

The Shaping of a Man

February 8, 2006

“Trusting God”

Genesis 39:1-6 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh’s officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. So he left in Joseph’s care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.

SUMMARY:

Trusting God is easy to talk about, but Trusting God can become a very difficult practice, especially when circumstances are tough. Joseph surely didn’t understand why certain things were happening to him, but he was sure the Lord was with him. Because he Trusted God, even in the midst of slavery, Joseph prospered, he found success in everything he did and those around him were blessed. That’s astounding news! We too can experience what Joseph experienced when we Trust God. To Trust God we must possess a revealed knowledge of who He is. He has revealed His character to us through His Word. I know He is Sovereign. I know He is infinitely Wise, and I know that He Loves me. Also, to Trust God more we must always be expanding our experiential knowledge. Never forget or fail to share how God has worked in your life during different seasons. Through real life experience God shows us His Faithfulness. As we Trust God today, be assured He is preparing us for what He wants us to do Tomorrow.

NOTES:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question: Think of a person you have **grown** to deeply trust. Who is that person and why do you trust that particular person?

Discussion:

- What can I do today to help me Trust God tomorrow?
- How can I possibly be prospering, how can I possibly be finding success, how can I possibly be a blessing to those around me, when like Joseph, I find myself in a not-so-good situation?

APPLICATION:

Every morning remind yourself, during your prayer time, of God’s Sovereign control, His infinite Wisdom, and His Amazing Love.

Remind yourself each day of a recent experience in your life where He has shown you those character traits.

ON YOUR OWN...

Read the following passages:

Romans 8:28-39	2 Timothy 4:17-18	Psalms 9:10
Lamentations 3:22-23	Psalms 56:3-4	Proverbs 3:5-6
Isaiah 40:29-31	Matthew 6:19-34	Philippians 4:4-13
Hebrews 4:14-16	Hebrews 13:5-6	Psalms 32:10

We appreciate Brad Johnson bringing today’s lesson to us.