

Bible Summary -Genesis 41

The Person God Uses

Joseph is the first person that is described as being full of God's Spirit. He isn't a priest or a pastor but a politician working in a pagan kingdom. The second person who is described as full of God's Spirit is Bezalel who is a construction foreman. Believers can make the mistake that work doesn't matter and what is most important is "spiritual" things. The first two books of the Bible make it clear that work is spiritual; there is no divide between ministry and industry or church and career. Joseph demonstrates how to bring a spiritual presence to work by the fact that he never complains and his work environments were terrible. Additionally, Joseph makes pagan Egypt better just like God tells His people to do in dark sinful Babylon. Scripture seems to indicate that believers are supposed to be like Joseph in dark places. We are to be those that offer solutions to the famines and troubled times. We are the best suited people to impact and transform dark times.

Scriptures: Genesis 41:37-41, 52; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Genesis 1:26; Ephesians 1:13; Jeremiah 29:5-7; Romans 16:20

Bible Questions and Application

(These are here as an aid in facilitating conversation.

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

1. How can we be image bearers of God in the workplace?
 - a. Do you consider yourself a missionary in your workplace? If so, can you give examples of how God has used you where you work?
2. We're called to do all things to the glory of God. We often divide up church life and work life. What's the danger of doing that?
3. How can our work ethic reflect the Spirit filled life of Joseph from the pit to the palace?
4. Do you trust that the Holy Spirit can work through you to make a difference for His kingdom? What would that look like?
5. What have you done to stay encouraged in a challenging work environment and keep yourself from complaining?
6. Ephraim means fruitful in the land of my affliction. How can you bloom where you're planted?
7. God has called us to bless the community where we live. How can we bless Grants Pass?