



WEEK 3. Choosing to Be Faithful

On Sunday Pastor John continued in our sermon series titled “Choices” by preaching on Joseph’s story. He touched on the theme of trusting God especially when life circumstances are rough. We’re going to pick up with the key story when Joseph is tempted by Potiphar’s wife and chooses to remain faithful both to God and to Potiphar’s husband.

Follow-Up Question (from last week): How have we been choosing to believe that God is present in the midst of certain spheres or situations? Or how have we observed God to be present?

Introduction Question: What was a time when you were really tempted to do something you know you weren’t supposed to do?

Bible Study: Genesis 39:1-12

1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh’s officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. 2 The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, 4 Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. 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 Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph’s care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, 7 and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!” 8 But he refused. “With me in charge,” he told her, “my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. 9 No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?” 10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her. 11 One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was

inside. 12 She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

In small groups of 3-4:

- 1) What strikes you about this story?
- 2) What do we learn about God?
- 3) What do we learn about people?
- 4) What might God be trying to say to me through this passage?
- 5) Are there places in my life currently where I'm tempted to do something I know wouldn't be good for me or honoring to God?
- 6) Pray for each other, especially for the places where we might be facing temptation.