

Please Silence

All

Cell Phones

for the

WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship in Song

Rock of My Salvation You are the Rock of my salvation You are the strength of my life You are my hope and my inspiration Lord unto You will I cry

I believe in You believe in You For Your faithful love to me You have been my help in time of need Lord unto You will I cleave

You are the Rock of my salvation You are the strength of my life You are my hope and my inspiration Lord unto You will I cry

I believe in You believe in You For Your faithful love to me You have been my help in time of need Lord unto You will I cleave



We Choose The Fear Of The Lord

We choose the fear of the Lord We choose the fear of the Lord For the fear of the Lord is to hate all evil We choose the fear of the Lord We choose the fear of the Lord

We choose the way of the Lord We choose the way of the Lord For the way of the Lord is the way of wisdom We choose the way of the Lord We choose the way of the Lord

He who delights in the Word of the Lord Shall be blessed in all of his ways For the friendship of God Is with those who fear Him So we choose the fear of the Lord We choose the Word of the Lord

We choose the Word of the Lord We choose the Word of the Lord For the Word of the Lord shall endure forever We choose the Word of the Lord We choose the Word of the Lord



Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness And all these things Shall be added unto you Allelu alleluia

Man shall not live by bread alone But by ev'ry word that proceeds From the mouth of God Allelu alleluia

Ask and it shall be given unto you Seek and ye shall find Knock and the door shall be Opened unto you Allelu alleluia



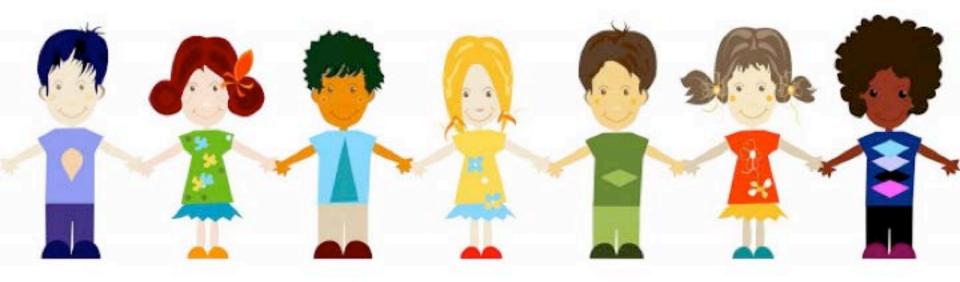
ANNOUNCEMENTS

and

GREETING



CHILDREN'S Moment





If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23-24 $_{ESV}$)

The first to apologize is the

bravest.

The first to forgive

is the strongest.

The first to forget

Is the happiest.



CONTRACTOR CLASSES

TITHS

OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows."

Doxology

Praise God, from whom

all blessings flow:

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav' nly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

A-men

Worship in Song

Higher Ground I'm pressing on The upward way New heights I'm gaining Every day Still praying as I'm onward bound Lord plant my feet On higher ground

Lord lift me up And let me stand By faith On heaven's tableland A higher plain Than I have found Lord plant my feet On higher ground

My heart has no Desire to stay Where doubts arise And fears dismay Though some may dwell Where these abound My prayer my aim Is higher ground

Lord lift me up And let me stand By faith On heaven's tableland A higher plain Than I have found Lord plant my feet On higher ground

I want to live Above the world Though Satan's darts At me are hurled For faith has caught The joyful sound The song of saints On higher ground

Lord lift me up And let me stand By faith On heaven's tableland A higher plain Than I have found Lord plant my feet On higher ground

I want to scale The utmost height And catch a gleam Of glory bright But still I'll pray 'Til heaven I've found Lord lead me on To higher ground

Lord lift me up And let me stand By faith On heaven's tableland A higher plain Than I have found Lord plant my feet On higher ground



Be Strong In The Lord Be strong in the Lord And be of good courage Your mighty defender Is always the same Mount up with wings As the eagle ascending Victory is sure When you call on His name

Be strong be strong Be strong in the Lord And be of good courage For He is your guide Be strong be strong Be strong in the Lord And rejoice For the victory is yours

So put on the armor The Lord has provided And place your defense In His unfailing care Trust Him for He will Be with you in battle Lighting your path To avoid every snare

Be strong be strong Be strong in the Lord And be of good courage For He is your guide Be strong be strong Be strong in the Lord And rejoice For the victory is yours

Be strong in the Lord And be of good courage Your mighty commander Will vanquish the foe Fear not the battle For the victory is always His He will protect you wherever you go

Be strong be strong Be strong in the Lord And be of good courage For He is your guide Be strong be strong Be strong in the Lord And rejoice For the victory is yours



Thy Word

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid And I think I've lost my way Still You're there right beside me Nothing will I fear As long as You are near Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path

I will not forget Your love for me and yet My heart forever is wandering Jesus be my guide And hold me to Your side I will love You to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path



WORSHIP THE LORD IN HIS WORD

Journey From Tragedy to Triumph

LESSON 2 . . . When You Are Tempted

TEXT: (Genesis 39:1-23)

Please open your Bible and read along with us.

Genesis 39:1-3 "Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. 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."

Introduction:

Temptation or trials are inevitable for every Christian.

James 1:2 "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds," (ESV)

There are no exceptions, for even Jesus Christ was severely tempted.

Sometimes temptation comes in sheep's clothing, and at other times it comes like a roaring lion.

The ways and methods differ, but temptation comes to us all just as it did to Joseph. In our previous lesson we saw Joseph envied by his brothers, who sold him to Arabian traders, who in turn sold him as a slave in Egypt.

Now that Joseph is in Egypt, we are going to look at his advancement, enticement, commitment, and mistreatment.

I. The Advancement -

Joseph advances rapidly in the household of Potiphar, but the important thing is why.

In the first <u>six verses</u> the blessing of the Lord on his life is repeated seven times, in phrases such as *The LORD was with Joseph* (39:2);

"the LORD was with him and that the LORD made all he did to prosper in his hand (39:3).

Notice what happens because of God's blessings on Joseph (Genesis 39:4-5)?

Genesis 39:4-5 "So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all that he had he put under his authority. 5 So it was, from the time that he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field."

Romans 2:11 "For Gods s h o w s n o partiality." (ESV)

Joseph does not act "holier than thou" even though he is working for a pagan.

Joseph doesn't use his religion as a tool to gain favor with his boss.

Potiphar simply observes Joseph was an honest, hard-working man, "...so he left all that he had in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate" (39:6a).

Joseph does what Colossians 3:22-23 says every Christian should do, even when working in unchristian circumstances.

Colossians 3:22-23 "Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,"

Just because we work in a place where there is vulgarity, favoritism for all the wrong reasons, etc., it doesn't mean we can goof off and not do our jobs.

Such work places need our witness even more.

When working in situations where it may seem the devil himself is in control, God gives a word of encouragement.

Colossians 3:24 "knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

Being honest, hard-working employees is crucial if we are to be effective witnesses.

Not only was Joseph successful, he also was handsome in form and appearance (Genesis 39:6b).

He may have had a body like Arnold Swartzneggar and a face like Robert Redford.

As always, with advancement and good looks come great temptations, which brings us to..

II. The Enticement -

Genesis 39:7-10 "And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master

has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her." (ESV)

Joseph's good looks had gained the notice of Potiphar's wife.

She must have thought Joseph was a real "hunk."

She may have been watching soap operas or movies on television and been convinced that everyone should have an affair at least once.

It all seems so enticing and exciting.

Therefore, not wasting any time she goes to Joseph, maybe in his office, and says, "Lie with me" Genesis 39:7.

No doubt Joseph is startled at such a proposition.

This is an especially difficult temptation to resist because Potiphar's wife is an influential woman.

As such she could be a formidable ally as a lover or a vicious enemy if he refuses.

However, Joseph is a man of integrity, so we read,

Genesis 39:8-9 "But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"(ESV)

This temptation came at a very vulnerable time because Joseph had just reached the pinnacle of success.

While struggling to be successful many people are <u>not</u> prone to give in to temptation.

However, when they finally achieve what they have been working for, they are often very vulnerable.

At that point one may rationalize, "I have been working hard for years and have made many sacrifices to achieve success.

Now it is time to enjoy some benefits of my success."

One of the most dangerous times spiritually in the lives of believers is when we think we have finally "arrived."

1 Corinthians 10:12 "Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall." (ESV)

FAMOUS LAST WORDS ...

I Would NEVER....

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" (ESV)

NEVER SAY...NEVER

For example, Noah did not give in to temptation until after the flood.

David did not fall until after he had led the rag-tag, rivaling tribes of Israel to become one of the most powerful nations in the world.

Also, Jesus was not severely tempted until after He was baptized by John.

Mark 1:9 "In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan." (ESV)

Another thing that makes temptation hard to resist is when it is constant.

The devil knows each of us have our weak moments, and therefore he keeps the pressure on Joseph:

Genesis 39:10 "And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her." (ESV)

When the first attack fails, the Evil One will try to wear us down with continued temptations.

We've looked at the advancement and enticement; now, let's consider.

III. The Commitment -

Finally, "Mrs. Potiphar" thinks she has found the perfect opportunity because it happened about this time..._

Genesis 39:11-12 "But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house, 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." (ESV)

Temptation is far more enticing when we feel no one will ever know.

Joseph handled the temptation in three ways...

First, he lived a life of submission to the LORD...

James 4:7a "Submit (<u>hupotassô</u>) yourselves therefore to God...

Second he resisted the devil...

James 4:7b "...Resist (anthistêmi) the devil, and he will flee from you." (take a stand against) (ESV)

Third - HE RAN!!!!!!!!!!

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." (ESV)

1 Corinthians 6:18 "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

When we are tempted, we should remember a fantastic promise in...

1 Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

It reveals three things about temptation.

First, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man."

This means there are no new temptations.

All temptations fall into three groups.

1 John 2:16 "For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world."

Each day we face the same old temptations others before us have resisted.

Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin."

After Christ's baptism we find Satan tempted Him in the three common categories of all temptations.

In Matthew 4:3 after Jesus fasts for 40 days, Satan comes and tempts Him.

Matthew 4:3 "Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.""

This temptation was in the area of appetite or the lust of the flesh (1 John 2:16).

Thus, Jesus was tempted as we are to satisfy our normal God-given desires in an ungodly way.

Second, Satan tempted Jesus to presume upon God by taking Him to the pinnacle of the temple and asking Him to -

Matthew 4:6 "and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." (ESV)

This is the category of temptations John calls the pride of life (1 John 2:16).

It refers to things we do to show off or impress others.

It includes doing things to appear "super" spiritual.

Essentially the devil said to Jesus, "You say you are the Son of God, and you believe the Bible; prove it."

It is the <u>pride of life</u> that causes some believers to put their piety on parade.

Jesus refused to do that.

The pride of life also causes people to live in such a way as to impress other people with status symbols.

It leads them to build big homes they cannot afford, to buy fancier and more expensive cars, and to run up credit card debts they cannot pay.

About 65% of Americans are so far in debt they face serious financial problems, and most of the debt is incurred simply trying to impress other people — the pride of life.

Finally, Satan tempts Jesus with the offer in:

Matthew 4:8-9 "Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." (ESV)

This is the temptation John calls the lust of the eyes (1 John 2:16).

A modern example is the phrase: "Feast your eyes on this."

Satan knew if Jesus followed God's will, His path to kingship would require suffering, agony, and death on the cross.

This might have been the greatest temptation of all for Jesus.

The first thing we should realize about temptation is "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man..." (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Second, "...but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able.

God is faithful, which means He is reliable and dependable;

He will do what He says and will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we can resist.

However, this doesn't mean we can't sin, for we can.

James 1:14-15 "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

Sin can only take place when we decide of our own free will to yield to our desires or lust.

God will not allow the devil to force us into sin.

The third fact revealed in 1 Corinthians 10:13 "...but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

When we are tempted, if we are committed to the Lord, He will always provide a way out.

Sometimes a simple "no" will suffice (James 4:7).

James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (ESV)

Other situations require continued resistance.

However, there are times when radical action must be taken, and we must leave, as was the case with Joseph.

We cannot reason or rationalize with temptation.

As Charles Swindoll says, there is a name for people who do.

It is "victim."

In temptation, the choice is often flee or fall....

Having looked at Joseph's advancement, enticement, and commitment, we must now see this all leads to...

IV. The Mistreatment (39:13-23)

A. Irate because she wanted Joseph and only got his garment, Mrs. Potiphar calls her servants and tells them Joseph tried to molest her, (39:13-15).

Genesis 39:13-23 "And as soon as she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out of the house, she called to the men of her

household and said to them, "See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to laugh at us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice. And as soon as he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me and fled and got out of the house." Then she laid up his garment by her until his master came home, and she told him

B. Irrational - Using the coat as "evidence" (39:16), when her husband comes home she tells him,

the same story, saying, "The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to laugh at me. But as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment

As soon as his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, "This is the way your servant treated me," his anger was kindled..."

C. Incredulous -

Without a proper investigation,

Do Not expect to find J U S T I C E this side of HEAVEN!!!

"And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison.

Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed." (ESV)

Interesting, Joseph never becomes bitter toward those who have wronged him.

Joseph suffered injustice at the hands of his own brothers and now from the unprincipled wife of Potiphar.

Though he had never read it, Joseph obeyed the command found in:

Romans 12:19 "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord."

Conclusion:

In Joseph, God has given us a wonderful example to follow when we are tempted.

Though he was a gifted businessman, Joseph's character was far more important to him than his career.

By looking at Joseph's advancement, enticement, commitment, and mistreatment, we have discovered that when we are tempted, we are not at the mercy of peer pressure or passions.

Instead, when you are tempted what is the only thing that can cause you to give in?

James 1:14-15 "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

Your Own Will!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

INVITATION

What Decision do you need to make for JESUS today?



I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.

Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh.

1 Corinthians 10:17 NASB

Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread (Jesus).

Since He (God the Father) made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you



2 Timothy 3:12 NASB

All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted

For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps ... while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously.

Philippians 3:10-11 NASB

That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

I shall lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the LORD.

Worship in Song

Just A Closer Walk With Thee

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk let me walk
close to Thee

Just a closer walk with Thee Grant it Jesus is my plea Daily walking close to Thee Let it be dear Lord let it be

Thro' this world of toil and snares If I falter Lord who cares Who with me my burden shares None but Thee dear Lord none but Thee

Just a closer walk with Thee Grant it Jesus is my plea Daily walking close to Thee Let it be dear Lord let it be

When my feeble life is o'er Time for me will be no more Guide me gently safely o'er To Thy kingdom shore to Thy shore

Just a closer walk with Thee Grant it Jesus is my plea Daily walking close to Thee Let it be dear Lord let it be

Benediction & Fellowship