



Throughout our lives, circumstances and people can hurt or disadvantage us. We can feel that we are the victims in our difficult situations. But if we look at these struggles from the right vantage point, they can become powerful tools in God's hands to shape us into overcomers. In this series, we're going to gain insight into how we can move from being victims to overcomers as we look at how God's plan unfolds in the life of Joseph.

**Week Three:** With God

**Text:** Genesis 39

Joseph's experience as a slave in the house of Potiphar shows us that with God, every success and setback will prepare us for the next phase of God's plan for us. Therefore, we can remain hopeful in terrible circumstances, resist the pressure to compromise, and persist in spite of setbacks.

Discussion Questions: These three larger questions will drive our discussion:

1. What did the Holy Spirit say to you through Sunday's sermon and the associated passage?
2. What are you going to do about it?
3. How can others in the group help you and pray for you so you can do what God told you to do?

**What did the Holy Spirit say to you through the sermon?**

- How do you feel about your current circumstances? Do you sense that God is "with you," or do you sense that you are "on your own"? Explore these promises of God in Matthew 28:20 and Hebrews 13:5-6.

- Read Genesis 39:2-6a. What do you see Joseph doing and what do you see God doing? Describe a tough life experience where you knew God was with you, and it gave you hope to do the right thing with the right attitude.

### **What are you going to do about it?**

- Read Genesis 39:6b-17. As a young man in his early 20s, what were the various pressures to compromise that Joseph was facing with this daily sexual harassment?
- Read Genesis 39:18-23. Why is it critical for believers to constantly cultivate a daily relationship with God?

### **How can others in this group help you or pray for you?**

- After reading this account of Joseph, how would you answer someone who says, “Do the right thing and God will bless you!” See Luke 6:22-23.
- Share the ways you personally cultivate your relationship with God, or one way you can take it to the next level.

### **Possible Applications:**

- Adopt a Bible reading plan and begin spending daily time in the Word of God. (Here is one that many friends find helpful: <https://www.bibleinoneyear.org/> )
- Keep a journal where you record what God says to you through His Word, and your response.
- As a group make it a habit to ask each other, “What had God been saying to you in your times with Him?”
- Memorization is a great way to practice meditating on God’s Word. You could start with the Memory verse suggested in the sermon outline:

### **Scripture Memory**

*Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.*

Romans 5:3-5