

**SERMON DATE:** February 28, 2021

**SERMON SERIES:** Faithfulness: A Consistent Walk with God

**SERMON TITLE:** Never Give Up

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

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**39** Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there. <sup>2</sup>The LORD was with Joseph, so he became a [a]successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. <sup>3</sup>Now his master saw that the LORD was with him and *how* the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand. <sup>4</sup>So Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he owned he put in his charge. <sup>5</sup>It came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house and over all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the LORD's blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field. <sup>6</sup>So he left everything he owned in Joseph's charge; and with him *there* he did not concern himself with anything except the [a]food which he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. <sup>7</sup>It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." <sup>8</sup>But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, with me *here*, my master [a]does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put all that he owns in my charge. <sup>9</sup>There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?" <sup>10</sup>As she spoke to Joseph day after day, he did not listen to her to lie beside her *or* be with her. <sup>11</sup>Now it happened one day that he went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the household was there inside. <sup>12</sup>She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside. <sup>13</sup>When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, <sup>14</sup>she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See,

## SERMON NOTES

he has brought in a Hebrew to us to make sport of us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I screamed. <sup>15</sup> When he heard that I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled and went outside.” <sup>16</sup> So she left his garment beside her until his master came home. <sup>17</sup> Then she spoke to him with these words, “The Hebrew slave, whom you brought to us, came in to me to make sport of me; <sup>18</sup> and as I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled outside.”

### Joseph Imprisoned

<sup>19</sup> Now when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, “This is what your slave did to me,” his anger burned. <sup>20</sup> So Joseph’s master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail. <sup>21</sup> But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer. <sup>22</sup> The chief jailer committed to Joseph’s charge all the prisoners who were in the jail; so that whatever was done there, he was responsible *for it*. <sup>23</sup> The chief jailer did not supervise anything under Joseph’s charge because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made to prosper.

### SUMMARY STATEMENT

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Faithfulness is facing difficult circumstances and giving a godly response. That is what we see in the life of Joseph, one of the 12 sons of Abraham. Joseph gives us a sterling example of what faithfulness looks like.

### INTRODUCTION

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When adversity comes, it takes courage and character to stay the course and never give up.

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**Lesson # 1**

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***When times get tough and you are tempted to give up, remember that God honors faithfulness.***

**39** Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there. <sup>2</sup>The LORD was with Joseph, so he became a <sup>[b]</sup>successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. <sup>3</sup>Now his master saw that the LORD was with him and *how* the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand. <sup>4</sup>So Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he owned he put in his charge. <sup>5</sup>It came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house and over all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the LORD'S blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field. <sup>6</sup>So he left everything he owned in Joseph's charge; and with him *there* he did not concern himself with anything except the <sup>[a]</sup>food which he ate.

(Genesis 1:1-6a)

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**Lesson #2**

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***When times get tough and you are tempted to give up, do not allow your blessings to become a curse.***

Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. <sup>7</sup>It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." <sup>8</sup>But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, with me *here*, my master <sup>[i]</sup>does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put all that he owns in my charge. <sup>9</sup>There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?" <sup>10</sup>As she spoke to Joseph day after day, he did not listen to her to lie beside her *or* be with her. (Genesis 39:6b-10)

**Lesson #3**

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***When times get tough and you are tempted to give up, running away may be your best option.***

<sup>11</sup> Now it happened one day that he went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the household was there inside. <sup>12</sup> She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside. (Genesis 39:11-12)

**Lesson #4**

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***When times get tough and you are tempted to give up, you should always choose character over reputation.***

<sup>13</sup> When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, <sup>14</sup> she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to make sport of us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I screamed. <sup>15</sup> When he heard that I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled and went outside." <sup>16</sup> So she left his garment beside her until his master came home. <sup>17</sup> Then she spoke to him with these words, "The Hebrew slave, whom you brought to us, came in to me to make sport of me; <sup>18</sup> and as I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled outside." (Genesis 39:13-18)

**Lesson #5**

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***When times get tough and you are tempted to give up, you may suffer even though you have done nothing wrong.***

<sup>19</sup> Now when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, "This is what your slave did to me," his anger burned. <sup>20</sup> So Joseph's master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail.

(Genesis 39:19-20)

**Lesson #6**

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***When times get tough and you are tempted to give up, remember that God can take what was meant for evil and turn it into good.***

<sup>21</sup> But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer. <sup>22</sup> The chief jailer committed to Joseph's charge all the prisoners who were in the jail; so that whatever was done there, he was responsible *for it*. <sup>23</sup> The chief jailer did not supervise anything under Joseph's charge because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made to prosper.

(Genesis 39:21-23)