

Resisting Temptation (Genesis 39:6-20)

Keep Your Dream Alive – Part 4
Life Church St. Louis – September 29, 2013
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

James 1:13-15 (NIV) When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

1. Recognize the _____ of temptation

1 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV) So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

A. Temptation seems _____

Genesis 39:6-7 (NIV) So he [Potiphar] left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

B. Temptation seems _____

Genesis 39:10a (NIV) And though she spoke to Joseph day after day ...

2. Resist the _____ of temptation

James 4:7 (NIV) Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

A. Resist with godly _____

Genesis 39:8 (NIV) 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.

B. Resist with godly _____

Genesis 39:9 (NIV) 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?"

C. Resist with godly _____

Genesis 39:10 (NIV) And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

3. _____ the grasp of temptation

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV) No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

A. _____ away from temptation

Genesis 39:11-12 (NIV) One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. 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.

B. _____ God when falsely accused

Genesis 39:16-18 (NIV) She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. Then she told him this story: "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."

C. _____ your dream when treated unfairly

Genesis 39:19-20 (NIV) When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined.

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Intro. In what ways are temptations challenges to God's dream for your life?

Describe the process of temptation (James 1:13-15). What are some common misperceptions about temptation?

- 1A. Why do people often underestimate the power of temptation (1 Corinthians 10:12)?
- 1B. What was attractive about Joseph's temptation (Genesis 39:6-7)?
- 1C. How can repeated temptation wear resistance down (Genesis 39:10a)?
- 1D. How does our culture's media make temptation attractive and difficult to resist? Give examples.
- 2A. What is the responsibility of a believer when facing temptation (James 4:7)?
- 2B. What was Joseph's argument to resist temptation in Genesis 39:8?

- 2C. In what way would adultery be a sin against God (Genesis 39:9)?
- 2D. How did Joseph do his best to set boundaries with his master's wife (Genesis 39:10)?
- 2E. Describe the godly boundaries that could be set for common temptations.
- 3A. How can the truths of 1 Corinthians 10:13 give you victory over every temptation?
- 3B. How can you run away from temptation (Genesis 39:11-12, 2 Timothy 2:22, Matthew 5:27-30)?
- 3C. Why are believers often falsely accused of wrongdoing (Genesis 39:16-18, Matthew 5:11)?
- 3D. How do you think Joseph's dream sustained him when he was thrown into prison (Genesis 39:19-20)?
- 3E. What temptations are you or someone close to you struggling with that you would like prayer for?