

This week...

Scripture: Genesis 39:6b-20

Monday Genesis 39:6b-7 *“Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, ‘Come to bed with me!’”*

Are you more fearful of subtle temptations or those that come directly at you, unhidden and bold? Revisit Genesis 3 to see the similarities and differences between Joseph’s temptation and the very first temptation faced by Adam and Eve. Then see Luke 4:1-13 concerning the temptation of Jesus. What can be learned by these several examples of temptation and sin?

Tuesday Genesis 39:8-9 *“But he refused. ‘With me in charge,’ he told her, ‘my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?’”*

We all have free will with which to make moral choices. How are you when it comes to moral choices? Are there some choices you would choose even though the consequences would be severe? Spend some time thinking about the many choices that you face or could face. How many times are you firmly willing to state, *“This choice is not an option?”* Pray regarding those moral struggles you deal with asking God to forgive you where you have failed and to change your desires. See John 1:9.

Wednesday Genesis 39:11-12 *“One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. She caught him by his cloak and said, ‘Come to bed with me!’ But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.”*

This is a vivid illustration of the words of James in 4:7-8.

“Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from

you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.” Do you submit yourself to God? This gives us the discernment and strength to resist the devil (*accuser, deceiver, slanderer*)? Do not ignore the truth that as we willingly draw close to God He comes nearer to us. Beware of living distant or apart from God day to day.

Thursday Genesis 39:16 *“She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. Then she told him this story..”*

Have you ever been falsely accused? How did that make you feel, and how did you handle it? If you carry anger or resentment, pray for God’s healing and peace in your heart and mind. Have you prayed for God’s best in the life of the one that harmed you?

Friday Genesis 39:17, 19-20 *“That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me’... When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, ‘This is how your slave treated me,’ he burned with anger. Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined.”*

In a flash, all that Joseph had gained in a few years was gone. He finds himself once again no more than a powerless slave. What is your attitude and response to those who attack you, lie about you, and cause you great pain? How would Jesus have us deal with such hurtful personal injustices? Finally, spend time examining your life in light of God’s word and Joseph’s story to determine if you are a person of integrity. What is your response to God regarding whatever you have discovered?