

SC Church 3.22.2026

Dreams Faithful in the Setbacks

- A. Intro: What are some of the setbacks in your life?
- B. Big Idea: Be faithful through the setbacks of life. God is working out a bigger plan!
- a. Romans 8:28 NLT – ²⁸ And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.
- C. What do we do during the setbacks of life?
- a. Remember who you Serve
 - i. Genesis 39:21-23 NLT – ²¹ But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the Lord made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden. ²² Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. ²³ The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.
 - ii. Isaiah 55:8-9 NLT – ⁸ “My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the LORD. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. ⁹ For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.
 - b. Keep Open to God opportunities in the midst of the Delays
 - i. Genesis 40:1-19 NLT – Some time later, Pharaoh’s chief cup-bearer and chief baker offended their royal master. ² Pharaoh became angry with these two officials, ³ and he put them in the prison where Joseph was, in the palace of the captain of the guard. ⁴ They remained in prison for quite some time, and the captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, who looked after them. ⁵ While they were in prison, Pharaoh’s cup-bearer and baker each had a dream one night, and each dream had its own meaning. ⁶ When Joseph saw them the next morning, he noticed that they both looked upset. ⁷ “Why do you look so worried today?” he asked them. ⁸ And they replied, “We both had dreams last night, but no one can tell us what they mean.” “Interpreting dreams is God’s business,” Joseph replied. “Go ahead and tell me your dreams.” ⁹ So the chief cup-bearer told Joseph his dream first. “In my dream,” he said, “I saw a grapevine in front of me. ¹⁰ The vine had three branches that began to bud and blossom, and soon it produced clusters of ripe grapes. ¹¹ I was holding Pharaoh’s wine

cup in my hand, so I took a cluster of grapes and squeezed the juice into the cup. Then I placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand."

¹² "This is what the dream means," Joseph said. "The three branches represent three days. ¹³ Within three days Pharaoh will lift you up and restore you to your position as his chief cup-bearer.

¹⁴ And please remember me and do me a favor when things go well for you. Mention me to Pharaoh, so he might let me out of this place. ¹⁵ For I was kidnapped from my homeland, the land of the

Hebrews, and now I'm here in prison, but I did nothing to deserve it." ¹⁶ When the chief baker saw that Joseph had given the first

dream such a positive interpretation, he said to Joseph, "I had a dream, too. In my dream there were three baskets of white pastries stacked on my head. ¹⁷ The top basket contained all kinds of

pastries for Pharaoh, but the birds came and ate them from the basket on my head." ¹⁸ "This is what the dream means," Joseph

told him. "The three baskets also represent three days. ¹⁹ Three days from now Pharaoh will lift you up and impale your body on a pole. Then birds will come and peck away at your flesh."

- ii. Ephesians 2:10 NLT – ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.
- iii. Colossians 4:5-6 NLT – ⁵ Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

c. Don't Give up Hope

- i. Genesis 40:14-15 NLT – ¹⁴ And please remember me and do me a favor when things go well for you. Mention me to Pharaoh, so he might let me out of this place. ¹⁵ For I was kidnapped from my homeland, the land of the Hebrews, and now I'm here in prison, but I did nothing to deserve it."
- ii. Genesis 40:23 NLT – ²³ Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer, however, forgot all about Joseph, never giving him another thought.
- iii. Romans 15:13 NLT – ¹³ I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- iv. Hebrew 11:1 NLT – Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.

D. Close: Where are you in the midst of your Dream Journey with God?

a. Next Steps

- i. Memorize: Colossians 4:5-6 NLT – ⁵ Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity.

⁶ Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

- ii. Think: How can I be faithful in my current delays or setbacks?
- iii. Action: Push through your feelings. Look for the opportunities to engage others and watch God work.