



Sermon Title: What To Do When Your Service Goes Unnoticed

Series: When Life Doesn't Make Sense

Passages: Genesis 40, Galatians 6:7-10

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Drawing near to Jesus is the best thing you can do on your worst day.

What should I do when my service goes unnoticed?

Genesis 40:1–23 (CSB)

¹After this, the king of Egypt's cupbearer and baker offended their master, the king of Egypt.

²Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker,

³and put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guards in the prison where Joseph was confined.

⁴The captain of the guards assigned Joseph to them as their personal attendant, and they were in custody for some time.

⁵The king of Egypt's cupbearer and baker, who were confined in the prison, each had a dream. Both had a dream on the same night, and each dream had its own meaning.

⁶When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they looked distraught.

⁷So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were in custody with him in his master's house, "Why do you look so sad today?"

⁸"We had dreams," they said to him, "but there is no one to interpret them." Then Joseph said to them, "Don't interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams."

⁹So the chief cupbearer told his dream to Joseph: "In my dream there was a vine in front of me.

¹⁰On the vine were three branches. As soon as it budded, its blossoms came out and its clusters ripened into grapes.

¹¹Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes, squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup, and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand."

¹²"This is its interpretation," Joseph said to him. "The three branches are three days.

¹³In just three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position. You will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand the way you used to when you were his cupbearer.

¹⁴But when all goes well for you, remember that I was with you. Please show kindness to me by mentioning me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this prison.

¹⁵For I was kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing that they should put me in the dungeon."

¹⁶When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was positive, he said to Joseph, "I also had a dream. Three baskets of white bread were on my head.

¹⁷In the top basket were all sorts of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating them out of the basket on my head."

¹⁸"This is its interpretation," Joseph replied. "The three baskets are three days.

¹⁹In just three days Pharaoh will lift up your head—from off you—and hang you on a tree. Then the birds will eat the flesh from your body."

²⁰On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he gave a feast for all his servants. He elevated the chief cupbearer and the chief baker among his servants.

²¹Pharaoh restored the chief cupbearer to his position as cupbearer, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand.

²²But Pharaoh hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had explained to them.

²³Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

Galatians 6:7–10 (CSB)

⁷Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap,

⁸because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

⁹Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up.

¹⁰Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith.

If God has led you to it, his grace will sustain you through it.

Study Questions

- What is your spiritual gift?
- If you are unsure answer these questions:
 - What are your passions?
 - What are your abilities or God-given talents?
 - What ways or areas in life do you feel most confident to serve others?
- What are some ways you have kept your focus on Jesus when difficulties and weariness crept into your mind while you have been serving?
- Spend time praying for strength, grace, and perseverance as you use your spiritual gifts to continue serving others.

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