

## GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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*Use the following questions below for individual or group study. Begin in prayer, inviting the Spirit to speak during this time.*

**Share with the Group:** What's the farthest you've ever been from home?

Think back to the very first time you went somewhere far from home by yourself. What did you feel? What was exciting? What was strange or hard?

**Read Genesis Ch 39:1-21**

Share any observation you have from the text. What stands out to you? Pay special attention to repetition, contrast, cause & effect, progression, transitions, etc.

What questions do you have about this text?

**Talk About It**

How does God make his presence and blessing known to Joseph?

Is this how you would expect him to do it? Why/why not?

What does this teach us about God and about our relationship with him?

Why does it matter that God's blessings to Joseph radiated to Potiphar's house?

Potiphar sees that God is at work in Joseph. Do you ever notice God's grace and gifts clearly manifest in someone else? If so, how should you respond?

Why does Joseph refuse to sleep with Potiphar's wife?

How does his reasoning challenge the cultural assumptions of our time?

What does this teach us about how we act in all areas of life?

Potiphar's wife refers to Joseph as "a Hebrew." Why does she highlight his ethnic identity and status as a foreigner?

Do you think Potiphar believes his wife's accusations? Why/why not?

Ch 39 is bookended by the assertion that YHWH was with Joseph. What is this story teaching us about what it means for God to be with us?

What does this mean for you in your own life? Explain.

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**Bonus Study! Read Genesis 38**

How does this story function as a continuation of Ch 37's meditation on brothers, family, and what we owe one another? What parallels do you see?

What echoes do you see from previous Genesis stories? What's the significance? Compare and Contrast the actions of Joseph and Judah in Ch 37 and their respective experiences in Chs 38 & 39. What can we learn from this?

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