

# The Shaping of a Man

## "Hope Ignited"

March 15, 2006

Romans 40:23, "But (even after all that), the chief butler gave not thought to JOSEPH, but forgot (all about) him." The Amplified Bible

## SUMMARY:

Joseph was a real person, with hopes, thoughts, feelings and desires, just like yours or mine. He suffered incredible loss when betrayed by his brothers and sold into slavery. He was then betrayed by his master's wife and thrown into prison. Finally, he was forgotten by the butler when released from jail. Yet, his FOCUS remained on GOD and he was eventually vindicated.

## NOTES:

EXPECT times of defeat, discouragement, mis-treatment, betrayal and even abandonment in your life.

REMEMBER that your situation is not a surprise to God and He is not up in Heaven wringing his hands as to what to do.

ACCEPT the BIBLICAL truth that God has not forgotten you and will not forsake you but is working through your circumstances for your ultimate good.

## DISCUSSION POINTS:

**Introductory Question:** When have you felt betrayed, forgotten, or abandoned in your life?

Discussion:

- What is your first inclination to do when you face abandonment by a family member or friend?
- Do you need to approach someone whom you have forgotten or let down in a time of need?
- Why is it so hard for us to accept temporary set backs and disappointments when we say we believe in the sovereignty of God?

## APPLICATION:

- List one or two hopeless situations in your life where God created "good" from what Satan intended for "evil".
- Name at least two things you learned from allowing God to work out His purposes in what appeared to be a bad situation.

## ON YOUR OWN...

Romans 8:28  
Psalms 145:18-19  
Habakkuk 3:17-19

We thank Jim Butcher for leading our study time today.