

The Shaping of a Man

LIFE'S NOT FAIR – Falsely Accused!

February 22, 2006

Genesis 39:11-20

SUMMARY:

Joseph was tempted to sin by committing adultery with the boss's wife! He refused. No one else was around to defend him. He was falsely accused of attempted rape, lost his job and thrown in prison for a crime he did not commit. Life is not fair! How do we handle this? How did Joseph handle this?

NOTES:

- The woman was lonely –
- Joseph was attractive –
- They were alone in the house together!
- This in itself is a recipe for disaster!
- Joseph took a different approach than David. Joseph is a better example than David.
- We've all had situations in our lives, on our jobs, at home, that we felt were not fair. How do we handle those situations? How did Joseph handle the situation?

1. STAY PURE

ABC's of staying pure:

- A. AVOID SIN – Live as if there are no secrets
- B. BEAT BITTERNESS – Ephesians 4:31,32
- C. Concentrate on the Goodness of God

2. STILL PRAY

Stay in the presence of God!

If you'll do these things – no matter how unfair the situation may seem – you will come out on top!

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question: WHAT **IS** YOUR FIRST REACTION WHEN FACED WITH AN UNFAIR SITUATION?

WHAT **SHOULD BE** YOUR FIRST REACTION?

Discussion: What does it mean to *"live as if there are no secrets"*?

- Do you have anything in your life now that could be considered a secret that could eventually come out to hurt you?
- Is there anyone in your life you can safely share this with to avoid potential destruction?
- How do you deal with BITTERNESS from past or present unfair situations?
- What helps you stay focused on the goodness of God?
- How can you STAY in the presence of God – at all times?

APPLICATION:

All through our lives we will be faced with situations we feel is unfair. No one is exempt. It goes back to the old "What do you do when life gives you lemons" question. How do you turn a bad situation to good? The old adage is true, "Our attitude determines our altitude!" How you handle the situation can make you BITTER or BETTER – there is one letter difference between those words – "I" make the difference! We must choose to follow the example of Joseph, not allow unfair circumstances to destroy us – and always – always – live as if there are no secrets!

ON YOUR OWN...

Read – Genesis 39 James 2:22 Ephesians 4:31,32

Make sure you develop deep godly, Christian relationships where you will receive support and godly, biblical advice. There has to be someone in your life to encourage you when you are faced with the fact that *LIFE'S NOT FAIR!*