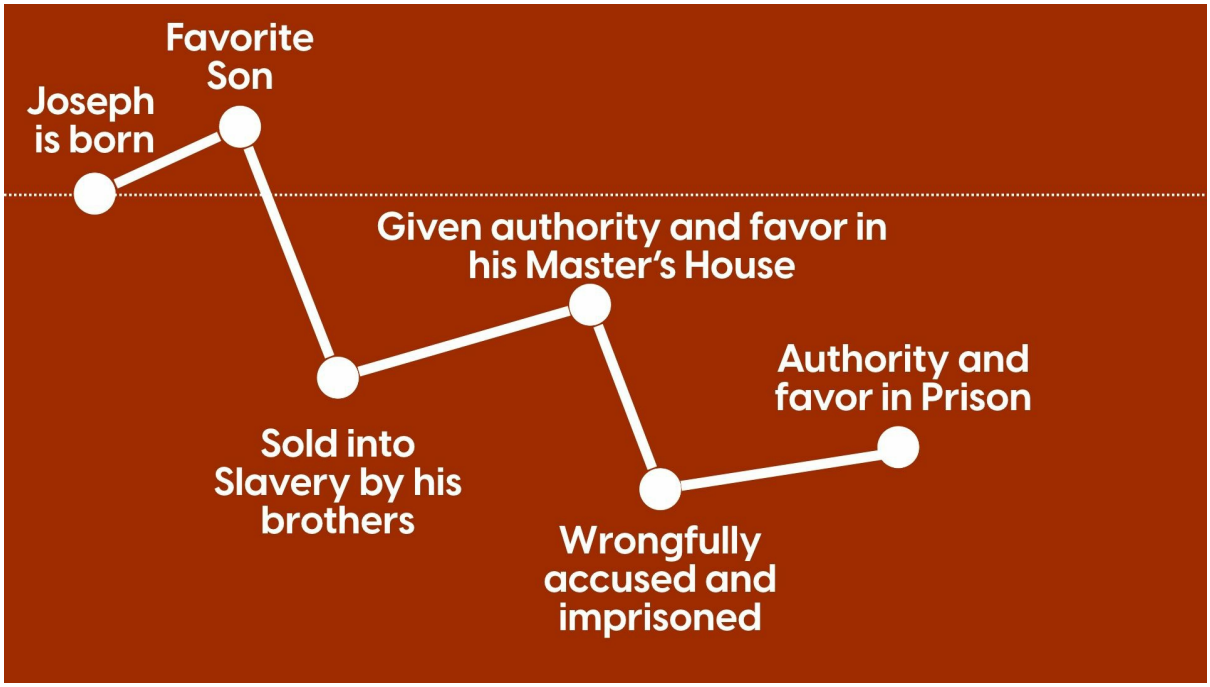
Living the Dream: The Life of Joseph, p. 3

November 7, 2026

Living the Dream: The Life of Joseph

Part 3
November 8, 2026



Bad circumstances do not point to a bad God.

> *So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.*
>
> *—Genesis 39:22-23*

> *"We both had dreams," they answered, "but there is no one to interpret them." Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams."*

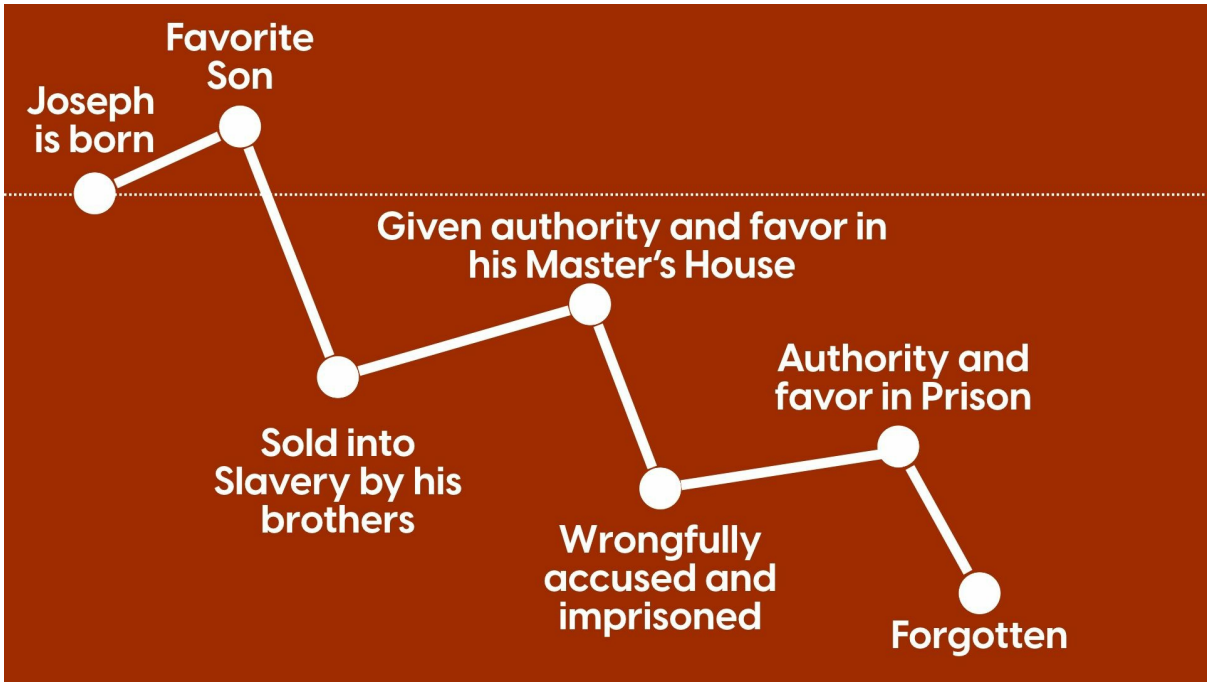
—Genesis 40:8

Joseph trusted God more than his circumstances.

> *"This is what it means," Joseph said to him. "The three branches are three days. Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position, and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand, just as you used to do when you were his cupbearer. But when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to Pharaoh and get me out of this prison.*
>
> *—Genesis 40:12-14*

> *Within three days Pharaoh will lift off your head and impale your body on a pole. And the birds will eat away your flesh."*
>
> *—Genesis 40:19*

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



'When two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream…
—Genesis 41:1a

Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires."
—Genesis 41:15-16

The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"
—Genesis 41:37-38

God's Provision is in His Presence.

How to Trust God More Than Your Circumstances:
• Be in God's Presence.

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
—Jesus, John 15:4-5

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
—Psalm 46:10

• Practice Hope.

Discussion Questions

• Have you ever had a situation that seemed like a complete disaster

at the time, but looking back, you can see how something good came out of it? What happened?

• Joseph experienced rejection, injustice, and disappointment, yet continued to trust God. What do you think would have been the hardest part of Joseph's story for you personally? Why?

• Joseph trusted God more than his circumstances. What are some ways we can let bad circumstances influence how we live our every day lives and how we treat other people?

• Even while Joseph was in prison, God was with him. God's Provision for Joseph was in His Presence. How does this challenge or change the you we typically think about God's provision or blessings?

• Joseph remained faithful even when he couldn't see what God was doing. Have you ever experienced a season when it was difficult to recognize God's presence or faithfulness? What helped you stay close to God during that time? Was there anything that made it more difficult to stay close to God during that time?

• Practicing hope as trusting that God is who He says He is, even when we can't see or feel the evidence. What's the difference between practicing biblical hope and simply trying to stay positive when life is hard?

• In what areas of your life do you need to practice hope?