

From the Pit to the Palace

Scripture used: [Proverbs 3:5–6](#)

OVERVIEW

Pastor Soomee visits the story of Joseph in Genesis 37–50. As a young man, Joseph shared dreams God had given him, but instead of support, he faced jealousy, betrayal, and suffering. His brothers threw him into a pit and sold him into slavery. Joseph's story reminds us that life often brings unexpected seasons. We move through life knowing some things and not knowing others, but God remains faithful through it all.

Joseph experienced loss, injustice, and hardship, yet God never abandoned him. Through every pit, prison, and palace moment, God was shaping Joseph for a greater purpose. His story challenges us to trust God's presence, believe His plan is bigger than our pain, and develop the habit of saying, "But God!"

KEY POINTS

1. God's Presence Goes With You

Joseph lost so much, but he never lost God. [Genesis 39:2](#) reminds us that "The Lord was with Joseph." Even in difficult seasons, God's presence remained with him. Joseph practiced courageous integrity when he fled from Potiphar's wife, choosing obedience over compromise. Though he did the right thing, he still ended up in prison through false accusations.

Having God's presence with us does not mean we avoid suffering or challenges. Sometimes obedience still leads through difficult places. Yet even in prison, Joseph continued to work hard, serve others, and practice empathy by listening to and interpreting the dreams of fellow prisoners.

Joseph continually acknowledged God. In [Genesis 41:16](#), Joseph made it clear that wisdom and interpretation came from God, not himself. When we find ourselves in pit situations or facing unimaginable tasks, we are reminded to trust God and acknowledge Him, believing He will direct our paths.

2. God's Plan Is Bigger Than You

God's purpose for Joseph was never only about success, wealth, or honor. Joseph was elevated to oversee food during a devastating famine, but God's greater purpose was restoration and provision for many people, including Joseph's own family. Through Joseph's obedience and endurance, lives were saved.

[Genesis 45:6-7](#) reveals that Joseph eventually understood why God allowed him to endure hardship. What once looked like rejection and suffering became part of God's greater rescue plan. Joseph practiced life-changing generosity toward the very family that betrayed him.

Sometimes God is doing something bigger than we can see at the moment. Our current season may be preparing us to help, heal, or serve others in the future.

3.The Habit of “But God!”

Joseph consistently acknowledged God despite his circumstances. Whether speaking before Pharaoh, interacting with his brothers, or beginning a new chapter of life, Joseph continually pointed back to God’s faithfulness. Joseph’s story was marked by setbacks, betrayal, and uncertainty, but his perspective remained centered on God.

The habit of “But God!” reminds us that our circumstances are never the final word. Disappointment may be real, pain may be real, and hardship may be real—but God is still present, still working, and still faithful.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** -What is one “pit” situation where you need to trust God more deeply?What does Joseph’s life teach us about trusting God in uncertain seasons?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - [Proverbs 3:5-6](#) calls us to trust in the Lord and acknowledge Him in all our ways. What are some practical ways we can acknowledge God when life feels uncertain or unfair? In [Genesis 39:20-21](#), Joseph was imprisoned after doing the right thing, yet Scripture says God was still with him. How does this challenge the way we view hardship or disappointment in our own lives?
- 3) **DO** - When faced with frustration or disappointment this week, pause before reacting and pray, “But God, I trust that You are still working.” Join us next week as we continue the Jesus Way together!