

Sermon Devotional

Genesis 39:7-23

7 And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." 8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand. 9 He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" 10 And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to be with her. 11 One day, however, when he went into the house to do his work, and while no one else was in the house, 12 she caught hold of his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside. 13 When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, 14 she called out to the members of her household and said to them, "See, my husband has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us! He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice; 15 and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside." 16 Then she kept his garment by her until his master came home, 17 and she told him the same story, saying, "The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me; 18 but as soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside."

19 When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, "This is the way your servant treated me," he became enraged. 20 And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison. 21 But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love; he gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer. 22 The chief jailer committed to Joseph's care all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. 23 The chief jailer paid no heed to anything that was in Joseph's care, because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper.

[Second Reading – Genesis 39:1-6 \(read online\)](#)



Learn

- Joseph repeatedly faces challenges that are largely imposed on him. He is sold into slavery by his brothers. Here he is thrown into prison because he refuses to have an affair with Potiphar's wife. Later on, he will be forgotten by a man who said he would help free Joseph from prison. Joseph finds ways to make a positive impact in all of these situations.
- The Biblical narrative about Joseph's life goes out of its way to remind us that the Lord gets credit for Joseph's success. Note how many times "the Lord" appears in the text!



Reflect

- How do you think Joseph was able to maintain his positive attitude through all of the struggles life threw at him?
- How do you think Joseph was able to draw closer to God in the midst of his suffering rather than getting angry at God?



Pray

God of patience and mercy, help me to remain close to you through all of life's ups and downs.



Live

- What curve ball has life thrown you recently? How can you draw closer to God in the midst of it?
- Joseph shows us that we can choose our attitude no matter our circumstances. What attitude can you choose this week?