

LIFE GROUP GUIDE

iDENTITY Joseph #9: “POWERFUL TEMPTATION”

Connect IN with each other

If you were Prime Minister for a day, what would you do? *(Leaders' note: This is an ice breaker, but it's also about getting people to identify, light heartedly, whether their instinct is to help themselves or others.*

Connect UP

Read Genesis 47:1-13. How does Joseph and Pharaoh's treatment of Joseph's family differ from the treatment of the Egyptians later in the passage?

Read Leviticus 19:9-10 and Deuteronomy 24:19-22. Compare God's attitude to the poor and hungry to Joseph's. *(Leader's note: Try and get beyond “God looks after them” and consider the attitude behind it. God wants his people to provide for the poor with no expectation of anything in return. God is gracious and generous with us)*

Joseph, along with David and Solomon “pass the test of the difficult life, but fail the test of the easy one”. What are the potential pitfalls for your spiritual life when life is going well? How can we avoid them?

Encourage people to think of people they know that are victims of the misuse of power. Read Luke 4:18. What is the good news that Jesus is referring to? *[Leader's note: Read Revelation 19:1-2 and Revelation 21:3-4. Rev 19 has some potent imagery in it, you might get some confused looks from people. Try to not get bogged down in the detail, but focus on the big picture, that God brings justice. Rev 21 complements it by promising freedom from pain]*

Jesus told his disciples to “pray for those who persecute you”. Are you doing that? Do you even feel like that's possible?

Connect OUT

Get your group to think of positions of power or influence that they are in. In what ways could they be tempted to misuse those positions? In what ways could they show people the love of God in them?

Prayer

Try and leave a good amount of time for prayer.

- Pray for people groups that you know are oppressed