

SERIES TITLE: Living in God's Story

PART 6: FEELING FORGOTTEN

TEXT: GENESIS 40

INTRODUCTION.

This series focuses on the life of Joseph and his brothers. It includes incidents of failure and success, jealousy and integrity, sin and righteousness. Through it all, God's plan prevails. These stories should increase our confidence in God, and our willingness to follow him in all situations.

DISCUSSION.

What life circumstances cause people to feel forgotten and why?

EXAMINATION.

Vv.1-5 Why do you think Joseph is imprisoned with government officials?

Vv.6-8 How does Joseph show concern for the cupbearer and the baker?

What does Joseph's response say about his relationship with God?

Vv.9-18 There was obvious value in interpreting the cupbearer's dream, but what was the value of interpreting the baker's dream?

Vv.19-23 How important was it that the interpretation was fulfilled exactly?

Why might the cupbearer forget about Joseph?

How might Joseph feel now?

APPLICATION.

- Where in your life do you feel imprisoned?
- What makes it so difficult to consider "serving others in Jesus' name" when you are in a bad place?
- How can God use you to bless others when you are feeling imprisoned?
- Has God ever spoken to you through dreams? How?
- John Calvin wrote that it is improper for us to tell God when he must help us. The reason is because God "keeps his own people in anxious suspense, so they may truly know what it is to trust in Him." What do you think of that statement and how does it apply to this passage?

- Have you experienced a time of “anxious suspense”? How did it impact your faith for the better or the worse?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?