



Community Bible Church
Sermon Discussion Questions: Jun 23, 2024
Pastor Ed Newton

Title: Dream Again

Text: Genesis 37-50

Target: Your current reality is not your final destiny. Good dreams can go unfulfilled, but God's dreams cannot be stopped.

- I. **Pit of Rejection:** *“Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and **we will see what will become of his dreams.**” (Gen. 37:20)*

 - A. **You feel misunderstood:** *“So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore.” (Gen. 37:23)*
 1. **Your Robe is from your Father:** (Gen. 37:3)
 2. **Your Dreams are from God:** (Gen. 37:5,9)
 - B. **You have been mistreated:** *“Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.” (Gen. 37:28)*

Question #1: Joseph's brothers intended to destroy his dreams by throwing him into the pit (v. 20). *How have you dealt with moments when others tried to undermine your dreams, goals, and Godly pursuits? When feeling misunderstood or mistreated, as Joseph was by his brothers, what steps can you take to maintain your sense of purpose and faith?*

- II. **Place of Accusation:** *“Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites **who had brought him down there.**” (Gen. 39:1)*

 - A. **Finds Favor:** *“So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had.” (Gen. 39:4)*
 - B. **Faces Temptation:** *“And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, “Lie with me.” (Gen. 39:7)*
 1. **Resists:** *“How could I do this great wickedness and sin against God?” (Vs. 9)*
 2. **Runs:** *“fled out of the house” (Gen. 39:13)*

- C. **Falsely Accused:** *“And Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison.”* (Gen.39:20)

Question #2: Despite being sold into slavery and later imprisoned, Joseph found favor with those in authority (v. 4). *Do you believe finding favor in your workplace, community, or places you frequent, is important? Why or why not?*

Question #3: *What strategies do you use to resist temptations that could derail your walk with God, as Joseph did with Potiphar’s wife? What practices or characteristics do you think are important to maintain your integrity when difficult or unjust circumstances present themselves?*

- III. **Prison of Forgotten:** *“And Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined, and **he was there in prison.**”* (Gen. 39:20)

- A. **Flourishes Fully:** *“And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it.”* (Gen. 39:22)
- B. **Fields Dreams:** *“They said to him, “We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them.” And Joseph said to them, “Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me.”* (Gen. 40:8)
- C. **Felt Forgotten:** *“Only remember me, when it is well with you, and please do me the kindness to mention me to Pharaoh, and so get me out of this house.”* (Gen. 40:14)
1. **God’s Timing is Perfect:** *“And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.”* (Gen. 41:15)
 2. **God will never waste your Pain:** *“Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are.”* (Gen. 41:39)
 3. **God’s Purpose is bigger than you:** *“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”* (Gen.50:20)

Question #4: Joseph acknowledged that what was meant for evil, God used for good. *Can you share a personal experience where a negative situation was ultimately used for a greater purpose?*

Takeaway: God dreams don’t die in pits, they don’t get derailed in Potiphar house, and they don’t get locked up in prison, but instead they give you clarity for why they were given.

Question #5: *In what ways can you seek clarity for your God-given dreams, especially when facing obstacles that seem insurmountable? How would community play a role in moments like these?*

