

“How To Be a Good Witness for God”

Genesis 39:1-3

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Introduction: Joseph left some good footprints to follow about being a good witness for God. In our time tonight, I want us to see some of them.

Text: Genesis chapter 39

1. There are ways to be a good witness for God at work.

- Joseph is a good example.
- Read Genesis 39:1-2
- Verse 2 says that the Lord was with Joseph.
- Verse 3 says, “His master saw that the Lord was with him.”
- A godless Egyptian saw that God was with Joseph.

Question: How did Potiphar know that God was with Joseph?

- Potiphar saw that Joseph was successful, but that would not have translated into Potiphar knowing it was God making him successful.
- How did Potiphar know it was God making Joseph successful?
- Somehow Joseph told Potiphar about God.

Illustration: Maybe they had a conversation about how Joseph was so successful.

Illustration: Maybe Potiphar asked Joseph, and this opened the door for Joseph to tell Potiphar about God.

Illustration: At some point Joseph talked to Potiphar about his God.

Illustration: Previously Joseph had given credit to God about his success (41:15-16).

Except for his great-grandfather Abraham who had visited Egypt earlier, Joseph was the first worshiper of the true God to live in Egypt.

Application: There is a right way and a wrong way to witness on the job. The best way to witness on the job is not only to be likable and lovable but to be hard-working and conscientious. Christians should be the best workers.

**“Whatever you do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord and not to men”
(Colossians 3:23).**

Illustration: A careless, lazy Christian without integrity is a bad witness of the Christian faith.

2. There are ways to be a good witness for God when facing temptations (39:4-20).

- Joseph is a good example.
- Read 39:4-20
- Joseph was faced with a sexual temptation.
- Joseph’s love for God is what kept him from falling into sexual sin (39:9).
- The only thing that will keep a person from falling into sin is their love for God.

Illustration: There are other things that keep people from falling into sin, but they all have their limits.

1. Thinking it is unlikely you will be found out
2. Realizing that you have so much to lose – (high profile people)

Application: Nobody is exempt from temptation. Unless their love for God is greater than the temptation, they will at some point give in.

3. There are good ways to be a good witness for God when falsely accused (39:14-19).

- Again, Joseph is a good example.
- Potiphar’s wife made a false accusation. (39:14-19).
- Her pride had been hurt.
- The evidence was stacked against Joseph.

Illustration: Joseph was a foreigner. He was a slave. There were no witnesses. Nobody would believe him.

- Pick the story up in v.20-23 and notice that not once did Joseph say anything in his defense. He did not try to defend himself.

Application: Never try to defend yourself. Let God do it. If you are a child of God and are falsely accused, it hurts God. Back off and let God handle it.

“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves...for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord” (Romans 12:19 NKJV).

The NLT says, “Never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures says: “I will take revenge; I will pay them back, says the Lord”.

Conclusion: Some teach that our best witness is the life we live. If you live a near perfect life and never say anything about God, your life is a witness of yourself. The life we live can be an open door to tell others about God.

When people see us in challenging things and times reacting appropriately, they see in us something they too want. This becomes our open door!