God Knows - Genesis 40 & 41

BIBLE STUDY



STARTER:

If a non-believer asked you how you continue to have faith in God even when your prayers aren't answered, what would you answer?

Read Genesis 40 & 41

Note: these are long chapters! It may be a good idea to ask your group to read them in advance of coming to the session.

Alternatively, you could divide them up into parts for different people to read to maintain interest. Whatever you decide you do need to be aware this will take a little while!



BIBLE STUDY



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- In Genesis 40: 14-15, Joseph asks the cupbearer to remember him when he is himself freed. As he expectantly waits for God's deliverance, what do you think Joseph is anticipating? As verse 23 tells us, however, the cupbearer forgot him.
 - Has it ever happened to you that you have interpreted something as an answer to prayer with all the doors opening only to have it not work out?
 - What might we learn from Joseph's story about how God operates differently from us? (See Isaiah 55 :8).
- Just as in chapter 39, Joseph is seemingly overlooked by God. In chapter 41 : 12, he is simply described as 'a servant of the captain of the guard' – when he had previously overseen the whole household.
 - Have you known God to bring you low spiritually, only to look back later and realise it was an opportunity for spiritual growth?



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BIBLE STUDY



- We have already talked a little about dreams and their significance when we looked at Joseph's dreams in Genesis 37. Several years later, Joseph understands dreams from a more mature perspective (see 40 : 8).
 - Have you experienced a similar realisation of God as the great choreographer working behind the scenes of your life?
- The rollercoaster continues and Joseph is finally summoned by Pharoah (41:14).
 - What does the Bible repeatedly reassure us when it feels as if God has forgotten us? (Look back at **chapter 39 : 2,3,21,23** to see examples in this particular story).
 - What other promises do you hold on to when life feels desperately hard?



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GOING DEEPER

- Look at **1 Peter 5 : 6**. What does it mean for us to walk in trust? Can you think of practical examples?
- In what ways do you see Joseph as a type of Jesus in this week's story? When did Jesus walk in trust?



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LISTEN | PRAY

LISTEN

LAUREN DAIGLE:

TRUST IN YOU



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_aVFVveJNs

PRAY

Ask God to help you to continue to learn to trust him with what is going on in your life.