

FROM POTIPHAR'S PENTHOUSE TO THE JAILHOUSE GENESIS 39:19-40:15

SERIES: WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS!

¹⁵ For I was forcibly carried off from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing to deserve being put in a dungeon." **Genesis 40:15 (NIV)**

- Joseph: Went from favored son to slave to prisoner and ...
"The Lord was with him."

1. JOSEPH DID HIS BEST IN POTIPHAR'S HOUSE

⁵ 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. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. ⁶ So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, **Genesis 39:5-6 (NIV)**

¹⁹ When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. ²⁰ Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison, **Genesis 39:19-20 (NIV)**

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **Genesis 3:6 (NIV)**

⁸ Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)**

2. INTENDED EVIL BECOMES ULTIMATE GOOD

⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will not be plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. **Genesis 45:6-7 (NIV)**

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. **Genesis 50:19-20 (NIV)**

¹⁸ They bruised his feet with fetters and placed his neck in an iron collar. ¹⁹ Until the time came to fulfill his dreams, the LORD tested Joseph's character. **Psalms 105:18-19 (NLT2)**

- A test in the Bible is an external trial that purifies and prepares the heart.

3. EVERY DAY IS A TEST

¹⁵ I was taken by force from the land of the Hebrews, and I have done nothing here to deserve being put in prison." **Genesis 40:15 (NCV)**

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. **James 1:2-5 (NIV)**

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. **1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)**

- A. Joseph's prison time strengthened his leadership skills
- B. God was not finished with Joseph
- C. Test, Test, Test: Prison was boot camp for Joseph
- D. God is training you
- E. All tests are temporary
- F. Follow Joseph's example – Let God train you!
- G. When you see a hurt, address it.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. **2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NASB)**

4. CONCLUSION

- **God is at work in each of us whether we know it or not, whether we want it or not!**

³¹ For the Lord will not cast off forever. ³² Though He causes grief, Yet He will show compassion According to the multitude of His mercies. ³³ For He does not afflict willingly, Nor grieve the children of men. **Lamentations 3:31-33 (NKJV)**

⁶ God began doing a good work in you, and I am sure he will continue it until it is finished when Jesus Christ comes again. **Philippians 1:6 (NCV)**

¹⁰ Our fathers on earth disciplined us for a short time in the way they thought was best. But God disciplines us to help us, so we can become holy as he is. **Hebrews 12:10 (NCV)**