



**JANUARY THEME**

# Live Life God's Way

With God  
we can live with:

- ASSURANCE
- TRUST
- HOPE
- FAITH

## **January Theme:**

**Live Life God's Way**

## **Monthly Memory Verse:**

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." - **Romans 8:37** (ESV)

## **Monthly Challenge Verse:**

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men..."  
- **Colossians 3:23** (ESV)

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## **January 15<sup>th</sup> | Life Application:**

**Live your life with trust!**

**Parents:** after listening to the sermon, take some time during the week to have great conversations with your kids. Read **pages 102-104 in The Action Bible**, and use **Genesis 40** in your Bible for reference.

1. Review: **Why was Joseph put into prison?** (**Genesis 39**- Joseph was falsely accused by Potiphar's wife.) Even though Joseph was in prison, he lived with assurance. **What was he sure of?** (**Genesis 39:22,23**- that God was with him) **Why did Joseph find favor in prison?** (Because he succeeded in everything he did, and he was a leader with the other prisoners. Joseph was faithful no matter what where God placed him!)
2. In **Genesis 40, verses 1-4**, who came into the prison? (The pharaoh's baker and cup bearer. There had been an assassination attempt on the pharaoh, and they were sent to the prison under suspicion they were involved.)
3. The two men were put under Joseph's charge. **Could this be a coincidence, or do you think God's hand was in this?** Let's see what happened! Read **verses 1-8**. Joseph saw that the men were troubled, and he asked what was wrong. **What was it?** (They both had dreams they were worried about.)
4. Joseph offered to interpret their dreams. Read **verses 9-11** together and discuss the cup bearer's dream. **How did Joseph interpret its meaning?** (That the cup bearer would be restored to his position with the pharaoh.) **What did Joseph ask the cup bearer to do?** (**Verse 14**- to remember him to the pharaoh.)
5. Then, in **verses 16-19**, Joseph interpreted the baker's dream. It was not good news for the baker! **Read and discuss.**
6. In **verses 20-23**, we see that all Joseph had said would happen DID happen! **Read together.** Then, the cup bearer had his opportunity to remember Joseph to the pharaoh. **Did he?** (**Verse 23**- He forgot.)
7. It would be two more years before Joseph would have an opportunity with the pharaoh. **How do you think Joseph felt?** (Joseph continued to work hard, and to trust God and believe that God was with him, no matter what.) **Can we do the same?**

## Points to Remember:

- Be faithful wherever you are planted
- Be faithful as you wait on the Lord
- Don't complain
- Keep trusting in God's providence, his plan in everything!

God's **Providence** was in:

- The **Pit** (where Joseph's brothers threw him)
- In **Potiphar's** house (where he was put in charge and then accused)
- In the **Prison** (where he continued to work hard and to trust)
- And in the **Pause** (where he had to wait)

## Family Challenge:

Parents, think about this ahead of time. **How has God provided for you throughout your life, sometimes in surprising ways?** (*A kind word when you were feeling down or lonely, a check in the mail right when it was needed, an opportunity you didn't expect, meeting your spouse or finding a new friend.*)

1. Share with your kids some of these things and **ask them if they remember any experiences like this.** Together, commit to looking daily for the blessings and the ways God provides for us. **Start a blessings journal** and read from it once a month or so.
2. Buy a nice box at Michael's or Hobby Lobby. Keep thank you cards beside the box. **Encourage your family to write thank-you notes to God once a week** and read them together at the dinner table or at a designated time each month. Then, pray and thank God for His provision.

## Prayer:

*God, Thank You for loving us and helping us know that You are with us and You will provide for us- even in hard times- like You did for Joseph. Help us to open our eyes to the many ways You show provision in our lives!*