

# Ready or Not: Temptation

May 10, 2020

**Scriptures:** Genesis 37-50; Hebrews 13:5

**Bottom Line:** In the midst of change, you can expect temptation

## Change Throws You Off Balance

Anytime stress hits, or something breaks our regular rhythms, we can be tempted to cope in unhealthy ways. Change can make us lose our balance, and when we're off balance our enemy likes to strike.

How can we keep our balance in the midst of change?

## The Story of Joseph

Joseph's brothers trap him and sell him into slavery in Egypt. Then Potiphar's wife tempts Joseph to sleep with her. Joseph resists, saying "How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God." Instead of being rewarded for his faithfulness to God and Potiphar, Joseph is framed for sexual assault and thrown in prison to die. Yet, through all of this, we are told that "The Lord is with Joseph."

## Lessons From Joseph

- When you go through a tough change, do you assume God is with you, or do you assume God is against you?
- Our circumstances do not tell us whether God is with us or not.

## Take-Away

- How would I respond to change if I was confident that God was with me?

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## LISTENING

Check in with everyone, see how the week has been. Give each person your attention, engage with what they're saying. If you're having trouble talking about your week, here are some things to talk about

- What fears have you had this week?
- How did you overreact this week?
- How have you experienced God's goodness this week?
- What/who are you praying for this week?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. When have you felt off balance in the last month? How did it affect you?
3. What has helped you stand strong in the midst of change?
4. When or how have you been reassured of God's presence in your life?

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