

SC Church 3.15.2026

Dreams
Distractions on the Journey

- A. Pre-Intro:
 a. Chapel Update:
- B. Intro: Have you ever been distracted?
- C. Big Idea: Stand strong, the Lord is with you!
- D. Main Scripture 1: Genesis 39:1-6a NLT – When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. ² The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. ³ Potiphar noticed this and realized that the Lord was with Joseph, giving him success in everything he did. ⁴ This pleased Potiphar, so he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned. ⁵ From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master’s household and property, the Lord began to bless Potiphar’s household for Joseph’s sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished. ⁶ So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn’t worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat!
- E. What do we see first off in Joseph’s life?
 a. The Lord was with him.
 i. Genesis 39:2-3 NLT – ² The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. ³ Potiphar noticed this and realized that the Lord was with Joseph, giving him success in everything he did.
 ii. Deuteronomy 31:8 NLT – ⁸ Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you.”
- F. Main Scripture 2: Genesis 39:6b-18 NLT – Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, ⁷ and Potiphar’s wife soon began to look at him lustfully. “Come and sleep with me,” she demanded. ⁸ But Joseph refused. “Look,” he told her, “my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. ⁹ No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God.” ¹⁰ She kept putting pressure on Joseph day after day, but he refused to sleep with her, and he kept out of her way as much as possible. ¹¹ One day, however, no one else was around when he went in to do his work. ¹² She came and grabbed him by his cloak, demanding, “Come on, sleep with me!”

Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he ran from the house. ¹³ When she saw that she was holding his cloak and he had fled, ¹⁴ she called out to her servants. Soon all the men came running. “Look!” she said. “My husband has brought this Hebrew slave here to make fools of us! He came into my room to rape me, but I screamed. ¹⁵ When he heard me scream, he ran outside and got away, but he left his cloak behind with me.” ¹⁶ She kept the cloak with her until her husband came home. ¹⁷ Then she told him her story. “That Hebrew slave you’ve brought into our house tried to come in and fool around with me,” she said. ¹⁸ “But when I screamed, he ran outside, leaving his cloak with me!”

G. How can we avoid temptation and distractions as we pursue God’s dreams?

a. Resist the Enemy’s Plan

- i. Genesis 39:8-9 NLT – ⁸ But Joseph refused. “Look,” he told her, “my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. ⁹ No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God.”
- ii. James 4:7 NLT – ⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
- iii. Ephesians 6:13 NLT – ¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.

b. Avoid the Temptation

- i. 1 Corinthians 10:12 NLT – ¹² If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall.
- ii. James 5:16 NLT – ¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

c. Run when Necessary

- i. Genesis 39:12 NLT – ¹² She came and grabbed him by his cloak, demanding, “Come on, sleep with me!” Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he ran from the house.
- ii. 1 Corinthians 6:18 NLT – ¹⁸ Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.
- iii. 1 Corinthians 10:13 NIV – ¹³ The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

H. Close: How is the Enemy trying to distract you from God’s plans?

- i. Isaiah 50:7 NLT – ⁷ Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore, I have set my face like a stone,

determined to do his will. And I know that I will not be put to shame.

b. Next Steps

- i. Memorize: Isaiah 50:7 NLT – ⁷ Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore, I have set my face like a stone, determined to do his will. And I know that I will not be put to shame.
- ii. Think: What distractions is the Enemy trying to use to keep me from fulfilling God's dreams?
- iii. Action: Resist, Avoid and Run