

LifeGroup Study Sheet**Oct 6th – Living the Dream – Genesis 41:1-45**

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

The beginning of this passage shows us that Joseph had “been forgotten” in prison for 2 whole years! The cupbearer, who Joseph had help interpret his dream, forgot about telling Pharaoh that Joseph had helped him. How can you relate to Joseph in the process of “waiting on God’s timing?” Most commentators believe Joseph had been in Egypt for 12-13 years already after this 2 year wait! How do you put this into perspective in your own life? How has God made you wait in a period of your life that seemed pointless, lackluster? How was God shaping you?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Genesis 41:1-16. Pharaoh has his dreams interpreted by all his magicians and wise men. Nobody can properly interpret the dreams he had been having. The chief cupbearer tells Pharaoh about Joseph’s ability to interpret dreams, and Pharaoh sends for Joseph. **Read carefully verse 16.** It has been two full years of being wrongfully accused and thrown in prison. It had been approximately 13 years of his brothers selling him to slave traders to Egypt. Joseph FINALLY gets his chance to use his God given abilities to interpret Pharaoh’s dream. Notice Joseph’s demeanor and attitude – “It is NOT ME, God will...”

How do you think your flesh would have responded when you finally had the chance to prove everyone wrong? Joseph chooses to be humble instead of bitter, resentful, prideful or arrogant! What painful and longsuffering situations in your life have caused you to be humble and faithful? How do you think Joseph was being tempted in that moment to choose pride and revenge over what God wanted him to do?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13, Matthew 23:11-12, Philippians 2:1-8.

Question 2: Read Genesis 41:25-32. Joseph is now giving Pharaoh the meaning of his dreams that he had been having. Joseph is confidently talking about God’s ability to communicate what will happen and how God will bring it all about (v. 28, 32). Joseph tells Pharaoh what will happen, even when it isn’t the most exciting news, famine! Joseph uses his spiritual gift God gave him and wants to bring peace in a time of chaos! Have you even believed the lie that God cannot use you and your spiritual gift because the circumstances seem too hard or difficult?

Question 3: Read Genesis 41:38-45. Pharaoh notices that the Spirit of God was clearly on Joseph because of his ability to interpret dreams. How obvious is it to people around you in your life that the Spirit of God is controlling you? What sort of ways could make it obvious in your day-to-day life that God was controlling your life? **Read Romans 8:9-10.**

After Pharaoh notices the Spirit of God upon Joseph, Pharaoh gives Joseph a massive responsibility in his empire! He is given rule over the land, Pharaoh's ring, garments, jewelry, and chariots! (**v.42, 43**). Whether it is at work, in your family, in a certain relationship – how has God given you responsibility to lead by being controlled by the Holy Spirit? God gives people special ways to serve by being led by His Spirit (**Exodus 31:3, Judges 3:10, 1 Samuel 16:13**).

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?