

G O D ' S G O T  
T H I S

THE DREAMER'S GUIDE TO THE  
NARRATIVE OF

**JOSEPH**

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G O D ' S G O T  
T H I S

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**JOSEPH**

# I N T R O G E N .

3 7 - 4 1

## DAY 1

TWO WEEKS AFTER MY HUSBAND AND I STARTED DATING HE LEFT AND WENT ON A TRIP TO THE CZECH REPUBLIC. HE LEFT ME FOR THREE WEEKS!!! HE LOVES TO TRAVEL. IT WAS ON THAT TRIP THAT I REALIZED HE WAS VERY SERIOUS ABOUT ME. HE WOULD CALL ME ALMOST EVERY NIGHT HE WAS AWAY.

DO YOU LIKE TO TRAVEL? IF YOU COULD GET A TICKET TO ANYWHERE WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

WELL, WHEN I WAS IN COLLEGE, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A TRIP OF A LIFETIME. TO PARIS. I WAS SOOOOO EXCITED. MY ENTIRE FAMILY AND I WENT TO PARIS. AS SOON AS WE LANDED MY SISTER AND I WENT ON A BUS TOUR OF THE CITY.

NOW, I AM FROM CHICAGO, SO I WAS EXPECTING A CITY. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO SEE IN A CITY? SKYSCRAPERS. PARIS IS NOT LIKE A NORMAL CITY.

IT WAS NOT WHAT I EXPECTED. IT'S LIKE STEPPING BACK IN TIME AND I THOUGHT, "NO WONDER THIS PLACE HAS INSPIRED SO MANY ARTISTS, DIRECTORS AND WRITERS."

PARIS IS INSPIRING. THIS IS BECAUSE BEFORE 1997 THERE WAS A BUILDING HEIGHT LIMIT OF 121 FEET. THE EIFFEL TOWER IS AROUND 1,000 FEET TALL. TO PUT THAT INTO PERSPECTIVE THE SEARS TOWER IN THE CHICAGO IS AROUND 400 FEET TALLER THAN THAT HEIGHT.

ALL OF THE BUILDINGS AROUND THE TOWER HIGHLIGHT AND POINT TO THE EIFFEL TOWER. PARIS WAS NOT WHAT I EXPECTED... IT WAS SO MUCH BETTER.

GOD DESIRES YOUR LIFE TO BE LIKE PARIS. YOU MIGHT HAVE DREAMS AND GOALS AND RIGHT NOW IT'S LOOKING A LITTLE GLIM. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY GOD GAVE YOU DREAMS AND DESIRES IF THERE'S GOING TO BE OBSTACLES AND HARDSHIPS TO ACHIEVE THEM.

WELL, I AM HERE TO TELL YOU GOD WANTS YOUR LIFE TO BE LIKE PARIS. HE WANTS SOMEONE TO LOOK AT YOU \_\_\_\_\_ AND SAY WOW GOD'S GOT HIS HAND ON YOUR LIFE. GOD WANTS YOUR LIFE TO POINT TO AND HIGHLIGHT HIM.- BECAUSE WHEN THIS HAPPENS, YOUR LIFE WON'T LOOK HOW YOU EXPECTED, IT WILL BE SO MUCH BETTER.

# A B O U T J O S E P H ' S D R E A M

THAT'S WHY I WANT TO TALK ABOUT JOSEPH IN THE BIBLE. HE WAS A LOT LIKE YOU. HIS STORY CAN BE FOUND IN GENESIS 37-45

HE WAS A DREAMER. WHEN I SAY HE WAS A DREAMER, LIKE GOD WOULD LITERALLY SPEAK TO HIM THROUGH DREAMS. IT WAS A GIFT. THEN JOSEPH WOULD TELL HIS BROTHERS. "GUYS, GUYS, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT I DREAMED LAST NIGHT."

HE WAS LIKE YOUR YOUNGER SIBLING WHO KEEPS WANTING TO SHOW YOU HOW THEY LEARNED TO JUMP ROPE AND YOU DON'T WANT TO WATCH THEM BECAUSE YOU COULD NEVER JUMP ROPE.

JOSEPH SHARING HIS DREAMS WITH HIS BROTHERS DID NOT GO WELL. BUT SEE, THESE DREAMS WERE ABOUT JOSEPH'S BROTHERS. SOME DAY ALL OF HIS OLDER BROTHERS WERE GOING TO BOW BEFORE HIM.

SO, THEY DID WHAT EVERY GOOD OLDER SIBLING WOULD DO... START TO TALK ABOUT WAYS TO GET RID OF HIM... I AM JUST KIDDING I NEVER DID THAT. THE WORST THING I EVER DID WAS TELL MY SISTER THAT SHE WAS ADOPTED AND SHE BELIEVED ME...

THE WORST OF HIS BROTHERS, HIS NAME IS JUDAH. I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER HIM. HE WAS THE ONE WHO DECIDED TO SELL JOSEPH. NOT BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO KILL JOSEPH, NO BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BENEFIT FROM JOSEPH.

SO HERE IS JOSEPH WITH A DREAM IN HIS HEART AND HIS HANDS TIED UP AS A SLAVE.

# JOSEPH

# A B O U T J O S E P H ' S D R E A M

## **GENESIS 37:5-8**

NOW ISRAEL LOVED JOSEPH MORE THAN ANY OTHER OF HIS SONS, BECAUSE HE WAS THE SON OF HIS OLD AGE. AND HE MADE HIM A ROBE OF MANY COLORS. BUT WHEN HIS BROTHERS SAW THAT THEIR FATHER LOVED HIM MORE THAN ALL HIS BROTHERS, THEY HATED HIM AND COULD NOT SPEAK PEACEFULLY TO HIM.

## **GENESIS 37:9-11**

“THEN HE DREAMED ANOTHER DREAM AND TOLD IT TO HIS BROTHERS AND SAID, “BEHOLD, I HAVE DREAMED ANOTHER DREAM. BEHOLD, THE SUN, THE MOON, AND ELEVEN STARS WERE BOWING DOWN TO ME.” BUT WHEN HE TOLD IT TO HIS FATHER AND TO HIS BROTHERS, HIS FATHER REBUKED HIM AND SAID TO HIM, “WHAT IS THIS DREAM THAT YOU HAVE DREAMED? SHALL I AND MY OUR MOTHER AND YOUR BROTHERS INDEED COME TO BOW OURSELVES TO THE GROUND BEFORE YOU?” AND HIS BROTHERS WERE JEALOUS OF HIM, BUT HIS FATHER KEPT THE SAYING IN MIND.”

## **GENESIS 37:21-22**

BUT WHEN REUBEN HEARD IT, HE RESCUED HIM OUT OF THEIR HANDS, SAYING, “LET US NOT TAKE HIS LIFE.” AND REUBEN SAID TO THEM, “SHED NO BLOOD; THROW HIM INTO THIS PIT HERE IN THE WILDERNESS, BUT DO NOT LAY A HAND ON HIM”—WHAT HE MIGHT RESCUE HIM OUT OF THEIR HAND TO RESTORE HIM TO HIS FATHER.

## **GENESIS 37:26-27**

THEN JUDAH SAID TO HIS BROTHERS, “WHAT PROFIT IS IT IF WE KILL OUR BROTHER AND CONCEAL HIS BLOOD? COME, LET US SELL HIM TO THE ISHMAELITES, AND LET NOT OUR HAND BE UPON HIM, FOR HE IS OUR BROTHER, OUR OWN FLESH.” AND HIS BROTHERS LISTENED TO HIM.

# JOSEPH

B E I N G S U C C E S S F U L  
I N T H E W A I T I N G  
G E N 3 9

DAY 2

NEXT, WE READ IN CHAPTER 39 THAT JOSEPH BECAME SUCCESSFUL AS A SLAVE.

THIS IS A REALLY HARD THING TO SWALLOW. TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN A HORRIBLE SITUATION. IT DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT.

JOSEPH TOOK A SITUATION THAT HIS BROTHERS MEANT FOR EVIL AND HAD THE FAITH THAT GOD WOULD TURN THIS INTO SOMETHING GOOD.

MAYBE IN THE BACK OF HIS MIND HE KEPT THINKING ABOUT THE DREAM GOD GAVE HIM. THE BIBLE DOESN'T TELL US.

IT JUST TELLS US THAT GOD WAS NEAR.

VERSE

**GENESIS 39: 2-3**

THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH, AND HE BECAME A SUCCESSFUL MAN, AND HE WAS IN THE HOUSE OF HIS EGYPTIAN MASTER. HIS MASTER SAW THAT THE LORD WAS WITH HIM AND THAT THE LORD CAUSED ALL THAT HE DID TO SUCCEED IN HIS HANDS.

MAYBE YOU'RE SITTING HERE WITH SOME FAMILY WOUNDS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN HEALED, BUT GOD HAS PLACED A DREAM IN YOUR HEART.

MAYBE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE HELD BACK BECAUSE OF YOUR FAMILY'S RESOURCES OR LACK OF CONNECTION.

MAYBE YOU CARRY A DEEP HURT FROM HARSH WORDS THAT HAVE BEEN SAID TO YOU. PRAY THAT THE LORD IS NEAR TO YOU DURING THIS SEASON.

PRAY FOR GROWTH AND WATCH HOW GOD WILL USE YOU. HE MAY NOT GIVE YOU THE SUCCESS YOU ARE THINKING OF.

DO YOU THINK JOSEPH WAS THINKING HIS SUCCESS WOULD COME FROM BEING A SLAVE? PROBABLY NOT.

# W H E N L I F E G E T S W O R S E G E N 4 0

## DAY 3

NOW POTIPHAR, THE RULER, ESSENTIALLY NAMED JOSEPH HIS RIGHT HAND MAN. HE HAD ACCESS TO EVERYTHING IN THIS GUY'S PALACE.

HE COULD HAVE BEEN THINKING, OK GOD, YOU GAVE ME A DREAM AND I AM KINDA CLOSE.

THE ONLY THING HE COULD NOT TOUCH WAS THE EGYPTIAN RULERS WIFE. WELL, SOMETHING HAPPENED ONE NIGHT WHERE SHE DECIDED SHE LIKED JOSEPH. SHE KINDA GAVE HIM THE LOOK AND THEN THE GLANCE AND SHE DECIDED TO JUST SAY IT. LIE WITH ME!

WHEN HE SAID NO, SHE FRAMED HIM. HIS BOSS DIDN'T BELIEVE HIS STORY SO HE THREW HIM INTO PRISON.

NOT ONLY IS JOSEPH THINKING WOW, I WAS MISUNDERSTOOD AND BETRAYED BY MY FAMILY, BUT NOW I AM BETRAYED AND FALSELY ACCUSED BY MY BOSS.

HE COULD HAVE WHATEVER HE WANTED IN POTIPHAR'S HOUSE, BUT HIS WIFE. NOW THIS IS A HUGE SLAP IN POTIPHAR'S FACE. JOSEPH COULD HAVE THOUGHT WELL, GOD DID GIVE ME THAT DREAM... THIS COULD BE A SHORT CUT THERE – BUT THAT IS NOT WHAT JOSEPH DID.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DEAL WITH PROFESSIONAL DISAPPOINTMENTS? MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE GETS A PROMOTION. OR MAYBE YOU GET LAID OFF. HOW DO WE TRUST THAT GOD'S GOT IT?

WELL, LET'S SEE HOW OUR FRIEND JOSEPH DOES...

### VERSE

#### GENESIS 39:12

SHE CAUGHT HIM BY HIS GARMENT, SAYING, "LIE WITH ME." BUT HE LEFT HIS GARMENT IN HER HAND AND FLED AND GOT OUT OF THE HOUSE.

I T ' S N O T A B O U T  
J O S E P H . I T ' S N O T  
A B O U T Y O U .  
G E N 4 1

DAY 4

SO, JOSEPH WAITS IN PRISON FOR TWO YEARS AND FINALLY THAT ANNOYING TALENT HE HAD OF INTERPRETING DREAMS COMES IN HANDY.

HE TELLS POTIPHAR THE MEANING OF HIS DREAMS. SAYING THERE'S NOT GOING TO BE FOOD IN A FEW YEARS SO THEY NEED TO STALK UP ON PIZZA AND CHICKEN WINGS.

GUESS WHO COMES INTO TOWN BECAUSE THEY HEARD THERE WAS A LARGE AMOUNT OF PIZZA? JOSEPH'S BROTHERS. TO TEST THEM HE DECIDES I AM GOING TO TAKE THE YOUNGEST BROTHER AS A CAPTIVE.

ONE BROTHER BEGS TO TAKE THE KID BROTHER'S PLACE... JUDAH.

YOU'RE THINKING WAIT, I KNOW THAT GUY. YES. JUDAH WAS THE BROTHER WHO BETRAYED JOSEPH AND DECIDED TO PROFIT OFF OF HIM.

UGH, JUDAH IS SO ANNOYING, RIGHT? NOW HE WANTS TO BE THE GOOD GUY? NOW HE IS SPEAKING UP.

LET'S LOOK INTO IT... WHO IS JUDAH... HMMMMMM

HE'S THE GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER OF JESUS...

AND YOU THOUGHT THIS STORY WAS ABOUT JOSEPH...

# JOSEPH



I T ' S N O T A B O U T  
J O S E P H . I T ' S N O T  
A B O U T Y O U .  
G E N 4 1

VERSE

GENESIS 41:39-41

THEN PHARAOH SAID TO JOSEPH, "SINCE GOD HAS SHOWN YOU ALL THIS, THERE IS NONE SO DISCERNING AND WISE AS YOU ARE. YOU SHALL BE OVER MY HOUSE, AND ALL MY PEOPLE SHALL ORDER THEMSELVES AS YOU COMMAND. ONLY AS REGARDS THE THRONE WILL I BE GREATER THAN YOU."

THEN JUDAH WENT UP TO HIM AND SAID, "OH, MY LORD, PLEASE LET YOUR SERVANT SPEAK A WORD IN MY LORD'S EARS, AND LET NOT YOUR ANGER BURN AGAINST YOUR SERVANT, FOR YOU ARE LIKE PHARAOH HIMSELF. 19 MY LORD ASKED HIS SERVANTS, SAYING, 'HAVE YOU A FATHER, OR A BROTHER?' AND WE SAID TO MY LORD, 'WE HAVE A FATHER, AN OLD MAN, AND A YOUNG BROTHER, THE CHILD OF HIS OLD AGE. HIS BROTHER IS DEAD, AND HE ALONE IS LEFT OF HIS MOTHER'S CHILDREN, AND HIS FATHER LOVES HIM.' THEN YOU SAID TO YOUR SERVANTS, 'BRING HIM DOWN TO ME, THAT I MAY SET MY EYES ON HIM.' WE SAID TO MY LORD, 'THE BOY CANNOT LEAVE HIS FATHER, FOR IF HE SHOULD LEAVE HIS FATHER, HIS FATHER WOULD DIE.' THEN YOU SAID TO YOUR SERVANTS, 'UNLESS YOUR YOUNGEST BROTHER COMES DOWN WITH YOU, YOU SHALL NOT SEE MY FACE AGAIN.'

**JOSEPH**

# JOSEPH

## DAY 5

### REFLECTION

THE DREAMS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU ARE BIGGER THAN JUST YOUR LIFE, PLANS, DREAMS, GOALS.

GOD SEES THE WHOLE PICTURE. KEEP THAT IN MIND AND YOU WILL MOVE FROM FEAR TO FAITH. GODS GOT THIS!

PSALM 33:11 SAYS, "BUT THE PLANS OF THE LORD STAND FIRM FOREVER, THE PURPOSES OF HIS HEART THROUGH ALL GENERATIONS."

HIS PLANS ARE NOT JUST FOR YOU, BUT ALL GENERATIONS. TAKE SOME TIME TO JOURNAL BASED OFF OF THESE QUESTIONS FROM THE STORY OF JOSEPH.

1. WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS FOR THIS YEAR?
  - A. NEXT YEAR?
  - B. A LIFE LONG DREAM.
2. TAKE SOME TIME TO WRITE DOWN A CONVERSATION TO GOD ABOUT THESE GOALS AND DREAMS. SOMETIMES WE JUST NEED TO TALK TO GOD.
3. WHAT ARE SOME OBSTICLES YOU MAY HAVE IN THE WAY OF THESE GOALS AND DREAMS?
4. ARE YOU IN A WAITING SEASON LIKE JOSEPH WAS WHEN HE WAS IN PRISON? WHAT ARE SOME LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM HOW JOSEPH WAITED?
5. THE LAST THING TO DO IS TO COMPLETELY HAND THESE GOALS AND DREAMS OVER TO GOD, BECAUSE WE JUST LEARNED THAT WHEN WE POINT TO GOD OUR PLANS MAY NOT TURN OUT LIKE WE THOUGHT – BUT IT WILL BE SO MUCH BETTER!

# JOSEPH

## DAY 5

### CONCLUSION

YOUR LIFE HAS A PURPOSE, GOD'S PLAN IS NOTHING LIKE YOU EXPECTED, AND LIKE PARIS, IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE. IF YOU'VE BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD AT YOUR JOB, OR LET DOWN BY YOUR FAMILY, OR SOMEONE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE TAKING A RISK ON A DREAM DON'T BE DISCOURAGED.

DON'T WORRY. KEEP DREAMING. POINT TO GOD. HIGHLIGHT HIS WORK IN YOUR LIFE. GOD'S GOT THIS.