

Genesis: Weekly Devotionals - December 7

OPEN with prayer.

Find a quiet place where you can set aside distractions. Ask the Lord to meet you in His Word. Invite the Holy Spirit to help you see God's presence even in seasons of loss, confusion, or uncertainty.

Joseph's story takes a dramatic turn in Genesis 37. One moment, he is the favored son with dreams that seem to point toward a remarkable future. The next, he is stripped of his robe, betrayed by his brothers, and sold into slavery. By the time we move through Genesis 39–40, Joseph will experience both success and injustice—all while seemingly losing everything that once defined his life.

And yet, over and over again, Scripture tells us: "The Lord was with Joseph."

READ Genesis 37:12–28.

Joseph's brothers betray him and sell him to Midianite traders.

- What stands out to you in the brothers' actions or motivations?
- When have you experienced a time when life drastically changed in ways you didn't want or expect?
- How does this passage remind you that God's purposes can continue even when human choices seem to derail everything?

READ Genesis 39:1–12.

All of Genesis 39 contains a repeated refrain: "The Lord was with Joseph."

Even in slavery. Even in false accusation. Even in prison.

- How do you see God's presence at work in Joseph's life, even in hardship?
- What qualities of Joseph stand out to you in this chapter (i.e. his faithfulness, integrity, perseverance, etc.)? Which of those qualities do you sense you need to grow in?

READ Genesis 40:1–8, 20–23.

Joseph interprets the cupbearer's and baker's dreams, only to be forgotten again.

- How does Joseph continue to acknowledge God, even during his imprisonment?
- What is one place in your life where you need to trust that God sees you, even when you feel overlooked or forgotten by others?

REFLECT

Joseph's downward journey shows us that God's presence is not proven by immediate rescue but by steady faithfulness in the shadows.

- Take a moment to reflect on present areas in your life where you feel either in a pit like Joseph or forgotten about or falsely accused or more. Share your thoughts and wrestlings with the Lord. Know that He is with you in the hardship!
- Look back over your life: what once-painful moments now reveal God's quiet nearness? How have they grown your trust in God?