

## THINGS UNSEEN Blindsided

Genesis 39:1 – 21  
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### MESSAGE NOTES

Temptation: Enticement; the trial of man's fidelity, constancy, and integrity

These are the things I want you to remember about Joseph's story:

1. He was prepared.

*Time is not really spent. Instead, it is invested in a future we cannot see. Though we know intellectually that the clock keeps ticking, we often — or a variety of reasons — fail to connect the choices we make in each tick and consider how that connection shapes our future. We feel the moment strongly but struggle to link a tangible today with an intangible tomorrow.*  
— Alicia Britt Chole

*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.* — Galatians 6:7 – 8

2. He was successful.

*When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined.* — Genesis 39:19 – 20a

*When we lose one blessing, another is often most unexpectedly given in its place.* — CS Lewis

*Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.* — 2 Corinthians 11:24 – 30

3. He was part of a greater story.

*Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord was with him; He showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.*

— Genesis 39:20b – 21

*Every experience God gives us is the perfect preparation for the future only He can see.* — Corrie ten Boom

### Conclusion

*God can take what Satan meant for shame and use it for His glory. Just when we think we've messed up so badly that our lives are nothing but heaps of ashes, God pours living water over us and mixes the ashes into clay. He then takes this clay and molds it into a vessel of beauty. After He fills us with His overflowing love, He can use us to pour His love into the hurting lives of others.*  
— Lysa Terkeurst

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Genesis 39:1– 21

- What is one thing that stuck out to you about Joseph's story?
- What stuck out to you most from the message this weekend?
- What is the difference between God's version of success and our version of success? Explain
- Explain what "Today's decisions affect tomorrow" means.
- How can we help each other understand that we are a part of a bigger story?
- How can bad situations be successful?
- Have you ever suffered for doing good? What was that like?
- How might this story help you seek God's hope in a difficult situation?
- What is tempting you to turn your eyes from God's blessings?
- What is one action point you can do to prepare yourself for temptation this week?