

## **Bible Summary -Genesis 39**

### Sex? Just say no

Joseph is sold into slavery to Potiphar, a powerful leader in Egypt. He works hard and God grants him such success that he is elevated to Potiphar's COO. Mrs. Potiphar lusts after him and tries to seduce him multiple times. Joseph resists her advances using several justifications. First, by simply saying no. Second, by insisting that she belongs to her husband and it would be stealing. Third, by reminding her of the sacredness of marriage. He insists that Potiphar has entrusted everything but her to his care. Lastly, Joseph says it would be a sin against God. Joseph has his loves ordered correctly and is full of God's presence which weakens the allure of the temptress.

Scriptures: Genesis 39:6-10, 2:24-25; 1 Corinthians 6-7; Proverbs 5-6; Matthew 6:33

## **Bible Questions and Application**

(These are here as an aid in facilitating conversation.

There is no obligation to run through **every** question listed.)

1. What are some excuses we come up with to rationalize our bad choices?
2. What are some non-negotiables you established in your life which prepared you for the moment of the test?
  - a. Have you found something that has helped you in moments of great trial or temptation?
3. Four times in this chapter, it says, "God was with Joseph" which inspired Joseph to be faithful to God and stand in the temptation. We know that God is with us also. What should that mean to us?
4. Matt said, "Sex outside of marriage is stealing from someone else"? What do you think this means?
5. Intimacy and sex have been devalued in our culture, and with that the sacredness of marriage. How can we, the church community, help restore the value of intimacy?
  - a. What can we do in our families to help restore the value of intimacy?
6. In John 4 and 8, Jesus offers living water to the women living in adultery, recognizing they thirsted for something greater.
  - a. Do we thirst for something for greater? Do we quench this thirst with sin, or things lesser than God?
  - b. How can we instead be filled with Living Water? How does this strengthen ourselves against temptation?