

JOSEPH

Up and Down - Genesis 39

BIBLE STUDY



STARTER:

Do you think our spiritual growth is something we are aware of? How might we monitor it?

Read Genesis 39

We join Joseph in Egypt, now working in an Egyptian official's house.

- Look at **verse 2**. Do you think the two clauses 'the Lord was with Joseph' and 'he prospered' are linked? Look at **Deuteronomy 29 : 9**. Do you think we always prosper as a result of God being with us?
- **Verse 3** - How might people observe that the Lord is with us when we work? (*it's not always about 'being successful at everything we do'!*)



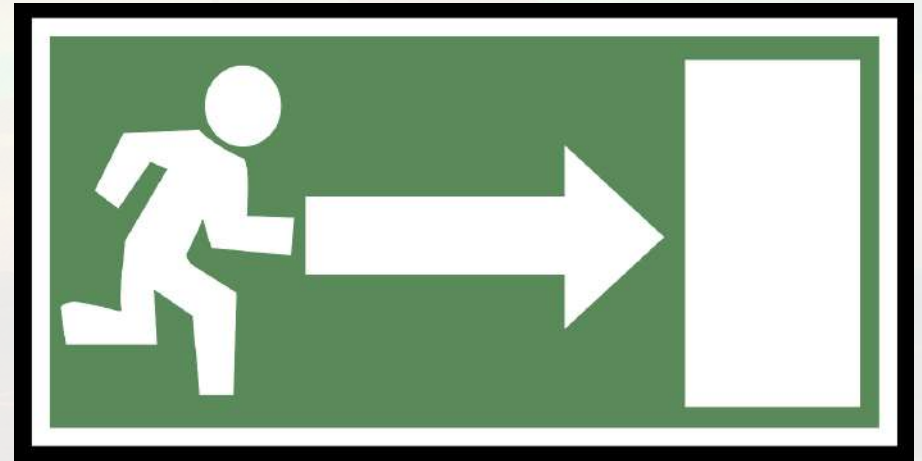
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- In an age of health and safety, we are always clearly notified of fire exits and escape routes when we attend any event with potential for disaster. Joseph was very careful to avoid being drawn into an affair with Potiphar's wife in this chapter.
- Look at **1 Corinthians 10 : 13**. If you feel able to do so, talk about which areas of your life you might need to plan better 'escape routes'.
- Temptation is obviously something that we can't completely avoid, but we can be prepared. How might we be so? How can we support each other as a group?



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- Joseph is changing from the lad we saw in **chapter 37**. What do you notice about his character in this chapter? Try to look at both sides of it – is there anywhere he should have acted differently?
- If Joseph was the same person as in **chapter 37**, do you think he would have been so highly regarded – both by Potiphar and by the prison warden?
- What do you think specifically had changed as ‘the Lord was with him’. Think about how you might humanly have expected him to act after the journey he had been on.

THE LORD WAS WITH HIM;
HE SHOWED HIM KINDNESS AND
GRANTED HIM FAVOUR IN THE EYES
OF THE PRISON WARDEN

Genesis 39:21

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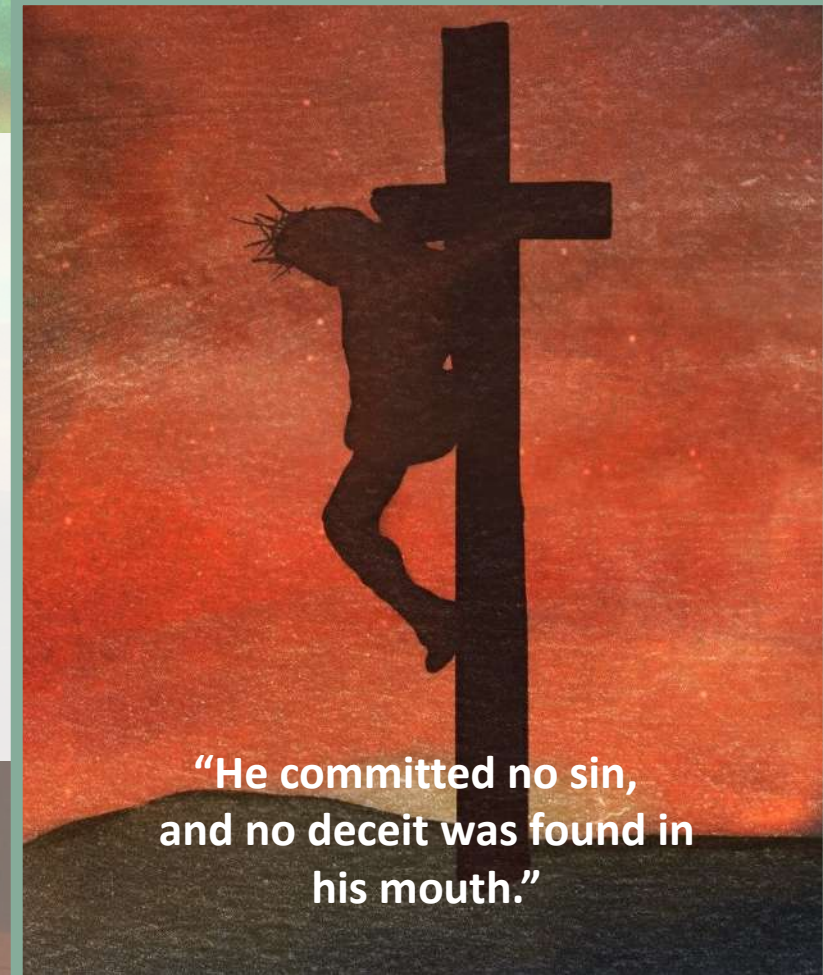
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GOING DEEPER

Joseph must have felt as if he was being punished for his faithfulness.

Have you ever felt a sense of injustice, believing that you are doing your best to behave correctly, only to have someone spread lies about you? Look at **1 Peter 2 : 19-24** and talk about it.

Jesus continued in obedience through hardship. Where else might you have seen Joseph as a 'type' of Jesus in this chapter?



**“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in
his mouth.”**

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LISTEN | PRAY

LISTEN

CHRIS
TOMLIN:
SOVEREIGN



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KaO8U70M9Hs>

PRAY

As you finish, pray that you would be able to know that 'the Lord is with you' as you go through tough times. Specifically pray for each other if any of you are struggling with holding on to this at the moment.