

SERMON GUIDE

FAITH AT THE PINNACLE

Genesis 41:38-57 | Pastor Tim Prince

October 23, 2022

Faith Community Church | fchudson.com

Conversation Questions

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- Scripture that stands out to you while you read
- Observations you are making about a passage
- Applications that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- Prayer that invites God to participate in all that you do

Getting to Know Me: In what kind of situations do you think that it is really good to have a backup plan? Share an example of a time when having a plan B was a "life-saver."

Note About the Passage: All of the apparel and possessions that were bestowed upon Joseph in verses 42-43 were in accordance with what was appropriate and customary to be given to the second-in-command ("vizier") over Egypt at that time in history. The signet ring gave him royal passport and royal privileges. Egyptian Pharaohs saw themselves as divine, and as an 'god' amongst the pantheon of Egyptian gods. It was not unprecedented for a Pharaoh to give foreigners powerful positions in Egypt. ...The meaning of names given to Joseph's two sons have personal significance related to Joseph's life story. Manasseh means something like "forgotten troubles," as the many troubles he experienced have been "forgotten" considering all that God has done Joseph's life. Ephraim means something like "twice fruitful," as all the fruitfulness in Joseph's life (in his prosperity, outstanding service, wisdom, and supernatural insight) would not have been possible without a "double-portion" of God's grace.

Read: Genesis 41:38-57

- S:** What verses, phrases, words, or feelings stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated," surprising, or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O:** What are the different thoughts and feelings Joseph may have had as Pharaoh is giving him power, honor, and position (especially after all he has experienced)?
- O:** What do you think were some of the personal motivations for Pharaoh to put Joseph in charge of Egypt (second only to him)? What reasons could have deterred Pharaoh from giving so much to Joseph? What role do you think God played in this?
- O:** The idea of God's sovereignty includes receiving good and suffering as a part of God's plan. Where in this passage are there opportunities to wrestle with the sovereignty of God?
- O:** Where in this passage do you see Joseph giving God credit for all the good that has come to him? What words does he use?
- A:** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A:** Is there any relationship or situation in your life that would benefit from trusting that God is good and has a plan? How would it benefit your relationship and what would it look like?
- P:** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide the direction that you need.