



Lesson 10

Colossians 3:23–24

Work at everything you do with all your heart. Work as if you were working for the Lord, not for human masters. Work because you know that you will finally receive as a reward what the Lord wants you to have. You are slaves of the Lord Christ.

Joseph and the Wife of Potiphar

Genesis 39:1–23

¹Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. An Egyptian named Potiphar had bought him from the Ishmaelite traders who had taken him there. Potiphar was one of Pharaoh's officials. He was the captain of the palace guard.

²The Lord was with Joseph. He gave him great success. Joseph lived in Potiphar's house. ³Joseph's master saw that the Lord was with him. He saw that the Lord made Joseph successful in everything he did.

⁴So Potiphar was pleased with Joseph and made him his attendant. He put Joseph in charge of his house. He trusted Joseph to take care of everything he owned. ⁵From that time on, the Lord blessed Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph. He blessed everything Potiphar had in his house and field. ⁶So Joseph took good care of everything Potiphar owned. With Joseph in charge, Potiphar didn't have to worry about anything except the food he ate.

Joseph was strong and handsome. ⁷After a while, his master's wife noticed Joseph. She said to him, "Come to bed with me!"

⁸But he refused. "My master has put me in charge," he told her. "Now he doesn't have to worry about anything in the house. He trusts me to take care of everything he owns. ⁹No one in this house is in a higher position than I am. My master hasn't held anything back from me, except you. You are his wife. So how could I do an evil thing like that? How could I sin against God?" ¹⁰She spoke to Joseph day after day. But he told her he wouldn't go to bed with her. He didn't even want to be with her.

¹¹One day Joseph went into the house to take care of his duties. None of the family servants was inside. ¹²Potiphar's wife grabbed him by his coat. "Come to bed with me!" she said. But he left his coat in her hand. And he ran out of the house.

¹³She saw that he had left his coat in her hand and had run out of the house. ¹⁴So she called her servants. "Look," she said to them, "this Hebrew slave has been brought here to make fun of us! He came in here to force me to have sex with him. But I screamed for help. ¹⁵He heard my scream. So he left his coat beside me and ran out of the house."

¹⁶She kept Joseph's coat with her until Potiphar came home. ¹⁷Then she told him her story. She said, "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to rape me. ¹⁸But I screamed for help. So he left his coat beside me and ran out of the house."

¹⁹Potiphar's wife told him, "That's how your slave treated me." When Joseph's master heard her story, he became very angry. ²⁰So he put Joseph in prison. It was the place where the king's prisoners were kept.

While Joseph was there in the prison, ²¹the Lord was with him. He was kind to him. So the man running the prison was pleased with Joseph. ²²He put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. He made him responsible for everything done there. ²³The man who ran the prison didn't pay attention to anything in Joseph's care. That's because the Lord was with Joseph. He gave Joseph success in everything he did.

Questions

- 1 Was Joseph now all alone? (Yes/No) _____. The _____ was with Joseph. (Gen. 39:2)
- 2 Where did Joseph live? Joseph lived in _____ house. (Gen. 39:2)
- 3 Who was with Joseph and made him successful in everything he did? The _____ was with Joseph and made him successful in everything he did. (Gen. 39:2-3)
- 4 What was it that Joseph's master, Potiphar, saw in Joseph? Joseph's master saw the _____ in Joseph. (Gen. 39:3)

Matthew 5:16b

"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in Heaven."

- 5 What should people be able to see in you? People should be able to see the _____ in me and in everything I do and say.
- 6 Who was pleased with Joseph? _____ was pleased with Joseph. (Gen. 39:4)
- 7 What job did Potiphar give Joseph? Why? Potiphar made Joseph his _____ and put him in _____ of Potiphar's _____, because Potiphar _____ Joseph to take care of _____ Potiphar owned. (Gen. 39:4)
- 8 What should people be able to do when they see the Lord in you? People should be able to  _____ (means "to have confidence in") me.
- 9 What was the only thing Potiphar had to worry about? Potiphar only had to worry about the _____ he ate. (Gen. 39:6)



Potiphar's life sure was easy with Joseph around to do everything for him.

- 10 What was Joseph like in appearance? Joseph was _____ and _____. (Gen. 39:6)

- 11 After a while, who noticed Joseph? Potiphar's _____ noticed Joseph. (Gen. 39:7)
- 12 What did Potiphar's wife want Joseph to do? She wanted Joseph to go to _____ with her. (Gen. 39:7)
- 13 What was Joseph's response to Potiphar's wife? Why? Joseph **refused**, because he couldn't do an _____ thing like that and _____ against _____. (Gen. 39:8-9)
- 14 Did Potiphar's wife give up asking Joseph to go to bed with her? (Yes/No) _____. She asked Joseph _____ after _____. (Gen. 39:10)
- 15 Did Joseph finally give in to Potiphar's wife? (Yes/No) _____. (Gen. 39:10)
- 16 What happened one day when none of the family servants were inside Potiphar's house? Potiphar's wife _____ Joseph by his _____ and *demande*d he sleep with her. (Gen. 39:12)
- 17 What did Joseph do? Joseph left his _____ in her hand and _____ out of the house. (Gen. 39:12)
- 18 What did Potiphar's wife do? She _____ her servants and told them that Joseph had tried to _____ her, but that when he had heard her _____ for help, he had left his coat beside her and had run out of the house. (Gen. 39:14-17)
- 19 Whom else did Potiphar's wife tell this lie to? She also told the lie to _____, her husband, when he came home. (Gen. 39:16-18)
- 20 What was Potiphar's response to the story his wife told him? He became _____. (Gen. 39:19)
- 21 What did Potiphar do to Joseph? Potiphar put Joseph in _____, in the place where the King's prisoners were kept. (Gen. 39:20)



With Joseph gone, I guess Potiphar had to go back to worrying about more than just what he should eat.

- 22 Was the Lord with Joseph in prison? (Yes/No) _____. The Lord was _____ Joseph and was _____ to him. (Gen. 39:21)



Notice how Joseph, first as a slave and now as a prisoner, never blamed God or became angry or resentful. Instead, Joseph was patient and used his hardship to become a better, humbler man.

- 23 Who was pleased with Joseph? The _____ running the _____ was pleased with Joseph. (Gen. 39:21)

- 24 What job did this man give Joseph to do in prison? The man put Joseph in _____ of _____ the prisoners. (Gen. 39:22)
- 25 Did this man have to worry about any of the prisoners once they were under the care of Joseph? (Yes/No) _____. (Gen. 39:23)
- 26 Again, who was with Joseph and gave success to him in everything he did, even in a dirty prison? The _____ was with Joseph and gave success to him in everything he did. (Gen. 39:23)

1 Kings 2:3

“Do everything the Lord your God requires. Live the way He wants you to.... Then you will have success in everything you do. You will succeed everywhere you go.”



If you do everything God requires and live the way He wants you to, then the Lord will give success to you too, no matter where you are or what your status is.

How did the Holy Spirit speak to you this week as you studied these Bible verses? In other words, what did you learn this week from reading God’s Word?
