



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### Pass The Promise Series, Lesson 22

**Lesson Title:** Joseph, A Prisoner in Egypt

**Take Home Point:** We must be faithful to God, even if it is hard to do.

#### Warm-Up:

I worked for a company that had many buyers for the materials we used. Because of the amounts of money these buyers handled, they had to be impeccably honest, and expected the same of the salesmen who called. One buyer became suspicious of a particular salesman's tactics, so he set up a little test. He filled a coffee can with small ball bearings and carefully set it upside down on his desk so that it covered the final figures of a buy. As they talked, the buyer excused himself for a moment. Sure enough, no sooner was he out the door than the noise of ball bearings bouncing across the floor echoed from his office!

**Read:** Genesis 39

#### Observation (What happened?):

How did Joseph respond to the temptation of Potiphar's wife?

What happened to him as a result of his faithfulness to God?

#### Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Do you think Joseph expected to be thrown into prison for resisting? Do you think his knowing would have made a difference in his actions?

How did God show he was with Joseph through these events?

#### Insight:

In our society, we are frequently bombarded with messages to "Be prepared!" That exact phrase might not be used, but it is the message of statements such as: use sunscreen, have an emergency kit in the car for winter driving, save for retirement, know the safe fire exits in your home, write down emergency phone numbers. Whether we actually do them or not, these messages are meant to protect us from unpleasant consequences that may result from not being prepared. Sometimes we can see the consequences, sometimes we can't – few people actually drive drunk with the intention of killing someone in an accident. But spiritually, how prepared are we to resist the temptations that assail us? Are we praying? Are we memorizing Scripture? Are we staying out of situations that make temptation more likely and harder to resist? Sin's consequences are sure and serious. Joseph was prepared to resist temptation; we need to be, too. And God is with us, ready to help, just as he was with Joseph.

#### Application (What does it mean to me?):

Where in your life are you being tempted right now? How do you respond to these temptations in a godly way? What tools and methods do you use to resist?

Take a few minutes to thank God that he never leaves you no matter what you do or what happens.