



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



JULY 5, 2026

Dive In (10 Minutes)

Go around and let everyone share... What is a job, chore, or project you were given that felt completely beneath your skill set or wildly unfair, yet you still had to finish it? How did you maintain your motivation (or did you)?

Dig Deep (40 Minutes)

Read Genesis 39 and 40 aloud.

- The phrase *"The Lord was with Joseph"* is repeated when he is a successful manager (verse 2) and *again* when he is thrown into prison for a crime he didn't commit (verse 21). Why might we naturally assume God is "with us" only when things are going well? How does Joseph's story challenge our definition of what God's blessing and presence actually look like?
- Joseph's response to temptation in Genesis 39:9 was: *"How then could I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"* Joseph was isolated from his family, his culture, and anyone who held him accountable. Why is true integrity defined by what we do when we are completely alone in the dark?
- In Genesis 40, Joseph uses his spiritual gifts to care for and interpret the dreams of the cupbearer and the baker while trapped in prison. When we are going through our own dark seasons, our instinct is usually to turn inward and focus on our own misery. What does Joseph's attentiveness to the sadness of others (40:6-7) teach us about using our gifts even when we are waiting on our own deliverance?
- Look at the painful conclusion of chapter 40: *"The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him"* (verse 23). Joseph did everything right—he fled temptation, ran Potiphar's house perfectly, ministered to inmates—and his reward was two more years of being forgotten in a dungeon. How do you handle the silence of God when doing the right thing seemingly leads to a dead end?

Do Big (10 Minutes)

- How does it comfort or challenge you to realize that God rarely takes us on a shortcut to our destiny, but instead uses seasons of obscurity, unfairness, and waiting to forge a character that can sustain our calling?
- Tell about a time when you experienced a "prison season"—a time when you felt stuck, overlooked, or unfairly treated, yet looking back, you can see that God was intimately present and shaping your character?