

1. Intro

- Last week, we read the beginning of the story of Joseph, one of the 12 sons of Jacob.
 - He grew up in a dysfunctional home, had 4 "moms", his brothers hated him, he had dreams from God that made his brothers hate him even more, his brothers plotted to kill him but sold him as a slave instead, and now he's living far from home in the land of Egypt.
 - Yet, Joseph turned into a man of Godly character and was greatly used by God.
- Today, we will see that even though Joseph was treated unfairly, he kept doing what was right, and God showed Joseph His faithful love in the midst of his hardships.

2. Text: Genesis 39

Genesis 39:1-6a

- Joseph's life took an unexpected and **unfair** turn, but God was still with him and was working in and through him.

Genesis 39:6b-18

- In the midst of his trial, Joseph didn't waver in his Godly **character**; he did what was **right** when temptation came.
- Joseph's choices teach us 3 principles for fighting sexual temptation:
 1. **Pre-determine** what is right. Joseph **pre-determined** not to sin with Potiphar's wife (vv 8-9).
 - True or False: "It's only wrong if you get caught"?
 - **Philippians 4:8** "And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."
 2. **Plan**: Joseph knew that sexual temptations would come and he **planned** for them.
 3. **Run!** Joseph **ran away** from the situation!
 - **2 Timothy 2:22** "Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts."

- The battle for purity is won or lost in our **mind**. What we spend our time thinking about is what we will ultimately do.

Genesis 39:19-23

- Don't expect ungodly and self-centered people to treat you **fairly**.
- Even in the unfair and difficult situation that Joseph found himself in, God was with him and **showed** him His **faithful love**.
- Joseph didn't have the circumstances he wanted, but what he did have was a clear conscience and the **joy** that comes from obeying God and not compromising with evil.
 - **Psalm 119:1-6** "**Joyful** are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the Lord. 2 **Joyful** are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts. 3 They **do not compromise with evil**, and they walk only in his paths. 4 You have charged us to keep your commandments carefully. 5 Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees! 6 Then I will **not be ashamed** when I compare my life with your commands."

3. Application

- You may be going through an unfair, painful situation, but the story God is writing in your life isn't over! Trust our trustworthy God to work it out for good.
- In the midst of your unfair situation or circumstance, look for ways that God is showing His faithful love to you. Thank Him for them!