

# JOSEPH IN SUBJECTION/SUBMISSION

Peoria Young Group

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**Genesis Chapters 37-40** -- Please read and review these chapters.

Joseph will trade his coat of many colors (leader's coat) for the clothing of a servant. There are many lessons to be learned from this section of the Bible.

Key Verses: **Genesis 39: 2, 5, 21** Please read these verses now.

I have broken this section on subjection/submission into 3 parts of discipline Joseph had to learn.

## **Discipline of Service: Read Gen 39 1-6**

Joseph lost his tailored ruler's coat that was **given** him for servant clothes that were **forced** on him. Think about why this happened to him. What was God going to teach him through this process?

God gave Joseph the opportunity to learn to work and to work hard. His father had taken his work responsibilities away by offering him the tailored coat of many colors. Not good for a future leader.

What did he learn?

Humility – Read **1 Peter 5:5-6**

Obedying Orders - **1 Sam. 15:22**

Faithful in small things – promoted to bigger - **Matt. 25:21-23**

Think of a time in your life that you have had to serve behind the scene instead of lead. How did you feel?

What did you learn from the process?

## **Discipline of Self – Control: Read verses 7-18**

God would test Joseph's self control. Why do you think that God did this?

God knew that if Joseph the Servant didn't have self-control then Joseph the leader wouldn't either. Do you agree with this statement? Defend your thoughts.

**Excuses:** Everyone finds excuses to do things they should not do or get involved with. We hear excuses like "Everybody else is doing it" or "No one would ever find out".

But God would know and Joseph knew exactly that. He was not will to disappoint God for a moment of selfish pleasure.

Read these verses: What advice can you give to someone who is struggling with self-control issues?

**Rom 13.14** - But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof

**2 Timothy 2:22** Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27.** Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they [do it] to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring [it] into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Joseph lost his coat but he kept his character. Why is that thought so important to a Christian?

## Discipline in Suffering: Read verses 19-27

God helped Joseph learn to control his appetites so now God would help him control his tongue.

See **James chapter 3**.

When accused and put into prison, Joseph never argued about being falsely accused, didn't make up excuses or complain and didn't talk about his mistreatment or talk back. Instead he remained faithful. Think about that. How would you have reacted if you were falsely accused of something and worse yet punished for it? Has it ever happened to you or someone you know? How did you/they respond?

**1 Peter 2:19-20** For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

Joseph suffered in prison for 2 years and was a servant for 15 before being released. **Gen. 41:46**

**Romans 5:1-5** Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3. And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; 4. And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 5. And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us

**Hebrews 6:12** That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Suffering is not enjoyable especially if you are in the right as Joseph was. He learned patience in waiting on God, being humble and then being exalted by God and most importantly that God never left or forgot him.

**Heb 13:5** Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor **forsake** thee.

How can these words comfort a person who is going through some type of suffering?

Remember to pray for those in countries where Christians are beaten, imprisoned and killed just for being Christians.

**Joseph as a type of Christ.** Nowhere in the New Testament is Joseph specifically named as a type of Jesus Christ. The parallels are too obvious and too numerous to question. Look these verses over and compare the verses in Genesis 39 to the ones in the New Testament. See what you think.

	Genesis	New Testament
The Servant	39:1	Luke 22:27
God with him	39.2, 21, 23	John 16:32
Prospered	39:2-3	Isa. 53:10
All in his hand	39:4, 8	John 3:35
Please Potiphar	39:4	John 8:29
Tempted	39:7	Matt. 4
Falsely accused	39:16-18	Matt. 26:59-60
Bound	39:20	Matt. 27:2
Offered no defense	39:20	Ish. 53:7
Two other prisoners (One save- one lost)	40:2-3	Luke 23:32
Suffered under Gentiles	39-40	Acts 4:26-27
Respected by a jailer	39:21	Luke 23:47