

**Title:** You know better than I  
**Pastor:** Theo van Houten  
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#### Joseph had a dream

**Genesis 37:3-5** <sup>3</sup> now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colours. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him. <sup>5</sup> Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more.

#### Joseph's family betrayed him

**Genesis 37:19-20** <sup>19</sup> They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer." <sup>20</sup> Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams."

#### Joseph was sold into slavery

**Genesis 39:2-6** <sup>2</sup> The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup> His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. <sup>5</sup> From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field. <sup>6</sup> So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

#### Temptation will come

**Genesis 39:7-10,12-14** <sup>7</sup> And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." <sup>8</sup> But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. <sup>9</sup> He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" <sup>10</sup> And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her. <sup>12</sup> she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house. <sup>13</sup> And as soon as she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out of the house, <sup>14</sup> she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to laugh at us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice.

#### Joseph was put into prison

**Genesis 39:20-21,23** <sup>20</sup> And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. <sup>21</sup> But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. <sup>23</sup> The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed.

## God's timing is sovereign

**Genesis 41:1** After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile,

## Joseph's season changed suddenly

**Genesis 41:14-16** <sup>14</sup> Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh. <sup>15</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." <sup>16</sup> Joseph answered Pharaoh, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favourable answer."

## God's promotion is not dependant on circumstances

**Genesis 41:25,37-41** <sup>25</sup> Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. <sup>37</sup> This proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. <sup>38</sup> And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?" <sup>39</sup> Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. <sup>40</sup> You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." <sup>41</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

## God know better than us

**Genesis 45:5-7** <sup>5</sup> and now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

## God is always with us

**Genesis 46:3-4** <sup>3</sup> Then he said, "I am God, the God of your father. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you into a great nation. <sup>4</sup> I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again, and Joseph's hand shall close your eyes."

## 8 Lessons learned

1. God wants family.
2. We must have a dream.
3. Trust God and not your circumstances.
4. Integrity is precious.
5. Be humble.
7. ALWAYS FORGIVE.
8. Surrender to God's purposes.

## Enter His gates with thanksgiving

**Psalms 95:1-3** <sup>1</sup> Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! <sup>2</sup> Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! <sup>3</sup> For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**Psalms 135:1-3** <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD, give praise, O servants of the LORD, <sup>2</sup> who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God! <sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

## Give thanks to Him

**Psalm 18:49** Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name.

## Bless His name

**Psalm 103:1-5** <sup>1</sup> Of David. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! <sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, <sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, <sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

## The LORD is good

**Zechariah 9:17** For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!

## Holy Spirit in worship

**Ephesians 5:18-20** <sup>18</sup> but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

## Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs

**Colossians 3:14-16** <sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

## Therefore let's go wild for Jesus

**Psalm 47:1-7** <sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! <sup>2</sup> For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. <sup>3</sup> He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. <sup>4</sup> He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah. <sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet. <sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! <sup>7</sup> For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!