

WHEN THE DREAM ENDS

Your current reality is not your final destiny.

God's plan cannot be stopped.

Genesis 37:3–4 – Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe. But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn't say a kind word to him.

1. Not everyone will understand or rejoice with you.

- **Genesis 37:5–7, 9a, 10–11** – One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. “Listen to this dream,” he said. “We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!” Soon Joseph had another dream. This time he told the dream to his father as well as to his brothers, but his father scolded him. “What kind of dream is that?” he asked. “Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow to the ground before you?” But while his brothers were jealous of Joseph, his father wondered what the dreams meant.

2. Not everyone will be prepared to face temptation.

- **Genesis 39:2, 6–9** – The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn't worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat! Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, and Potiphar's wife soon began to look at him lustfully. “Come and sleep with me,” she demanded. But Joseph refused. “Look,” he told her, “my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God.”

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3. Not everyone will wait on God's timing.

- **Genesis 39:19–21a** – Potiphar was furious when he heard his wife's story about how Joseph had treated her. So he took Joseph and threw him into the prison where the king's prisoners were held, and there he remained. But the LORD was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love.
- **Genesis 40:14–15, 23** – “And please remember me and do me a favor when things go well for you. Mention me to Pharaoh, so he might let me out of this place. For I was kidnapped from my homeland, the land of the Hebrews, and now I'm here in prison, but I did nothing to deserve it.” Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer, however, forgot all about Joseph, never giving him another thought.

4. Not everyone will see God's purpose.

- **Genesis 50:17, 19–20** – “Please forgive your brothers for the great wrong they did to you—for their sin in treating you so cruelly.’ So we, the servants of the God of your father, beg you to forgive our sin.” When Joseph received the message, he broke down and wept. But Joseph replied, “Don't be afraid of me. Am I God, that I can punish you? You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.”

Coming soon:

1. **Fight Like a Man:** Join us this Wednesday, April 22, at 6:30 pm for a brand-new Bible study just for men. This study will provide strategies to combat everyday temptations and conquer our enemy.
2. **Baptisms:** If you have made the decision to trust in Jesus as your Savior, it's time to tell others about it. Sign up today to be part of our baptisms next Sunday, April 26.
3. **DRC Missions:** Pray for those going to Montreal and El Salvador this summer. Thank you for supporting them by giving to DRC Missions in the red giving stations or online.
4. **Coming in May:** Mark your calendars:
 - **May 3:** Special Guest Worship Leader Luke Culley will be with us.
 - **May 10:** Sign up for child dedication on Mother's Day: danriverchurch.org/dedicate.
 - **May 17:** Graduation Sunday: If you are graduating from high school or college, please let us know!