

RCMI L-Path Teaching  
November 8, 2020  
(English)

**SUNDAY THEME:** Path of the Righteous

**BIG IDEA:** Joseph was a man who faced extreme circumstances yet glorified God in all he encountered

**SERMON TITLE:** Joseph's Triumph Against Temptation

**SCRIPTURE TEXT:** Genesis 37:12-36

**Introduction:**

- Joseph's life began with his grandfather Abraham.
- Abraham had two wives, Sarah and Hagar. Abraham's son by Hagar was Ishmael.
- Abraham's son with Sarah was Isaac. Isaac married Rebecca.
- The sons of Isaac and Rebecca were Esau and Jacob.
- Jacob had four wives. His favorite of the four was Rachel, the mother of Joseph and Benjamin. Jacob's other brothers were six to Leah, two to Zilpah, two to Bilhah.
- Out of jealousy, Joseph was sold by his brothers into slavery in Egypt.
- Where he went to Potiphar.
- Joseph was 17 years old when he was sold into slavery (Genesis 37:2).
- He was 30 when Pharaoh promoted him (Genesis 41:46)
- He had been in prison for two years before the promotion (Genesis 41:1).
- He was in Potiphar's house for 11 years.
- It took 11 years for the full measure of God's blessing to be accomplished in Joseph's life.

Genesis 39:1-12 NIV

<sup>1</sup>Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. <sup>2</sup>**The Lord was with Joseph** so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup>When his master saw that **the Lord was with him** and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, <sup>4</sup>Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. <sup>5</sup>From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned; the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. <sup>6</sup>So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, <sup>7</sup>and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!" <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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?" <sup>10</sup>And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her. <sup>11</sup>One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. <sup>12</sup>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.

- When the Lord was with Joseph, he prospered (v.2)
- When the Lord was with Joseph, he became successful (v. 3)
- When the Lord was with Joseph, he found favor from Potiphar (v. 4)
- When the Lord was with Joseph, the people around him are also blessed (v. 5)

**LESSON ON JOSEPH'S TRIUMPH AGAINST TEMPTATION**

Everyone is tempted. No one is exempted to temptation.

James 1:14 says "Every man is tempted." Even the Lord Jesus Christ was tempted.

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 10:13 that temptations are "common to man."

But temptation is not a sin. It only becomes a sin when we give in to temptations.

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**A. Joseph let his faith be known. (v. 3)**

- *“<sup>3</sup>When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did.”*
- Potiphar knew Joseph was blessed because of his relationship with God (Genesis 39:3).
- Joseph had to have said something about his relationship with God for this to be the case.
- Don't be a secret disciple. Make a public declaration of your faith.
- It is for your protection to declare to everyone you are a Christian

**B. Joseph kept himself busy. (v. 4)**

- *“<sup>4</sup>Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.”*
- One does not advance the way Joseph did without being a busy worker.
- An old Turkish proverb says, “Men are usually tempted by the devil, but an idle man positively tempts the devil.”
- Let's be busy with God's work.
- Don't just be a Sunday Christian. Resolved to be an everyday Christian

**C. Joseph called the act what it was: sin. (v. 9)**

- *“<sup>9</sup>How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?”*
- He referred to the opportunity set before him as this great wickedness and sin against God.
- We often want to call sin by another name.
- Hostility and temper are self-expression. Pride is self-esteem. Gluttony is the good life. Covetousness is trying to get ahead. Perversion is an alternative lifestyle. Adultery is a cry for help in a bad marriage.
- Joseph knew that his sin was a sin against God.
- She spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her:
- Joseph showed remarkable faithfulness towards God, Potiphar, and himself by resisting this temptation for so long – perhaps for up to 11 years.

**D. Joseph never let himself alone with his temptation. (v. 10)**

- *“<sup>10</sup>And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.”*
- Joseph wisely avoided being alone around Potiphar's wife (or to be with her).
- He not only refused to go to bed with Potiphar's wife, but he refused to even be with her.
- Avoid putting yourself in situations that might lead to temptation.
- I'm talking about never allowing yourself to be alone with another person of the opposite sex, ever.

**E. Joseph just said “No! (v.12)**

- *“<sup>12</sup>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.”*
- He refused.
- He fled and ran outside
- Ang characteristics ng temptation ay magpersist
- Ang characteristics ng Christian ay magresist
- Tales of 3 Temptations. Joseph fled. David restored. Samson gave in.