Sierra Community Church November 16,, 2008-Dan Wilvers Part 6



## **Joseph's Story**

Genesis 37-50

## When Your Dreams Seem to Die

Meanwhile, the Midianite traders arrived in Egypt, where they sold Joseph to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Genesis 37:36

# Joseph's 5 Keys To Keeping Hope Alive

## When other people seek to harm you:

"Here comes that dreamer!"... 20 "Come on, let's kill him and throw him into a deep pit.... Then we'll see what becomes of all his dreams!" 23 So when Joseph arrived, they pulled off his beautiful robe 24 and threw him into the pit.

Genesis 37:19,20,23

#### 1. God expects you to follow Him through every difficulty.

Endure hardship as discipline from the LORD. Hebrews 12:7

The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master.

Genesis 39:2

## When temptation tests you:

Now Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man. 7 And about this time, Potiphar's wife began to desire him and invited him to sleep with her...12 She came and grabbed him by his shirt, demanding, "Sleep with me!"

Genesis 39:6,7,12

#### 2. God expects you to not give into temptation.

The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience.

And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

1 Corinthians 10:13

Joseph tore himself away, but as he did, his shirt came off. She was left holding it as he ran from the house.

Genesis 39:12

#### Key point: You may get beat up for doing the right thing.

Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats.

1 Peter 3:13,14

## When circumstances go against you:

Potiphar... took Joseph and threw him into the prison Genesis 39:19 Pharaoh's cup-bearer, however, promptly forgot all about Joseph, Gen. 40:23

#### 3. God expects you to get better and not bitter.

"while Joseph was there In prison, the Lord was with him... And the warden put Joseph In charge of the prisoners." Genesis 39:21-22

## When unforgiveness wells up inside you:

Joseph was governor of all Egypt and in charge of selling grain... it was to him that his brothers came. ...7 Joseph recognized his brothers instantly, but he pretended to be a stranger and spoke harshly to them. Genesis 42:6,7

#### 4. God expects you to extend the same grace He gave to you.

But now that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers became afraid. "Now Joseph will pay us back for all the evil we did to him," they said. ...But Joseph told them, "Don't be afraid of me. Am I God, to judge and punish you?

Genesis 50:15, 19

## When God's plan for your life makes no earthly sense.

let's sell him to those Ishmaelite traders.

Genesis 37:27

the Midianite traders arrived in Egypt, where they sold Joseph to Potiphar Genesis 37:36

So he took Joseph and threw him into the prison Genesis 39:20

Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer, however, forgot all about Joseph Genesis 40:23

#### 5. God expects you to place all your hope in Him and let Him be God.

20 As far as I am concerned, God turned into good what you meant for evil. He brought me to the high position I have today so I could save the lives of many people.

Genesis 50:20

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them."

*Romans* 8:28