

A Matter of Honor Genesis 39

Open – Chapel story of being cut loose, “*but I didn’t do anything wrong!*”

1. Joseph was Honored because GOD was WITH HIM (vv. 1-6)

- Of all the people who could have bought Joseph, it was Potiphar
- “He became a successful man” – why?
- “Joseph found favor” – why?
- Is God with you? – Lincoln’s quote, “Is God on our side?”
- Matthew 28, Hebrews 13 (“I’ll never leave you or forsake you”)

If you have the Holy Spirit, God is with you!

2. Joseph Honored God and was BETRAYED (vv. 7-20)

- What do I mean by “honored God”?
 - o 1) Trust
 - o 2) Obey
- J resisted temptation b/c the Lord was with him
- J honored Potiphar, J honored Mrs. Potiphar, J honored God
- Things still went south, J was punished for a crime he didn’t commit

God doesn’t promise easy circumstances, He promises His presence

3. Joseph Honored God and was HONORED by God (vv. 21-23)

- Even in prison, J had God’s “steadfast love”
- The warden saw what Potiphar saw
- J is exactly where God wants him
- God will lift Joseph up

Since God is the main character, Joseph finds Him everywhere

Joseph’s Story is JESUS’ Story

- Trusts the Father’s plan, even though He doesn’t want to
- Obeys the Father’s instruction, even though it costs Him
- Betrayed, falsely accused, and killed for crimes He didn’t commit
- Is given the name above EVERY name (Ephesians 2)

Questions for reflection, study, and small groups:

- 1) Have you ever been betrayed or hurt even though you didn't do anything wrong?
What happened?
- 2) Explain how God is with Joseph even though the circumstances keep going bad?
- 3) How can you stir up the reality that God is with you through the Holy Spirit?
- 4) How is trusting God a decision of honoring God?
- 5) What is going on in your life right now that requires you to trust God in difficult circumstances?
- 6) How is Joseph's story in this chapter similar to Jesus' story and the Gospel?
- 7) Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you realize He is with you and give you His power to trust and obey God.