

BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

STUDY GUIDE INSTRUCTIONS

These study guides are designed to help you engage deeply with Scripture and connect Joseph's story to your own journey of faith and work. Each guide follows the same structure across all five chapters in the book—**Identity, Calling, Character, Mission, and Legacy**.

STRUCTURE

- **Theme** – Each week begins with a central idea that frames Joseph's story and invites you to consider how it applies to your own life.
- **Book Chapter** – Every guide corresponds to a chapter in the book *Between Two Worlds*.
- **Scripture Passage** – A selected section of Genesis provides the biblical foundation for the week's study.
- **Questions** – Reflection and discussion questions help you personally engage and encourage group conversation.
- **Digging Deeper** – Short insights and supporting passages to further ground the week's theme in Scripture.

LEADER'S GUIDE

- **Participant Copy** – Contains only the reading, questions, and digging deeper sections.
- **Leader's Copy (Blue Notes)** – Includes guiding thoughts, prompts, and suggestions in blue text. These are not "answers" but tools to help leaders facilitate meaningful group discussion.

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

Each chapter is divided into two weeks (Week 1 and Week 2). However, you can easily combine them into a single week per chapter, making the study adaptable to either a **10-week series** or a shorter **5-week series**.

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STUDY GUIDE

CALLING • WEEK 3

“DISCERNING GOD’S CALL”

READING:

Genesis 37:5-11 (Joseph receives the dream—without the roadmap)

THEME:

Calling often starts with a glimpse—but not a GPS. It’s less about where you go, and more about who you trust.

QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 5–7, what kind of future does Joseph’s dream seem to point toward? What’s missing from the dream?
2. In verse 10, even Jacob rebukes Joseph. Why do you think the people closest to him couldn’t see what Joseph saw?
3. What’s significant about the fact that Joseph received a call while still a teen shepherd in a dysfunctional family?
4. Reflect: Have you ever felt called by God, but unsure if you were on the right path because of your circumstances?
5. What expectations have you held about what a “real” calling should look like—job, location, platform, etc.?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Joseph's call began with a dream—but not a plan. He saw the “what,” but not the “how.” That's the tension most of us live in: we want clarity, control, or confirmation. But God rarely gives us those. What He gives us is His presence and His promise.

Abraham's story is key here. He left the only life he'd known to follow a God who simply said, “Go to a land I will show you.”

He didn't know where he was going—but he trusted the One who was leading.

Hebrews 11:8 - “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called... not knowing where he was going.”

Galatians 3:7 - “Those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.”

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CALLING • WEEK 3

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THEME:

Calling often starts with a glimpse—but not a GPS. It’s less about where you go, and more about who you trust.

QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 5–7, what kind of future does Joseph’s dream seem to point toward? What’s missing from the dream?

Ask: “What does it tell us that God gave a vision, but no explanation?” Invite responses about the gap between revelation and realization.

2. In verse 10, even Jacob rebukes Joseph. Why do you think the people closest to him couldn’t see what Joseph saw?

Sometimes the people who love us the most don’t understand the calling God puts on our lives. Invite discussion on how to process that

3. What’s significant about the fact that Joseph received a call while still a teen shepherd in a dysfunctional family?

Let them observe how God often calls people in ordinary places. Ask: “What

might this say about how and where God still calls today?”

4. Reflect: Have you ever felt called by God, but unsure if you were on the right path because of your circumstances?

This question opens space for testimony. Be prepared to share a moment from your own life to create safety.

5. What expectations have you held about what a “real” calling should look like—job, location, platform, etc.?

Let the group name cultural expectations. Then guide them to identify how those assumptions may be shaping their theology more than Scripture.

DIGGING DEEPER:

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STUDY GUIDE

CALLING • WEEK 4

“YOU ARE LOVED, EVEN IN THE PRESSURE”

READING:

Genesis 41:1–36 (Joseph steps into a future only God could write)

THEME:

God’s call isn’t something you create or manifest—it’s something you walk into by faith and obedience.

QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 15–16, how does Joseph respond when Pharaoh credits him for the gift? What does this reveal about who Joseph believed shaped his calling?
2. In verses 28–32, Joseph emphasizes that Pharaoh’s dreams were “established by God.” How does this language push back against the idea that we shape our own future?
3. In verses 33–36, Joseph steps into leadership. How does his faith meet practical wisdom here?
4. Reflect: Have you ever believed you had to “make your calling happen”? What were the effects of that mindset?
5. How would your mindset shift if you believed your calling was less about position and more about obedience?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Joseph didn't step into purpose by chasing the dream—he stepped into it by walking with God when the dream seemed dead. His rise to leadership wasn't hustle or manifestation—it was faithfulness in obscurity and trust through adversity.

Like Joseph, we don't shape our calling—God does. And like Abraham, we are called to go without knowing where, to trust without knowing how, and to obey without knowing when.

2 Corinthians 5:7 - *“Walk by faith, not by sight.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:24 - *“He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”*

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READING:

Genesis 41:1–36 (Joseph steps into a future only God could write)

THEME:

God’s call isn’t something you create or manifest—it’s something you walk into by faith and obedience.

QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 15–16, how does Joseph respond when Pharaoh credits him for the gift? What does this reveal about who Joseph believed shaped his calling?

Emphasize Joseph’s humility. Ask: “How does this challenge the idea that our skills or effort alone determine our success?”

2. In verses 28–32, Joseph emphasizes that Pharaoh’s dreams were “established by God.” How does this language push back against the idea that we shape our own future?

Invite discussion on how today’s culture teaches self-actualization and how this story subverts that mindset.

3. In verses 33–36, Joseph steps into leadership. How does his faith meet practical wisdom here?

Highlight that faith isn't passive. Joseph still works, leads, and plans—but it flows from trust, not control.

4. Reflect: Have you ever believed you had to “make your calling happen”? What were the effects of that mindset?

This is a freeing discussion. Let people reflect on burnout, pressure, or disappointment that came from that belief.

5. How would your mindset shift if you believed your calling was less about position and more about obedience?

Ask: “What might obedience look like for you this week, right where you are?”

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