



## Harvester Groups

### **JOSEPH: *Staying Faithful in the Unexpected* | Group Questions for Genesis 41**

**Prepare:** Read Genesis 41 several times before your group meeting. Write down any questions or observations you want to discuss.

#### **Discuss\***

- As you listened to the sermon, read the chapter, or heard the lesson, what verse or thought stuck out for you?
- Dreams play a significant role in chapters 37, 40, and 41. What evidence do you see that through dreams God exerts his influence of events?
- Verses 16, 25, and 28 reveal a different Joseph than that found in Genesis 37. What might explain this change in attitude and behavior?
- What experiences have you had working for a nonbeliever? What can you learn from Joseph's model about how to work in such a situation?
- In verse 39, Pharaoh recognizes that Joseph's discernment and wisdom comes from God. "Discern" means to see or understand. To develop wise discernment like Joseph, what changes do most Christians need to make in their lives?
- God gives Joseph a plan for protecting Egypt from the time of famine. What do these verses teach us about planning ahead? Psalm 20:4;90:12;143:8; Proverbs 15:22;16:3, 9; 19:21; Isaiah 55:8-9; Luke 14:28; Romans 12:1-2.
- How do you strike a balance between living in the moment—in response to the events that God brings into our lives—and planning ahead?
- Where were you 13 years ago? What has God done during that time to mold your character?
- Do you believe that God has one perfect blueprint for your life? Why or why not?
- God gave Joseph opportunities to make a difference by demonstrating patience, displaying discernment, and being a spiritual influence. Which of these is hardest for you?

#### **Apply**

- Choose one of the passages listed above and meditate on it every day. Ask, "What is my life like since this is true, and how shall I speak and act because of this?"
- Most of us rarely get dramatic dreams from God like Joseph. When faced with difficult situations, what one thing can you do to get more clarity?
- Prayer is as much about listening as talking. Spend some time this week in solitude, silence and listening.
- How might you prepare to respond to your next opportunity for influence and impact?

***God will supply you with the opportunity, but it's up to you to do something with it.***

*\*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.*