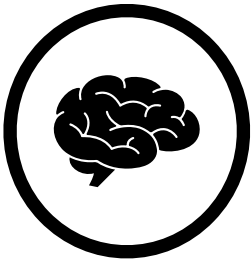


SERMON NOTES

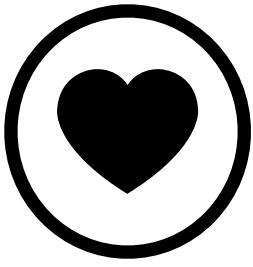
29th January 2023 | Genesis 39 | God with us



Exploring the text

Questions for reflection:

1. At what point in Joseph's life do you think he realised that the Lord's hand was on him?
2. The temptation from Potiphar's wife was obvious, but what else might have tempted Joseph in this chapter?
3. Should Joseph have been more discerning when he went into the house, knowing that no other people were around and Mrs Potiphar was persistently ordering him to bed with her?
4. The word 'house' or 'household' appears 14 times in the passage? Do you think this is significant? What does you 'house' represent to you?
5. The word 'hand' is also repeated several times (39:4,6,8,11,13) (also translated as 'care' depending on the translation you are reading). Do you think this is significant in any way?
6. Do you think Potiphar believed the lies his wife told? Why or why not?



Connecting our hearts

Questions for reflection:

1. Stu began by talking about the way that life squeezes us. In what ways is life squeezing people today?
2. Stu suggested that how we respond to life squeezing us reveals our character. Do you agree with this? Is there a time and place where we can blame others for our responses?
3. How would you define Christian character?
4. Who was being 'squeezed' in this chapter and in what way? How would you have responded were you in their shoes?
5. Stu highlighted that the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love (*hesed*)? Have a look at these verses where the word *hesed* is used - Psalm 103:3-4; Psalm 88:11; Psalm 69:15-16; Isaiah 54:10; Isaiah 63:7. What do they tell us about God?
6. Stu used the phrase: 'when life squeezes you, remember God is with you'. What difference does knowing God is with us make? How does it shape our character?



Living it out

Questions for reflection:

1. What is your take away from the message on Genesis 39?
2. What area of your character needs a little bit of work? What HABITs could you put in place to help you grow?
3. Is there someone you know, whose life is being squeezed, that you could reach out to and help?

Use the below space to write you own prayer of response