

## SERMON NOTES

**Title: When Santa Doesn't Deliver**

**Text: Genesis 50:20**

**Topic: Disappointment**

**Teacher: Pastor Barry**

**Time: 12/22/24**



Joseph is a **teenager**, growing up in a **dysfunctional** home.

*“When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him, and could not speak a kind word to him.”* Genesis 37:4

Joseph has a dream where all his brothers are **bowing down** to him. They hate him even more and they sell him into slavery.

In Egypt he's resold to a government official, Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh's **secret service**.

Potiphar sees Joseph has some rare gifts of **administration and management** and puts Joseph in charge of his **business and household**.

Mrs. Potiphar tries to **seduce** him, *“Though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.”* Genesis 39:10

We often allow **disappointment** to justify disobedience. Not Joseph.

Potiphar's wife persists, but this time she grabs him, and pulls him toward her. He resists, and runs away. Humiliated and rejected, she yells, **“Rape!”**

Good News, Joseph **lives**. Bad News, he is **imprisoned**.

Where is God in the midst of Joseph's story? Where is God in the midst of your story? *“The Lord was with Joseph.”* (39:2, 23)

While in prison two prisoners, have dreams and Joseph is given the interpretation of each of the dreams by God. Pharaoh tells Joseph his dream, and God gives Joseph the interpretation. Pharaoh is **impressed**.

*“‘Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?’ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.’”* Genesis 41:39

God has just placed Joseph in a position to execute a plan that saves millions of people from a severe **famine** that is coming.

Joseph's brothers, in search of grain, find themselves in front of the Deputy Pharaoh of Egypt, whom they **don't recognize** as their brother.

After awhile Joseph makes himself **known** to his brothers.

Joseph says, *“You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good.”* *“You meant this for evil, but God used it for good.”* Genesis 50:20

Never give up on God **redeeming** your story.

*“In all things God works for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.”* Romans 8:28

We don't get to **choose** a lot of what happens in our lives, but we do get to choose how we will **respond to everything** that happens in our lives.

In the midst of disappointments, God is **there** and He gets the **last word**.