

The Scandal

I. Intro

A. Safety Team Update:

1. We will never use an emergency as an illustration or skit without warning you ahead of time.
2. We need more volunteers to serve, especially second service and Wednesday nights

B. 7 P's

1. Promise/Prophecy
2. Pit
3. Potiphar
4. Prison
5. Palace
6. Power
7. Provider

C. This week we are in the Potiphar aspect of the story

D. Why did we skip chapter 38?

1. We are looking at the passages that are about Joseph
2. The chapter about Judah and Tamar is not about Joseph, so we keep moving.

II. Text

A. Verse 1: Potiphar

1. Officer of Pharaoh: High Ranking Official: Potiphar was not just a guard, but a high-ranking official in Pharaoh's service, holding a position of significant power and influence.
2. Captain of the Guard: This role put him in charge of the safety and security of the Pharaoh, his household, and the royal prison
3. Foreshadowing...Joseph will eventually be more powerful and higher ranked than Potiphar.

B. Verses 2-6: The LORD was with Joseph and he became a successful man

1. The Lord caused all that he did to succeed
2. The Lord allowed him to find favor
3. The Lord blessed Potiphar's house for Joseph's sake

C. Verses 7-18: Potiphar's wife

1. Worldly, carnal, natural
 - a) This was probably normal behavior in some ways
 - b) And is still not appropriate no matter what is normal in the world.
2. Deceptive, and a liar to cover her own sin
3. There is enough awareness in the flesh to know when you have done something wrong most of the time, it's the lack of repentance that sets us apart.

D. Verse 19-20: Potiphar's response

1. Quick judgment, natural response
2. Potiphar knew the feeling of betrayal, but directed it at the one being betrayed.

III. Points

A. The Lord Brings Blessing

1. The hand of God was on Joseph from the beginning throughout the process.
2. All that Joseph did was blessed by God
3. Studies have been brought concerning the leadership skills found in Joseph and why he was so successful in desperate situations
 - a) That would be a short study
 - b) Joseph was successful because the LORD was with Joseph
 - c) Even the pagan masters he served saw the testimony of the Lord
4. I pray that you can see the favor and blessing of the Lord on your life and ministry.
5. Remember: Joseph rose to power and influence because the LORD was with him.

- a) This is the most important thing you can have in your life and ministry
- b) When challenges come, there is still a blessing in the challenge because the LORD is there
- c) When victories come, there is a blessing in the victory because the LORD is there.
- d) When you do not invite the LORD, the blessing is not in the challenge, you find further conflict
- e) When you don't recognize the victory is from God, you find emptiness in the victory
- 6. Hollow...Empty...void
 - a) When you do it in the way of the world, it'll be hollow
 - b) Hollow is a container meant for substance, yet not fulfilling its purpose
- 7. Handle conflict and victory differently, ask God where he is working in the midst of it.
- 8. God's system of working: Plant, Water, Harvest
 - a) Follow this system with God, you will find FAVOR
 - b) Choose to do this on your own, there will be no success
 - c) You can't make up new rules and expect God to bless
- B. The Enemy Brings Conflict
 - 1. The impact of the fallen world is obvious in this.
 - 2. Conflict began when Adam and Eve chose to be in conflict with God and sin entered the world.
 - 3. When Christ is not your King, you will struggle with things you don't have to struggle with.
 - a) Fear of death
 - b) Fear of life
 - c) Fear of a lack of provision
 - d) Fear of man
 - e) Fear that you are not enough
 - f) Fear that you have to figure this all out on your own
 - 4. When Christ is your king, there will also be struggles because your flesh of sin is in conflict with the Holy Spirit that is in you.
 - a) Lusts of the flesh
 - b) Lusts of the Eyes
 - c) Pride of Life
 - d) [1Jo 2:15-17 ESV] 15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world--the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life--is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.
 - 5. Conflict comes from the enemy attempting to interfere with the working of God.
 - 6. The Jewish people struggled with this as well:
 - a) [Jdg 21:25 ESV] 25 In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.
 - b) When we do right in our own eyes, the rules keep changing.
- C. The Christ Connection
 - 1. Joseph, like Christ, despite serving faithfully & resisting temptation was falsely accused for sins he did not commit.
 - 2. Punished though innocent
 - 3. Jesus, though sinless, took on the punishment for our sin, so that we could be set free and rescued from what we deserve.
 - 4. Jesus took the punishment in righteousness, and won the victory.
 - 5. Joseph took the punishment from the powers that be so God could rescue His people!

IV. Close

[Gen 39:1-20 ESV] 1 Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. 2 The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. 4 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. 5 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. 6 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. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. 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, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. 9 He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" 10 And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her. 11 But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house, 12 she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house. 13 And as soon as she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out of the house, 14 she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to laugh at us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice. 15 And as soon as he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me and fled and got out of the house." 16 Then she laid up 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 laugh at me. 18 But as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment beside me and fled out of the house." 19 As soon as his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, "This is the way your servant treated me," his anger was kindled. 20 And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison.