

The Bible doesn't just talk about truth, but demonstrates what happens in the lives of people when God's truths and instructions are either followed or rejected.

Joseph, a real person found in the pages of Genesis, is an individual who embodies some of the most significant truths in the Bible. In a life filled with everything from false accusations and mistreatment to arriving at the pinnacle of wealth and power, Joseph exemplifies forgiveness, freedom from bitterness, faith & a positive attitude – all the unexpected results of God's truths being put into action. Most important, Joseph is someone who learns and holds to Rule #1, "God's in charge". When we follow this rule, letting Him lead in our relationships, life goes better.

Let's learn together God's truths demonstrated through this individual's life.

Questions: *Week #2 – Resisting Temptation*

Read Genesis 39:1-20

- How does Joseph's future look in verse 1?; in verse 6?; in verse 20?
- Given the highs and lows of the past few months, what might be going through Joseph's mind?
- Why would God allow these series of events to happen?
- Is God punishing Joseph? Why do "bad" things happen when we're trying our best?
- How have you responded to "storms" that have blown through your life? (Mt. 7:24-27).
 - What have your "storms" taught you about God and yourself?
- PK taught that temptation is generally rooted in our issues of security, autonomy & pain. Which of these were Joseph dealing with as he lived in Potiphar's house?
- In light of Joseph's upbringing & family, where did his strength and integrity come from?
- Sexual temptation is everywhere in our culture today.
- Read 1 Peter 3:1-4; Proverbs 7:6-23; James 1:13-15
- For men sexual temptation usually begins with the lust of the eyes, which eventually cripples the way a man understands and relates to the women in his life.
- Read Genesis 39:8-9 carefully. How did Joseph overcome sexual temptation? How does his response differ from the man in Proverbs 7?
- For women sexual temptation often begins with emotional loneliness and the desire for security & companionship ... in Potiphar's wife's case, perhaps her husband was absent from the home far too much, while Joseph's constant presence and attention in handling the daily affairs of her home fuelled her desire for him.

- What are God's marks of beauty in a woman?
- Where in our culture do you see the scenario of Prov 7 being "celebrated"?
- How can Christians today demonstrate God's truths concerning our sexuality ... something that he created and designed in the first place?
- Read 1 Corinthians 10:13.
- What does God promise in each temptation you face?
- While discipline & self-control are two of the three weapons needed for overcoming temptation, there is a third - prayers of praise & thanksgiving to God. Simply put, people who glorify God and praise Him when tempted, drive Satan crazy, and he usually seeks an easier target to pick on. Try this – it works!!