



FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

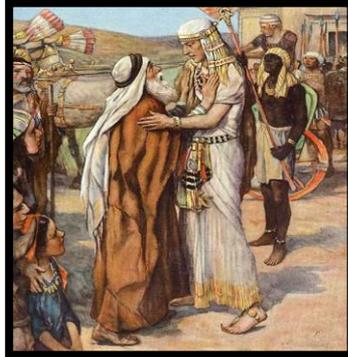
Pastors: Dennis & Diane Gordon

Sabbath January 13, 2018

From Prison to Praise #7

FAMINE AND GOING TO EGYPT (Joseph)

Genesis Chapters 41:1 – Genesis 42:38



SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

1st Reader Repeat verse 2x with Congregation

Philippians 4:19

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

THERE IS NO FAMINE IN MY SOUL
WHEN I TRUST JESUS TO BE MY LORD

1. INTRODUCTION: By treating others with kindness, Joseph earned respect and received great favor with God and men. Finding good in others can change their lives forever. There will always be those who will lie and treat us unfairly, but when we honor God He lives in the praises of His people, and He gives us His strength to have victory in every situation we face. Life did not turn out the way Joseph expected but he lived his life serving God, waiting on the Lord, expecting that God's blessing would come, and it did!

ORDER OF SERVICE:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Light Candles & Pray | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song' | |
| 2. Children's Songs & Story | 5. Adult Fellowship Break | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring | 6. Worship Song Set | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |

Objects to Bring: Flour, Oil, Salt, Baking Powder, Plate of cookies

2. AT LAST THE BUTLER REMEMBERED JOSEPH.

Joseph waited in the prison, trusting God, for two long years before the Lord would give him opportunity to be free again.

Genesis 41:1-14 “*And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river. ² And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well favoured kine and fatfleshed; and they fed in a meadow. ³ And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favoured and leanfleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river. ⁴ And the ill favoured and leanfleshed kine did eat up the seven well favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke. ⁵ And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good. ⁶ And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them. ⁷ And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. ⁸ And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.”*

Suddenly after two years, the butler remembered, and told the Pharaoh that Joseph had interpreted the butlers dream of the baskets of bread, and his dream of the grapes, and Joseph’s interpretations came true! So quickly, Joseph was taken out of the prison, washed, shaven, and given clean clothes to be brought before the king.



Genesis 41:15 “*And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.”*

Joseph was not afraid because he was so certain of the reality of God’s presence. Because Joseph spent time with the Lord he trusted that God would give him what to say.

Genesis 41:16 “*And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, **It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.**”*

3. WHEN LIFE GET'S MESSY YOU CAN BE SURE THAT GOD IS COOKING UP SOMETHING GOOD!

A famine is a very terrible thing to happen! Terrible things happened to Joseph, like being thrown into a pit and spending years in an awful prison for something he didn't do!

OBJECT LESSON: Bag of Flour, Oil, Salt, Large Spoon Baking Powder on a tray, and a Plate of Cookies.

Joseph's life looked like a big mess but God had a wonderful plan to save all of Israel because of all that Joseph had to go through didn't He! And God has a wonderful plan for your life too!



When others don't seem to like you or something sad happens, it is as hard to swallow as spoon full of salt (*pour spoon of salt*). How about when you get blamed for something that isn't your fault? That's hard to swallow too, like a spoon of cooking oil (*pick up bottle of oil*). Yuck! How about being hit or yelled at? That is bitter like this baking powder (*Dip finger into baking powder, taste it and make a face*). Or sometimes we might feel like our life doesn't make sense, like this flour that makes a terrible mess! (*Shake flour off hands*).



How can God make sense out of such a mess? But look! The same yucky ingredients that are such a mess when we don't know what to do with them or when we have not yet seen the finished product, can be made into wonderful, delicious cookies, just like your life!

Romans 8:28 “*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*”

God has something wonderful planned for you, so don't worry when something terrible happens. It's another ingredient God will work together into an amazing life for you!

Proverbs 3:5-6 “*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths..*”

4. WHEN YOU TRUST IN THE LORD HE WILL SHOW YOU WHAT TO SAY, JUST LIKE HE SHOWED JOSEPH

Joseph is an example for us that we are not to worry when we are in a hard time, to simply trust in God, and He will give us what to say.

Luke 21:14-15 *“Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: ¹⁵for **I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist**”.*

So Joseph did not think about what he would say when taken before this king who could have him killed, but he simply trusted God.



Genesis 41:17-24 *“And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river: ¹⁸and, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fatfleshed and well favoured; and they fed in a meadow: ¹⁹and, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill favoured and leanfleshed... ²⁰and the lean and the ill favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine: ²¹and when they had eaten them up...they were still ill favoured, as at the beginning. So I awoke. ²²And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good: ²³and, behold, seven ears, withered, thin... ²⁴and the thin ears devoured the seven good ears: **and I told this unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.**”*

So Joseph trusted God, and God spoke through him.

Genesis 41:25-28 *“And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: **God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do.** ²⁶The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. ²⁷And the seven thin and ill favoured kine ... and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine. ²⁸This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: **What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh.**”*

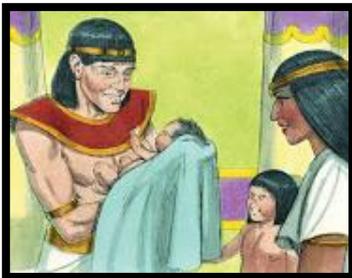
5. JOSEPH TRUSTS GOD AND HE IS GIVEN AUTHORITY.

Genesis 41:33-44 *“Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.”* ³⁴ *Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years. ...* ³⁶ *And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine...And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.* ³⁸ *And Pharaoh said unto his servants, **Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?*** ³⁹ *And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: ...* ⁴¹ ***And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.*** ⁴² ***And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph’s hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;*** ⁴³ *and he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: **and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.**”*

When you receive Jesus for your Savior, you are His disciple and have His Holy Spirit in you as a sign, like the ring of the king, to pray and speak for Him in the authority of Jesus name!

Genesis 41: 45 *“And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphnath-paaneah; **and he gave him to wife Asenath** the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.*

Joseph was faithful to obey God and stored up Egypt’s grain while the famine was all over the face of the earth, then Joseph was given a wife and God blessed him with two little boys!



Genesis 41:46-52 *“Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt...”* ⁵⁰ *And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, ...* ⁵¹ *And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasse: ...* ⁵² *And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.”*

6. PHARAOH'S DREAMS OF FAMINE CAME TO PASS.

There were 7 years of plenty, and soon the storehouses were so full they could no longer count all of the food!

Malachi 3:10 “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it..”

When you give your very best to God like Joseph, God also blesses everyone around you too, and you can't even count or hold all the wonderful things He will bring to you in your life!

Genesis 41:52-57 “And the seven years of plenteousness, that was in the land of Egypt, were ended. ⁵⁴ And the seven years of dearth began to come, according as Joseph had said: and the dearth was in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. ⁵⁵ And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread: and Pharaoh said unto all the Egyptians, Go unto Joseph; what he saith to you, do. ⁵⁶ And the famine was over all the face of the earth: and Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold unto the Egyptians; and the famine waxed sore in the land of Egypt. ⁵⁷ And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands.”

In all the world there was no food, except in Egypt, because Joseph listened and obeyed God. Back in the land of Caanan where Joseph's family lived, the famine was so terrible they had nothing to eat, their livestock was dying, but there was no famine in Egypt. If you



seek first to please God, asking God what to do like Joseph did, and listen in your heart, Jesus will always tell you what to do

Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

7. GRAINERIES OF EGYPT IN THE TIME OF JOSEPH



Joseph Gathering Corn San Marco ca. 1275).mile stretch between Memphis and Babylonia [Old Cairo] are many pyramids, which Joseph made in order to store corn.” *Itinerarium Egeriae* Y2; ed. R. Weber, CCSL 175:100¹

“In the late 6th century Gregory of Tours recorded the kind of reasoning that made the idea seem plausible to those who had never traveled to the sites themselves: in Babylonia "Joseph built wonderful granaries of squared stone and rubble. They are wide at the base and narrow at the top in order that the wheat might be cast into them through a tiny opening.” *Historia Francorum* 1.10; PL 71:167B; trans. Brehaut 1916. 9

“Ancient Egypt had one of the most successful and stable agricultural economies of the ancient world, and had both a system and facilities for grain storage: larger granaries were attached to temples and palaces, while smaller ones were dispersed within the town. There were essentially two types, one with a circular base, the other with a square or rectangular one. The circular granaries were shaped like beehives and were some 5 meters high and 2–3 meters in diameter. Grain was added through a door in the top by men standing on ladders, and was removed as needed from a similar door near the bottom. Very often these beehive storehouses were in groups of five or six and placed in a walled enclosure. The rectangular style of granary was constructed on similar principles, and though the side walls sloped gradually towards the top, where there was a flat roof, they were never of a true pyramidal form.” Rickman 1971, 298-99; Murray 2000, 505; 527-528

It is quite likely that the smallish pyramid shaped granaries of which Egeria and Gregory spoke of were still standing in the 4th and 6th centuries, and their writings calling these granaries pyramids, were confused by later writers to be the large Pyramid Tombs of Egypt.

8. JACOB SENDS HIS SONS TO EGYPT AND JOSEPH'S DREAM ALSO COMES TO PASS.

Gen 42:1-5 “When Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another? ² And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt: get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die. ³ And Joseph’s ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt. ⁴ But Benjamin, Joseph’s brother, Jacob sent not with his brethren...”

So the ten oldest sons left young Benjamin home with his father and left for Egypt with all the travelers to buy grain.



Genesis 42:7-21 “and Joseph’s brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth. ⁷ And **Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye?**

And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food. ⁸ And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him. ⁹ **And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them.**”

When Joseph’s brothers arrived in Egypt, they bowed their faces to the ground before the ruler of all the land. They didn’t know it was Joseph, but Joseph knew them, and had them thrown into prison for 3 days for being spies until they sent for their youngest brother.

Gen 42:18-21 “Joseph said unto them the third day, This do, and live; for I fear God: ¹⁹ if ye be true men, let one of your brethren be bound in the house of your prison: go ye, carry corn for the famine of your houses: ²⁰ but bring your youngest brother unto me; so shall your words be verified, and ye shall not die. And they did so.”

Joseph’s brothers knew they were guilty and deserved to die.

Proverbs 28:1 “The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.”

9. JOSEPH SENDS HIS BROTHERS BACK TO CANAAN.

Genesis 42:22-24 “*And Reuben answered them, saying, Spake I not unto you, saying, Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required.* ²³ *And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for he spake unto them by an interpreter.* ²⁴ *And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes.”*

They didn't know that Joseph understood because he spoke through an interpreter, while he turned away and wept. You and I are also guilty and Jesus weeps for our sins because He loves us so much, but while we were still sinners, Jesus died on the cross to save us.

Romans 3:23 “*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*” **Romans 5:8** “*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*”



Genesis 42:25-38 “*Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way: and thus did he unto them...²⁷ And as one of them opened his sack to give his ass provender in the inn, he espied his money...and they were afraid, saying one to another, What is this that God hath done unto us? And they came unto Jacob their father unto the land of Canaan, and told him all that befell unto them; ...³⁸ And he said, My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he is left alone: if mischief befall him by the way in the which ye go, then shall ye bring down my grave hairs with sorrow to the grave.”*

Joseph is a likeness of our Savior who has the power to forgive us and provide all our needs, and we are like the brothers who stand guilty before Him and helpless to help ourselves.

10. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU & ME

1. Jesus wants me to praise Him and trust Him like Joseph when hard things happen to me so that He can use those things to bless me and help others.
2. When you are trusting Jesus but life gets messy, you can be sure He is cooking up something good.
3. When you trust in the Lord He will show you what to say, just like He showed Joseph.
4. Always be listening to God and watch for Him to speak and move in your life!
5. Anyone who comes to Jesus is washed and dressed in God's own righteousness, and given authority to pray in Jesus name – and He answers your prayers!
6. When you give your best to Jesus, He blesses you with more than you need.
7. There is no lack of any good thing when I trust in God like Joseph did.
8. Jesus is faithful to forgive me even when I don't deserve it because He loves me.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

*“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.”*



Let's pray together:

*Dear Lord, Thank you for forgiving me. Help me to walk with You always and listen to Your voice early each morning so when I am afraid I can follow your way. Thank you for saving me and making me your very own child. When I am going through a hard time, help me to trust you. Thank you for working all things together for my good because I love you. Help me to bring You glory in everything I do Lord, **in Jesus name, Amen.***

11. CHILDREN’S STORY: FAMINE OF THE HEART

Mary received Jesus for her Savior at her church’s camp last summer. Her parents were so proud of her, and of the way she had changed! Mary had been a mean girl, acting as though there was a famine of love in her heart, so she was only kind to those who would give her something. But Mary was so happy when she came home from church camp, playing with her little brother and started being friends with sweet girls from her church like Molly.



Mary’s best friends at school didn’t talk to sweet quiet girls like Molly. But after Mary had prayed to receive Jesus at church camp, Molly was the first to come hug her, and they were best friends all summer! Mary was so ashamed when she remembered how badly she had treated Molly last year, pretending she didn’t see her, calling her names, and laughing at her with her friends.

On the first day of school, Mary’s mean friend, Julie said, “Hi Mary! Let’s go find the gang!” and Mary happily ran off with Julie. Mary was afraid to tell Julie that she was Molly’s best friend now, because Mary didn’t think she could bear it if her friends laughed and treated her like they had treated Molly. Mary was standing with her old friends when she heard Molly’s excited shout, “Hi Mary! I just saw the room list and we are in the same class!” Mary froze, then lifted her chin a little and pretended she didn’t hear, but when she saw the hurt in Molly’s eyes, tears came, and she ran all the way to the office.

The nurse thought Mary was sick and called her mother to come. When Mary explained what happened, her mom said sadly, “Mary, Jesus lives in your heart now. Are you really afraid that Jesus won’t have enough love left for you, if you give all your love away? There is no famine of God’s love!” How silly and stingy Mary had been! Mary marched right back out to the playground to get Molly, and tell her old friends that Molly was the best friend she ever had!

Mary decided that from now on, she would trust Jesus no matter what anyone thought. Why had she been so afraid, because when Jesus is in our hearts, there is more than enough love for everyone!

12. TIMELINE COLORING PAGE

Directions:

1. Enlarge & copy to size of a large paper cup (200%).
2. Color the picture and cut out.
3. Glue the cup wrapper to the outside of the cup and secure edge with tape.
4. Fill with popped popcorn!

When Joseph's brothers were hungry
He provided all the corn they needed.

Philippians 4:19

"But my God shall
supply all your need
according to his riches
in glory
by Christ Jesus."



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