

BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

STUDY GUIDE

IDENTITY • WEEK 1

“WHO YOU ARE WHEN THE WORLD WANTS TO RENAME YOU”

READING:

Genesis 37:1–36 (Joseph is favored, rejected, and betrayed)

THEME:

Before Joseph ever had a job title or leadership role, he was marked by identity. That’s where our faith at work begins—not with what we do, but with who we are.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you ever feel the pressure, as a Christian, to conform to the culture in your workplace? In what ways do you feel that pressure in your career, daily life, or relationships?
 2. How do you think Abraham’s blessing and call (Gen. 12:1–3) shaped Joseph’s view of himself and of God? What impact does that same promise (Gal. 3:29) have on how we view ourselves in today’s world?
 3. How do you think the truth of being made in God’s image (Gen. 1:27) informed Joseph’s self-perception, identity, and worldview? How does it shape the way you see yourself?
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CONTEXT: Joseph’s father gave him a special coat (not “many colors” but a long-sleeved coat of many pieces, a sign of leadership, prominence, and authority).

4. Why did Jacob give Joseph this coat? What were some of the father-son dynamics between Jacob and Joseph? How do you think this shaped Joseph's view of himself and God? (Gen. 37:3-4)
5. What aspects of Joseph's family and upbringing do you think had the greatest impact on his identity? In what ways can our own upbringing or family of origin both help and hurt us in life and work? How does knowing our heavenly Father is perfect keep us grounded in the workplace? (Gen. 37:2-4, 10-11; Matt. 5:48; Ps. 68:5)
6. What is the difference between walking by faith in our careers and walking OUT our faith in our daily lives? (Gen. 37:5-11; 2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:1)

DIGGING DEEPER:

Joseph's coat didn't make him valuable—it only revealed the value already placed on him by his father. Even when the coat was torn away, Joseph's identity remained.

That same pressure exists today—especially in our work lives. Titles, companies, achievements—they can all be stripped away. But if you know who you are in Christ, you stay anchored. You are not your résumé.

You are not your productivity. You are God's image-bearer, sent to reflect Him—even in Egypt, even in obscurity.

Genesis 1:27 - "So God created man in His own image."

Ephesians 2:10 - "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."

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QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 3–4, Joseph’s robe symbolized his father’s favor. How did this mark him—positively and negatively—in the eyes of others?

“In today’s culture, what are the modern-day equivalents of Joseph’s robe in a career setting? Job title? LinkedIn status?”

2. In verses 18–28, what does the act of stripping off Joseph’s robe symbolize? How does this connect to identity in environments like the workplace?

Help them see the robe as a metaphor for identity under pressure. Ask: “Have you ever felt your sense of identity ‘stripped’ in your work?”

3. Even in betrayal, Joseph remains who he is. How does this challenge the idea that external titles or positions define us?

Great time to reframe: “What if success isn’t about what we gain, but who we remain?”

4. Reflect: Have you ever felt pressure to adjust or hide who you are in Christ to fit a workplace or industry culture?

Normalize this. Be ready to share a story from your own life to get others to open up.

5. What false “robes” (title, status, productivity) have you been tempted to build your identity around?

You might list some examples first: “What are the ‘robes’ we tend to wear at work—roles, metrics, reputation?”

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STUDY GUIDE

IDENTITY • WEEK 2

“YOU ARE LOVED, EVEN IN THE PRESSURE”

READING:

Genesis 39:1-23 (Joseph works with integrity, resists temptation, and is falsely accused)

THEME:

Joseph didn't need status to be faithful. His identity and security came from being loved—by his father on earth and his Father in heaven. That love fueled his integrity at work.

QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 2-4, what does the text say about Joseph's work? Who ultimately caused it to succeed?
2. In verses 7-9, what reason does Joseph give for resisting Potiphar's wife? How does that reveal his inner anchor?
3. In verses 20-23, Joseph is falsely accused and imprisoned. What remains consistent about his character—and God's presence?
4. Reflect: Have you ever experienced tension between doing what's right and getting ahead professionally?
5. How does being loved by God shape the way you navigate ethical or relational challenges in your work?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Joseph wasn't driven by workplace advancement—he was driven by identity. He knew he was loved. That's what gave him the courage to walk with integrity when compromise was the easier road.

In the workplace, we're constantly tempted to adjust who we are to survive or succeed. But when you know you're deeply loved by the Father, you don't have to perform to prove your worth. You work hard, but you work from identity—not for it.

Romans 8:15 - “For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption.”

Galatians 3:26 - ““You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.”

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QUESTIONS:

1. In verses 2-4, what does the text say about Joseph's work? Who ultimately caused it to succeed?

Connect this to the tension we feel between personal effort and divine favor. Ask: “Where's the line between working hard and trusting God?”

2. In verses 7-9, what reason does Joseph give for resisting Potiphar's wife? How does that reveal his inner anchor?

His response is rooted in his **relationship** with God. Not just ethics but intimacy.

3. In verses 20-23, Joseph is falsely accused and imprisoned. What remains

consistent about his character—and God’s presence?

Highlight how Joseph’s integrity remains intact even when outcomes are unjust. Ask: “How do you define success when doing the right thing costs you?”

4. Reflect: Have you ever experienced tension between doing what’s right and getting ahead professionally?

This is where deep conversation can happen. Consider leading with your own story of ethical tension at work.

5. How does being loved by God shape the way you navigate ethical or relational challenges in your work?

Tie back to Romans 8—remind the group that being adopted and loved by God is what fuels courage under pressure.

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In the workplace, we’re constantly tempted to adjust who we are to survive or succeed. But when you know you’re deeply loved by the Father, you don’t have to perform to prove your worth. You work hard, but you work from identity—not for it.

“How might your work ethic or workplace relationships change if you truly believed you are already loved and secure in God?”

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Galatians 3:26 - ““You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.”