



Joe Knows Temptation

Temptation is anything that promises satisfaction
at the cost of obedience to God.

Genesis 39:1-5 (NIV)

Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. ²The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, ⁴Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. ⁵From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.

Matthew 18:6-7 (NIV)

1. Joe knows your life is defined by character more than circumstances.

- Your life will be defined by your circumstances, desires, or your character!
- Joe knows that the true test of character is determined by how you handle temptation.
- God's game plan for you is not immunity from temptation but victory over temptation through dependency on Christ.
- Every temptation is an invitation to depend on Christ.

In what area of your life are you living like a victim instead of living victoriously?

Genesis 39:6-10 (NIV)

So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. 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.

2. Joe knows obedience positions you for noble things. (2 Timothy 2:20-22)

What is a noble vision you have for your life?

Genesis 39:9-10 (NIV)

No 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.

3. Joe knows God's boundaries are good! (1 John 5:3)

- Joe let God's boundaries drive his. (Job 31:1)

What is one boundary or guard rail God is calling you to place in your life?

Genesis 39:11-12 (NIV)

One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. ¹²She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

4. Joe knows that winning means learning to run!

- Dependence and distance are keys to overcoming temptation. (2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Corinthians 10:13)

What is one temptation God is calling you to run from?