

JOSEPH ✨ the dreamer ✨

3 layers of the story

a family a generation the human story

the danger of dreams

Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. ⁶He said to them, “Listen to this dream I had: ⁷We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.” ⁸His brothers said to him, “Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?” And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said. Genesis 37:5-8

dreams . . .

- * are one way God speaks.
- * require character.
- * transform hard work into meaning and focus.
- * will meet with cynicism and criticism.
- * rarely end up as we imagined in the beginning.

“Dreams. They will not be what you expect but something else and that is ok. It... may even be something better but to some degree they will be different.

Healthy dreams are growing, adapting and maturing.

Let your passion grow up through the struggle, but not be lost.

Hold the detail loosely but the heart unflinchingly.

But you won't find God's realized best or anything else unless you dream.

So, dream.” (excerpt from Paul Berthiaume's journal)

- * requires mental toughness and courage.

5 themes which made JOSEPH's dreams a reality

1* FOCUS ✨

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

2* ATTITUDE ✨

Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!” ⁸But he refused. “With me in charge,” he told her, “my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. ⁹No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?” ¹⁰And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her. Genesis 39:6b-10

3* REFLECTION ✨

Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. “Listen,” he said, “I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.” ¹⁰When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, “What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?” ¹¹His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind. Genesis 37:5-11

4* AWARENESS ✨ *(particularly true at the end of his life)*

But Joseph said to them, “Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them. Genesis 50:19-21

5* GROWTH ✨ *(watch Joseph become the person able to live the dream)*

The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. ³⁸So Pharaoh asked them, “Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?” ³⁹Then 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.” Genesis 41:37-40

next steps

+ RECOMMENDED READING +

Joseph: A Man of Integrity and Forgiveness ~ Chuck Swindoll

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