

# The Way Joseph Dealt with Confusion

Genesis 37:18-28

Life Group Discussion – March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

In one moment Joseph went from being the favorite son of his father to being unfairly imprisoned and enslaved.

Due to the jealousy of his brothers, Joseph was sold to a slave trader in Egypt and sent to live in a foreign land under the rule of a foreign king. He was unfairly taken away and had his entire life turned upside down in an instant. How did Joseph deal with this confusion?

Joseph did not despair and he did not move away from God. In fact, he moved closer to the Lord and trusted in Him more than ever. This is the same with the life of Job.

**and Job said:**

**“Naked I came from my mother’s womb,  
and naked I will depart.**

**The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;  
may the name of the LORD be praised.” (Job 1:21)**

Look at how Job spoke after experiencing terrible things. The words you say will reflect the state of your soul, and when you are able to praise God and speak good things even in hard times, your faith will grow instead of die.

Joseph experienced many unfair things. He was unfairly sold into slavery and he was unfairly accused of assaulting Potiphar’s wife. But through it all he was positive and looked at what good could come instead of focusing on the negative. But what is also important is that he did not simply just ignore what others said or lived in ignorance, he trusted in God’s provision and power above anyone else.

In Genesis 40, two men told Joseph their dreams when they were all in prison. Joseph could have simply given a brief answer but he answered them fully and paid full attention.

This is how we must treat each other in the church and how we must come before God. We will never grow in the Lord if we do not understand the depths and specifics of our sin and our church will not grow unless we are willing to confront in detail rather than simply think that things will smooth over as time goes on.

Jesus died for us and He had given us specific instructions. Do not waste or belittle His words by skimming over encouragement or rebuke for yourself or for others.

For Joseph, another important understanding he had was that life may be unfair, but God is the ultimate decider. The world may have sent him into prison or into these unfair decisions, but God was the one who allowed those things to happen.

**The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD. (Proverbs 16:33)**

My brothers and sisters,  
Even in this moment, God is working in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

When you encounter confusing situations in your life, do not despair and do not fall away from God. Stay close to Him and trust Him like Joseph did...your life will be forever changed and you will be able to thrive in all circumstances.

## SHARING-----

1. Joseph went through many difficult and confusing situations in his life but those times never hurt his faith away from God. What has your faith been like during difficult times? How has it been different/similar to Joseph’s faith?
2. We see that God was working in Joseph’s life, even when it was unfair or confusing. When was a time in your life when you realized God was working in your life even when life was difficult?