



## Part 3: It's Getting Deeper

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### Review

- Joseph was the favorite son
- Joseph was a dreamer
- Joseph used his spiritual gift in an immature way
- Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers

### Genesis 39

<sup>1</sup>Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master.

**Note:** This is the first time God has showed up (or so it seems).

**Observation:** From a logical perspective, this statement is nuts!

<sup>3</sup>When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did, <sup>4</sup>Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. <sup>5</sup>From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. <sup>6</sup>The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.

**Truth:** When we live confidently with the knowledge that God is with us, people notice.

<sup>6b</sup>Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, <sup>7</sup>and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

**Truth:** Temptation is common for all of us.

<sup>8</sup>But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. <sup>9</sup>No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" <sup>10</sup>And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

**Truth:** Every sin is a sin against God.

<sup>11</sup>One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. <sup>12</sup>She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

**Truth:** Some temptations you should stand against. Sexual temptation you should always flee.

*(Continues on back)*

<sup>13</sup> When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house, <sup>14</sup> she called her household servants. “Look,” she said to them, “this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed. <sup>15</sup> When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”

<sup>16</sup> She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. <sup>17</sup> Then she told him this story: “That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. <sup>18</sup> But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”

<sup>19</sup> When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, “This is how your slave treated me,” he burned with anger. <sup>20</sup> Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined.

**Truth: Sometimes, the only reward for making the godly decision is the simple knowledge that you made the godly decision.**

<sup>20b</sup> But while Joseph was there in the prison, <sup>21</sup> the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.

<sup>22</sup> So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. <sup>23</sup> The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph’s care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

**How would my life be different if I was absolutely convinced  
in every moment, no matter how good or how bad,  
that God was with me?**

## Next Steps

Temptation is inescapable. But CTK offers several open groups where you find the support to stand against it or flee it. We offer *Changes*, a drop-in 12 Step group for men and women and *Friday Night Light* for men. Find out more online at [ctkbellingham.com/recovery](http://ctkbellingham.com/recovery) or visit the Connection Point.

## Small Group Questions

- 1) Have you ever paid a price for doing the right thing? Share about that experience.
- 2) Do you have any thoughts about God’s role in this story? What are your questions or observations?
- 3) If someone said to you, “If this is what happens when God is with you, then I’d rather not have him with me,” what would you say to that person?
- 4) Grant mentioned several types of temptation (material, personal, sensual). What ways have you found to successfully stand against these temptations?
- 5) There are powerful words about Joseph’s response to temptation in verse 8: “...but he refused.” What have you refused for the sake of God’s honor?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now?

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