten, I am not my issues or insecurities. You have restored my mind, my spirit, and my ability to operate in my gift. Thank You for allowing me to see my dreams manifest. In Jesus' name, Amen!*