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BI. B L I C A L
C H A R A C T E R S

Joseph

Pastor Jeremy McGarity

From the Pit to the Palace

Genesis 39-41

...the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

GENESIS 39:23b (NIV)

1 Joseph's Challenges

* **H A T E D** and **H U R T** at home

[His brothers] hated Joseph and couldn't speak to him on friendly terms.

GENESIS 37:4b (GW)

"Let's not kill him... let's throw him alive into this well here that way he'll die without our touching him!"

GENESIS 37:22 (LB)

* **S E D U C E D** and **S L A N D E R E D** at work

After a while his master's wife began to desire Joseph and asked him to go to bed with her. He refused... although she asked Joseph day after day...

GENESIS 39:7-8,10b (GN)

"...That Hebrew slave you've had around here tried to rape me..."

GENESIS 39:17 (LB)

* **A L O N E** and **A B A N D O N E D** in prison

"...Please be kind enough to mention me to the king and help me get out of this prison..." But the wine steward never gave Joseph another thought -- he forgot all about him.

GENESIS 40:14b, 23 (GN)

2 Joseph's Character

* Fulfill my **R E S P O N S I B I L I T I E S**

...Potiphar gave Joseph complete... responsibility over everything he owned. He hadn't a worry in the world with Joseph there...

GENESIS 39:6 (LB)

...The jailer soon handed over the entire prison administration to Joseph... [and] had no more worries after that, for Joseph took care of everything...

GENESIS 39:22-23 (LB)

...Pharaoh said, "Who could do a better job than Joseph? For he is a man who is obviously filled with the Spirit of God."

GENESIS 41:38 (LB)

"The [person] who is faithful in the little things will be faithful in the big things, and the [one] who cheats in the little things will cheat in the big things too."

LUKE 16:10 (PH)

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

COLOSSIANS 3:23 (NLT)

* Maintain my **I N T E G R I T Y**

Although she kept asking Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or be with her.

GENESIS 39:10 (GW)

"...My master trusts me with everything in this entire household... How can I do such a wicked thing as this? It would be a great sin against God!"

GENESIS 39:8-9 (LB)

Wicked people bring about their own downfall by their evil deeds, but good people are protected by their integrity.

PROVERBS 14:32 (GN)

* Trust God's **S O V E R E I G N T Y**

"God sent me ahead of you... to save your lives in an amazing way. It wasn't you who sent me here, but God."

GENESIS 45:7-8a (GW)

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

GENESIS 50:20 (NIV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

PROVERBS 3:5-6 (NLT)

But WHATEVER HAPPENS, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:27 (PH)



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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1 Share one thing that stood out to you in this week's sermon and why.
- 2 How did Joseph's experiences of betrayal, slavery, and imprisonment shape his faith and character? What lessons can we learn from his resilience and trust in God?
- 3 In what ways did Joseph's leadership and administrative skills make him an effective ruler in Egypt? How did his ability to interpret dreams and discern God's will help him to navigate difficult situations?
- 4 How did Joseph's forgiveness towards his brothers demonstrate the power of reconciliation and restoration? What can we learn from his example of letting go of resentment and seeking to restore relationships?
- 5 What role did integrity play in Joseph's life? Are there any current circumstances you are faced with today that you are facing where your integrity is on the line?
- 6 What insights can we gain from Joseph's story about the nature of suffering, success, and God's providence? How did his experiences reveal God's redemptive purposes and the importance of faithfulness in all circumstances?
- 7 How can we be praying for you this week?



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Upcoming Events

- 05.14 | Mother's Day
- 05.15 | Padres & Pastors
- 05.20 | Random Acts of Kindness
- 05.21 | Classic Praise
- 05.25 | Ensenada Mission Trip
- 05.28 | Child Dedications