"When Temptation Comes Knocking" Genesis 39

We live in a world in which we are bombarded with continual temptations and lustful attractions. Today we'll look at a scene from the life of Joseph and discover how he was victorious over temptation. His words and deeds reveal five essential fortifications we must have to resist temptation to immorality and other sins.

- Love Your LORD (7-9a) (Matt 22:36; 2 Pet 1:9; 1 Cor 6:18-20)
- Hate Your SIN (9b-10) (Ps 51:4a)
- Know Your <u>SELF</u> (11-12) (Rom 13:14; 2 Tim 2:22; 1 Cor 10:12)
- Bide Your TIME (19-20) (Rom 12:21)
- Remember Your <u>STRENGTH</u> (21-23) (Heb 13:5-6; Phil 4:13; 2 Col 3:5)

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Share about a "sweet treat" that is a temptation for you. I'll go first - mint chocolate chip ice-cream!

Discussion Questions

- 1. Share something that impressed you, challenged you, or raised a question from the reading and study of Genesis 39.
- 2. How was Joseph able to immediately "refuse" (Gen 39:8) the temptation of Potiphar's wife?
- 3. Joseph paid a price for staying faithful to God. How do you think he protected himself from becoming bitter when he was sent to prison for doing what was right?
- 4. What can we learn from the fourfold repetition of "the Lord was with Joseph" in Gen 39:2-3, 21-23?
- 5. Read and discuss 1 Cor 10:12-13 as it relates to Joseph and as it relates to us.

Digging Deeper:

Jot down how each of these verses provides a helpful truth for victory over temptation: (Matt 22:36-38; Rom 13:14; Eph 6:10-11; 2 Cor 10:3-5: 1 Cor 6:18-20 2 Tim 2:22; 1 Cor 10:12-13; Rom 12:21; Heb .13:5-6; Phil 4:13; Ps 51:4; Jas 1:13-15; 5:16; Job 31:1)

Pick one verse (or verses) from the above list to write on an index card, review each day this week, and purpose to "say no" to temptation, claiming your key verse for victory.