

B. Pray Like Paul ... to Live Like Paul/Joseph  
**Colossians 1:9b-14** (Ephesians 3:16-17)

...we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup> May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**2 Timothy 4:16-18**

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Genesis 39-41  
*Real, Eternal Success Comes from Jesus*  
July 4, 2010  
Sermon Outline

Notes

**I. Introduction**

A. How Challenging a Trial was this for Joseph?

**Genesis 42:21**

Then they said to one another, "In truth we are guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us."

**Genesis 41:51-52**

<sup>51</sup> Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh. "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house." <sup>52</sup> The name of the second he called Ephraim, "For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction."

B. Joseph had a promise from the LORD to sustain him (Gen. 37:5-11)

C. The LORD caused Joseph to be "*a successful man*"

**Key Idea**

*God not only provides Joseph with material success but with the spiritual success of a steadfast confidence in the LORD.*

**II. God Grants Joseph Success in Potiphar's House**

**Genesis 39:2-6**

<sup>2</sup> The Lord was with Joseph, and *he became a successful man*, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup> His master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. <sup>5</sup>

From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had *the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake*; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field. <sup>6</sup> *So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate.*

- A. Competence
- B. Integrity
- C. Joseph's Dreams?

### III. God Grants Joseph Success with Potiphar's Wife

- A. Successful in the Battle against Pride & Lust
- B. Given a Proper Fear of God

#### Genesis 39:9b

...How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?

### IV. God Grants Joseph Success in the Midst of a Crushing Setback

#### Genesis 39:21-23

<sup>21</sup> But **the LORD was with Joseph** and **showed him steadfast love** and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. <sup>22</sup> ... Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. <sup>23</sup> The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, *the LORD made it succeed.*

- A. How was Joseph able to continue to serve with competent integrity!?
- B. How can we bear up under crushing setbacks?
  - 1. How can we learn this kind of **contentment**?

#### Philippians 4:11b-13

*...I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.* <sup>12</sup> I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger,

abundance and need. <sup>13</sup> **I can do all things through him who strengthens me.**

2. Do we have Joseph like **Hope**?

#### 1 Peter 5:6-11

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, ***under the mighty hand of God*** so that at the proper time ***he may exalt you,*** <sup>7</sup> casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. <sup>10</sup> *And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.* <sup>11</sup> To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

### V. God Grants Joseph Success with Pharaoh

- A. Dreams? (Joseph's, Prisoner's & Pharaoh's)
- B. Faith & Integrity

#### Genesis 41:16, 55

<sup>16</sup> *"It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer."*

<sup>55</sup> When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, **"Go to Joseph. What he says to you, do."**

### VI. Good Advice Vs. Good News

- A. Good Fruit Comes from Jesus!

#### John 15:5, 7-8

<sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ...

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.