

Leaving the Nest

Series: “Winds of Change”

Message #2: Genesis 37-46

EBC

September 9, 2018

Genesis 37:2-36 (CSB) - *At seventeen years of age, Joseph tended sheep with his brothers. The young man was working with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought a bad report about them to their father.*

³Now Israel loved Joseph more than his other sons because Joseph was a son born to him in his old age, and he made a robe of many colors for him. ⁴When his brothers

saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not bring themselves to speak peaceably to him.

⁵Then Joseph had a dream. When he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more.

¹⁴Then Israel said to him, “Go and see how your brothers and the flocks are doing, and bring word back to me.” ... ¹⁷So Joseph set out after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

18 They saw him in the distance, and before he had reached them, they plotted to kill him. 19 They said to one another, “Oh, look, here comes that dream expert! 20 So now, come on, let’s kill him and throw him into one of the pits. We can say that a vicious animal ate him. Then we’ll see what becomes of his dreams!” ...

23 When Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped off Joseph’s robe, the robe of

many colors that he had on. ²⁴Then they took him and threw him into the pit. The pit was empty, without water.

²⁵They sat down to eat a meal, and when they looked up, there was a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead.

²⁶Judah said to his brothers, “What do we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? ²⁷Come on, let’s sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay a hand on him, for

he is our brother, our own flesh,” and his brothers agreed. ²⁸When Midianite traders passed by, his brothers pulled Joseph out of the pit and sold him for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took Joseph to Egypt. ... ³⁶The Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and the captain of the guards.

**Lesson #1: Sometimes
leaving the nest
means you're getting
tossed.**

Lesson #2: Saying yes to sexual temptation will be easy. Saying no will cost you. But honoring God is so worth it.

Genesis 39:1-4 (CSB) – *An Egyptian named Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and the captain of the guards, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him there.*

²The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, serving in the household of his Egyptian master. ³When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD made everything he did successful, ⁴Joseph found favor with his master and became his personal attendant.

Genesis 39:6-7 (CSB) – *Now Joseph was well-built and handsome. ⁷After some time his master's wife looked longingly at Joseph and said, "Sleep with me."*

Genesis 39:8-10 (CSB) – But he refused.
“Look,” he said to his master’s wife, “with me here my master does not concern himself with anything in his house, and he has put all that he owns under my authority. ⁹No one in this house is greater than I am. He has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. So how could I do this immense evil, and how could I sin against God?” ¹⁰Although she spoke to

Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her.

Genesis 39:11-15 (CSB) – *Now one day he went into the house to do his work, and none of the household servants were there. ¹²She grabbed him by his garment and said, “Sleep with me!” But leaving his garment in her hand, he escaped and ran outside. ¹³When she saw that he had left his garment with her and had run outside, ¹⁴she called her household servants. “Look,” she said to them, “my husband brought a*

Hebrew man to make fools of us. He came to me so he could sleep with me, and I screamed as loud as I could. ¹⁵When he heard me screaming for help, he left his garment beside me and ran outside.”

... ¹⁹When his master heard the story his wife told him—“These are the things your slave did to me”—he was furious ²⁰and had him thrown into prison, where the king’s prisoners were confined. So Joseph was there in prison.

Genesis 39:21-23 (CSB) – *But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him. ... ²³And the LORD made everything that he did successful.*

**Lesson #3: It's easy to
feel forgotten. So
remember that God
never forgets.**

Genesis 40:21-23 (CSB) – Pharaoh restored the chief cupbearer to his position as cupbearer, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand. ²²But Pharaoh hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had explained to them. ²³Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

**Lesson #4: Choose
carefully what to
forget and what to
remember.**

Genesis 39:21-23 (CSB) – *But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him. ... ²³And the LORD made everything that he did successful.*

**Lesson #5: Grasp and
hold tightly to the
truth of God's
sovereignty.**

Genesis 45:4-8 (CSB) – *Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Please, come near me,” and they came near. “I am Joseph, your brother,” he said, “the one you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now don’t be grieved or angry with yourselves for selling me here, because God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there will be five more years without plowing or*

harvesting. 7God sent me ahead of you to establish you as a remnant within the land and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. 8Therefore it was not you who sent me here, but God.