**GENESIS: Exploring The Foundations Of Our Faith – Gen 41**

**When God Uses Your Pain For Kingdom Purpose…**

**6/23/24**

***23****The chief cupbearer, however,* ***did not remember Joseph; he forgot him. 1 When two full years had passed,*** *Pharaoh had a dream.* Gen 40:23- 41:1

**#1) Don’t Forget: God-Is-Working-Behind-The-Scenes.**

***8****In the morning Pharoah’s mind was* ***troubled****, so he sent for all the magicians*

*and wise men of Egypt. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but* ***no one could interpret them*** *for him.* ***9****Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, “Today I am* ***reminded of my shortcomings****.* Genesis 41:9-11

***12****… We told him our dreams, and he interpreted them for us, giving each man the interpretation of his dream.****13And things turned out exactly as he interpreted them*** *to us: I was restored to my position, and the other man was impaled.”* ***14****So* ***Pharaoh sent for Joseph****, and he was quickly brought from the* ***dungeon****. When he had* ***shaved****and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.* Genesis 41:12-14

**#2) Don’t Forget: Direct Other’s To God.**

***15****Pharaoh said to Joseph, “****I had a dream****, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.”* ***16****“****I cannot do it,”*** *Joseph replied to Pharaoh, “****but God*** *will give Pharaoh the answer he desires.”* Genesis 41:15-16

**#3) Don’t Forget: Share God’s Revelation To Others, Especially Unbelievers.**

***17****Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “In my dream I was standing on the* ***bank of the Nile****,* ***18****when out of the river there came up seven cows, fat and sleek, and they grazed among the reeds…* ***24****The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven good heads. I told this to the magicians, but none of them could explain it to me.”* ***29Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt, 30but seven years of famine will follow them.*** *Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land.****31****The abundance in the land will not be remembered, because the famine that follows it will be so severe.* ***32****The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in* ***two forms*** *is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and* ***God will do it soon****.* Gen 41:17-32

**#4) Don’t Forget: Provide Wise Solutions - Whether It Benefits You Or Not.**

***33****“And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and* ***put him in charge*** *of the land of Egypt.* ***34****Let Pharaoh* ***appoint commissioners****over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance.* ***35****They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food.****36****This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine.”* Genesis 41:35-36

**#5) Don’t Forget: Remain Faithful To God Once You Arrive.**

***37****The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials.****38****So Pharaoh asked them, “Can we find anyone like this man, one* ***in whom is the spirit of God****?”*

***39****Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has made all this known to you,*

*there is no one so discerning and wise as you.****40You shall be in charge of my palace****, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.”* ***41****So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “****I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt****.”* Genesis 41:39-41

**#6) Don’t Forget: Choose Forgiveness.**

***50****Before the years of famine came,* ***two sons*** *were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On.****51****Joseph named his firstborn* ***Manasseh***

*and said, “It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father’s household.”****52****The second son he named* ***Ephraim****and said, “It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering.”* Genesis 41:50-52

***53****The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end,****54****and the* ***seven years of famine began****, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food.* ***55****When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph and do what he tells you.”* Genesis 41:53-55