Life Is All About Perspective!

Whose Perspective?

Our Perspective His Perspective





Whose Perspective?

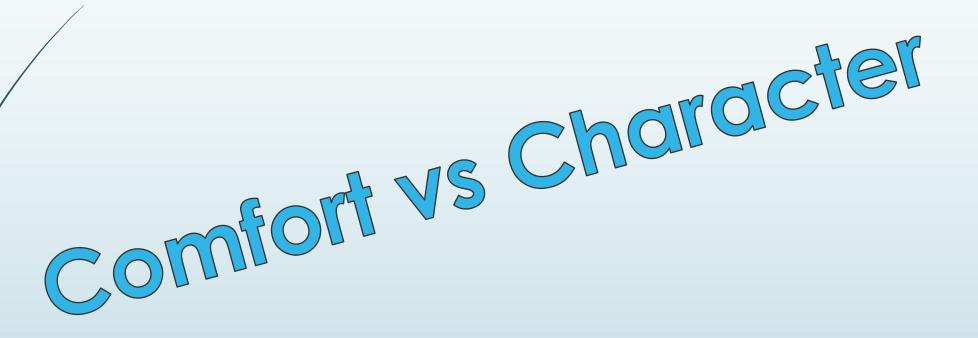
My Perspective

- ➡ Financial Success
- **■** Influence
- Control
- **■** "The Blessed life"
- **►** Material Possessions
- Security
- Legacy

God's Perspective

- **■** Salvation for all
- Relationship
- Increase of His Government
- Mountain will fill the earth
- Righteousness, love, joy, peace, patience, ... self-control
- **■** Will He find faith

- We are concerned about our comfort
- He is concerned about our Character



Life of Joseph

- **→** Vision Comes Gen 37 –
- Everyone understood it from own perspective
- ■Gen 37:8 hated him even more!
- →YES! I'm the most important!!!

► How are we interpreting His vision for us?

Is it all about ME!!?



1. First Challenge – Catastrophe

- Doesn't go too well!!
- Plot to Kill him he was a real pain!
- "What's the point of giving me all this promise - only to kill me?"

■What about you – Does the opposite happen?

What's God Working on Here?

- Disappointment relate to that I'm sure
- ► Fear literally
- **■** Self-centeredness
- His "OWN" big dreams
- Doubts, sick to the pit of his stomach
- Forget the dream I just need to stay alive!!
- Testing was any of this God?

Q - Do you recognize any of these traits in you?

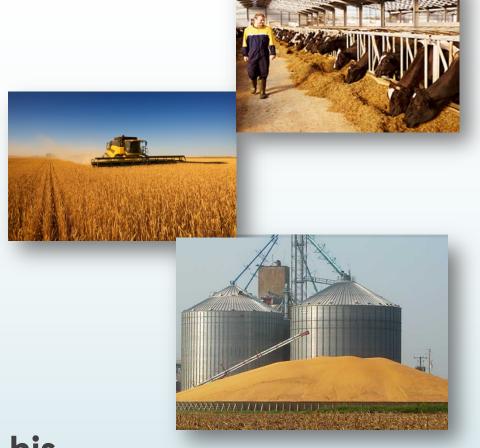
2. Second Challenge Things go well - Success

- ► Learned his first lesson really well
- ► Potiphar "saw the Lord was with him . . all he put his hand to prospered" Gen 39:2-6
- **►** Left everything in his care
- He can see how it might work is the dream re-kindled?
- Story "What ever it is that you do, just do it"
- The Erik Little Effect "I feel His pleasure"



What's God Training him for?

- How to grow crops
- How to harvest
- How to store
- → How to sow seed
- How to manage cattle
- How to manage an estate
- How to manage servants
- How to manage & increase his master's wealth



Success Can Be The Hardest Test

- ■"I" did this
- **■** "MY" skills, MY talents
- My Success

3. Third Challenge – Injustice Go-to-Jail

- Doing the right thing INTEGRITY
- ► Lied about Misunderstood
- Do the right thing and still it goes wrong
 - ■Bitter towards God I did my bit YOU let ME down
- Lesson, it's not about me and my skills
- When everything goes wrong Am I completely submitted to Him?



Death of the Dream

- Is this where the dream really dies?
- No interpretation of this has the family bowing down
- World view, this is a complete and utter disaster
- No hint of redemption no interpretation gives a positive outcome
- What disappointment are you facing in your life?

Handles Himself Well In Face of Injustice

- In charge, again, "The Lord was with Joseph"
- No hint of bitterness, resentment towards God
- Important Lessons for his future
 - How to handle really desperate people
 - How to handle security & guards
 - How to work hard in a dead-end job, no prospects

4. Fourth Challenge Delay & Disappointment

- **■**Cup Bearer
- Hope comes "just get me out of here"
- ■2-years he waits Disappointment
- ■Joseph handles it really well do we?

Acceptance of God's Complete Plan & Result

- "it is not in me; God will give a favorable answer"
- Look for a man discerning & wise Gen 41:33
- Gen 50:20 You meant evil against me but God meant it for good to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive
- ➡ His original interpretation was small his family an entire nation
- What a Character change
- What a skill set the Tapestry Revealed
- How are you responding to changes around you



Challenges

- 1. Catastrophe the opposite happens
- 2. Success Doing it in our own strength
- 3. Injustice Wrongly accused
- 4. Disappointment so close yet so far

Where am I in this process?

We Don't Like What We See?

But He Sees What He Planned



Accepting His Plan His Way Not My Way

- Is your interpretation Too fixed & rigid
- → He knows the outcome we don't
- Are you wishing it was like it was before?
- Are you resisting God?
- Remember the dream was right! The interpretation of how it would work out wasn't

Am I going to play my part in HIS plan No matter what it looks like today?

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His Perspective!