



This week we saw how Joseph reacted to his unfair captivity. Amid unthinkable tragedy and life change that was far out of proportion to his mistakes, Joseph set an example of partnering with God in the work He was doing. It is easy for us to lose sight of God's work in the middle of dark moments. Knowing God is at work doesn't magically make pain go away; however, struggle, unfairness and pain are opportunities to join in and play a part in God's larger plan. Living thousands of years in the future, we have the clarity of hindsight and can see the large role Joseph played in the salvation of not only Egypt and Israel, but the world.

1. Teller shared a story about an "unfair" situation that was really just a result of a mistake he made. Sometimes unfairness is a matter of perspective. Think and share about an "unfair" situation that was your own fault.
2. **Read Genesis 39:1.** Joseph was sold into the house of one of the biggest, baddest guys in Egypt. He must have felt that he was in way over his head. Share about a time you felt the same way and how you responded.
3. While it is comforting, the knowledge that God is working does not eliminate pain and suffering. **Read Psalms 6:3, 10:1 and 38:9-11.** The psalmist had no problem crying out to God in his suffering. What does your relationship with God look like when you are suffering?
4. Even though he was thrown right into the deep end, Joseph excelled. **Read Genesis 39:2-6a, Job 42:1-3, Psalm 23:4, and Acts 4:27-28.** How would you like to respond to overwhelming, unfair situations?
5. **Read Genesis 39:6b-12.** An attempt is made to coerce Joseph into compromising his character. He refuses to sin against God in this way. When Potiphar's wife takes matters into her own hands Joseph responds by running the other way as fast as he can. What does it look like today to flee from sin?
6. **Read Genesis 39:19-20.** Potiphar could have killed Joseph but instead threw him in jail. Scholars believe this is because he knew his wife was lying to him. A bad situation could have been much, much worse had Joseph not earned Potiphar's trust by living with character. How can Joseph's example impact the way you live with character at work, in your marriage, and/or with your friends and family?
7. Genesis 39 chapter closes with Joseph in prison, but at the same time being blessed by God. What blessings can you identify in your own struggles past or present?
8. Close your time in prayer. Pray that you would be able to see and participate in God's work, even in negative circumstances.