

THE EARLY YEARS
The Legend of Joe Jacobson, Part 1
January 8th, 2012

An important question to ask: What would someone in your current circumstances do, if he/she was absolutely sure that God was _____?

We are always trying to get God to _____ things

We think, "If I'm good, God will be _____ to me"

Key Principle: When you respond in your present circumstances in confidence that God is with you, you will see God in the _____

We allow our vision to be distorted by our circumstances so that we _____ God

Genesis 37:2-5; 23-28

Have you ever had questions like this?

- Would God really allow something like this to happen?
- What had Joseph done to deserve this?
- Where is God in all this?

God is in the _____ of all this, although He is seemingly nowhere to be found or seen

Genesis 39:2 (NIV) "The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered,..."

When "bad" things happen, it messes with your _____ of God

Genesis 39:1-6

When we learn to respond in all circumstances as if God is with us, other people _____

Joseph wasn't trying to change his _____, but he was doing everything he could, knowing God was with him.

Genesis 39:7-9

It's hard to remain faithful to God when you feel He hasn't been _____ to you

Every day we have a choice to make: Will I determine God's involvement in my life based on my _____ or based on God's _____ that He is with me

Genesis 39:10-20

Joseph receives the exact punishment he would have received if he had _____

Genesis 39:20-21 (NIV) "But while Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord with was him;..."

The Bible doesn't pull any punches; not everything has a _____ ending

Genesis 39:20-23

Often, if we don't see God in our circumstances _____, we take matter into our _____

It is only when we trust and look for God in our circumstances that we _____ Him

It is only when we respond to circumstances as if God is with us that we _____ Him there

Genesis 40:14

Have you ever tried to _____ or _____ with God?

Genesis 40:23 (NIV) "The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him."

Do I measure God and His loving care for me by my _____ or by taking the next logical step anyone would take in my circumstances who is absolutely _____ God is with them?

John 14:1 & 18 (NIV) "[Jesus said] Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me...I will not leave you as orphans."

Jesus is saying, let not your heart be troubled, because of _____ is with you - _____

If you live in absolute confidence that God is with you, you will find God in the _____ and other people will sense something is _____ in our lives – that God is with us

Hebrews 13:5-6 (NIV) "...because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.'"

Psalms 23:4 (NIV) "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me."

I will live as a person who is _____ in God, who is with me

My Next Step Today Is:

- I will not determine God's involvement in my life by my circumstances but based on His promises to me found in the Bible.
- I will choose one day this week, and I will actively try to respond to each phone call, email, etc. believing God is truly with me.
- I will memorize Genesis 39:2, "The Lord was with Joseph & he prospered."