



Harvester Groups

JOSEPH: *Staying Faithful in the Unexpected* | Group Questions for Genesis 40

Prepare: Read Genesis 40 several times before your group meeting. Write down any questions or observations you want to discuss.

Discuss*

- Have you ever been in a difficult season that seemed to last way too long? Were you able to wait on God? What practical truths help you wait on God? If you were not able to wait on God effectively, what do you think you could have done differently?
- In verse 4 it says that Joseph took care of the cupbearer and baker. Clearly this implies that the cupbearer and baker needed to be cared for. They were in the same circumstances as Joseph and yet he did not need a caretaker. Why do you think this was? What was different about Joseph, who was in the same circumstance?
- In verse 7 Joseph's asks an interesting question for one in confinement to ask of another who is confinement: "Why are your faces so sad today?" The implication is that Joseph was not sad in his confinement. From what you know of Joseph, to this point in his story, what do you think are some of the ways he was able to keep his spirits lifted up?
- How do you feel about God communicating or speaking in people's dreams?
- Joseph knew that he had done nothing deserving of being imprisoned. Have you ever faced suffering or difficulty wrongly? How did you react in the situation?
- When you think of God as sovereign, what does this mean to you?
- Read a few of the following verses on God's sovereignty and discuss what these verses mean in your day to day life and how you can live into the truth of these verses more fully: Job 42:2; Psalm 115:3; Psalm 135:6; Ephesians 1:11-12; Daniel 4:35; Romans 8:28; 1 Timothy 6:15; Isaiah 45:9-10.
- Read a few of the following verses on God's goodness and discuss what these verses mean in your day to life and how you can live into the truth of these verses more fully: Mark 10:18; Psalm 119:68; Nahum 1:7; Lamentations 3:25; Psalm 145:9; Psalm 143:10; Psalm 34:8; Psalm 73:1

Apply

Take a few minutes and reflect on times in your own life when God's sovereignty and goodness were evident in your circumstances.

- How can you begin to filter all of your circumstances through God's sovereignty and goodness?
- What truths about God's sovereignty and goodness do you need to "remember to remember?" What verse above can you use as reminders of God's sovereignty and goodness by memorizing?

*Our duty is found in the revealed will of God in the Scriptures.
Our trust must be in the sovereign will of God
as He works in the ordinary circumstances of our daily lives
for our good and His glory. - Jerry Bridges*

**Use these questions to guide your discussion. Don't feel like you have to go through all of them and make sure you take time to talk through any questions and observations from the group.*