

Small Group Notes – 2 June 2019

Welcome

Ask the group to share their personal experiences of visiting both a palace and a prison.

Word – From the Palace to Prison – Genesis 39

This statement is repeated several times in Genesis 39 – ‘The Lord was with Joseph’

- His success – Verses 1-6
- His seduction – Verses 6-18
- His sentence – Verses 19-23

Although we clearly see that the Lord was with Joseph, it did not keep him from being:

- Hated by his brothers
- Sold as a slave
- Free from temptation
- False accusations
- Unjust imprisonment
- Daily discouragement

But it did keep him...

- From sinning against God and others
- At the centre of God’s plans & purposes

The Lord was with Joseph and the Lord is with us as we make our way through this life.

Questions

- Genesis 39:2 gives a picture of Joseph prospering because the Lord was with him. In what way was Joseph prospering? What do you think this suggests about God’s definition of success?
- What sets Joseph apart in the eyes of his master?
- What does success, fruitfulness and prosperity look like to you? What areas of life do you believe you have been successful or prospered in because of the Lord?
- In the face of constant seduction from Potiphar’s wife, how does Joseph resist?
- What types of temptation are most likely to sway you?
- What does Joseph’s story teach us about the potential results of obeying God?
- The prison guard recognised something different about Joseph from the other prisoners. What do you think that might have been?

Prayers

- Spend time praying for one another around the areas of faith, trust and temptation.
- Pray for Christians who are persecuted and imprisoned throughout the world, often without a fair trial. Pray that they would be conscious of the Lord with them and the power of the Holy Spirit sustaining them.