

Title Slide

Faith Joseph's Story: In Potiphar's House

PowerPoint Presentation

In Potiphar's House: Joseph was sold as a slave to Potiphar, Captain of the guard to Pharaoh. He rose in status from just a common slave to a household slave with some status. It wasn't long that Joseph was placed in charge of Potiphar's entire estate as Overseer or Head Steward. Scripture tells us that because of Joseph Potiphar and everything he owned was blessed by God.

What Joseph Learned

Joseph learned many things as slave in Potiphar's house. He had to learn quickly just to survive.

What Joseph Learned

He learned to *read, write and speak Egyptian* in order to be able to communicate with others.

He had to learn the *culture and customs* of the Egyptians in order to do the job he was assigned in Potiphar's house lest he offend his master.

Potiphar was a high-ranking official in Pharaoh's court. It was necessary for Joseph to learn the protocol used in the *political and social system* again to do the job he was assigned. Potiphar often entertained other high-ranking official and guest of the state.

It was necessary for Joseph to understand the *economic and financial system* in order to conduct everyday business for Potiphar. He would have been involved in buying and selling and aware of all business transaction that took place including inventories of all things grown in the field, sold to others and consumed by the household.

Joseph learned *management and leadership skills* and how to use them with a servant attitude. This is a very important trait that he would use to his advantage in the years to come.

Joseph

Joseph used every situation in which he was placed to learn. He didn't wait for a better situation to be used by God because he believed God would bless him right where he was.

God's Promises

Genesis 12:1-3 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

God Blessed Joseph-Genesis 39:2-5

Genesis 39:2-5 "The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, 4 Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. 5 From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field."

Contentment in Trouble:

Joseph was contentment in the situations he found himself. Most of these times were not of his own making. How should we also meet hard times and trouble?

Proverbs 15:15

All the days of the oppressed are wretched, but the cheerful heart has a continual feast.

Psalm 37:7

Psalm 37:7 “Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.”

Contentment

Contentment God’s will is that we trust Him to bless us and make us successful (as He measures success) wherever we are

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 “pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”.

Bloom Where You are Planted

No matter where you are, use the opportunity to serve God.

In Potiphar’s House

Potiphar was an Officer of Pharaoh; Captain of the Guard, Chief of Police/Secret Service, Pharaoh’s Personal Security Force, and Highly Trusted Official. Joseph spent 11 years in Potiphar’s House

Resisting Temptation

Temptation comes to Joseph in the form of Potiphar’s wife

The Nature of temptation:

Temptation comes to us in three forms: our flesh, the devil and the world system

The Nature of temptation:

Our flesh is that sin nature within us to gratify self. What we want, when we want it. *James 1:13-14* When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

¹⁵Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

The Devil does tempt us as Paul writes to Timothy in *1 Thessalonians 3: 5b* I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain.

The world offers many temptations. *1 John 4:4-6* the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

1 Corinthians 10:13

1 Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”

2 Timothy 2:22

2 Timothy 2:22 “Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

Path from temptation to sin

Every human is tempted and what a delight Satan has when we fall into sin. To avoid sin you must be wise in knowing the pathway from temptation to produce sin. It first appears as an idea-a glimpse, a smile, a touch, a compliment, or a joke then the imagination takes over. Wouldn’t it be fun if... It wouldn’t hurt anything for me to...etc. Then a willful decision on your part, you make a choice to sin and there it is.

You are in sin.

Responding Wisely

Sin can be upon you quickly. Potiphar's wife tempted Joseph day after day. Joseph made a decision as to how he would respond to her when she would finally demand an action. We can also learn how to respond wisely to sin before it happens. 1. Consider the consequences. How will this affect you and your family? What good will come from this action? How does this action represent Christ? 2. Rely totally upon the Holy Spirit to guide you. Don't rely upon your own "good" judgment. 3. Be in God's Word continually. He will give you the answer to how you should act and what you should do. 4. Set your mind not on the world or your fleshly desires but on Godly things. Please God with your thoughts and actions. 5. Dr. Charles Stanley gives us good advice about identifying our areas of weakness that lead to temptations: HALT-if you are hungry, angry, lonely or tired. Take yourself out of the situation. This allows you to be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Potiphar's Wife

Potiphar's wife spoke to him daily. She cast longing eyes on him and lusted after him. She made a deliberate plan to entrap him and caught him by the garment. The cloak she grabbed was a garment that represented his position as overseer of the estate. It identified who he was. Now, Joseph is falsely accused of rape by Potiphar's wife.

Joseph's Actions

Joseph let his faith be known. He kept busy about his duties. He was careful never to be alone with his temptation. He called he advanced for what they were: sin. Joseph recognized this sin was a sin against God and he just said "NO".

Punishment

In the Egyptian world, punishment for a crime did not require a jury. It was administered by the head of the household or if severe enough by Pharaoh. A fine or bodily mutilation could be the judgment against a crime committed. In the case of rape against the wife of a high-ranking officer like Potiphar, such an act meant the death penalty. But Potiphar did not require the death penalty.

Genesis 39:20

Genesis 39:20 "Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined."