

Can We Know God? (Pt 3 God Is Good)

(intro called, justified, glorified, nothing can separate us from his love-- Romans 8:28: "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

- **All Things Work for Good** speaks to the goodness of God, & his power to work good in all situations
- **We Know** speaks to the confidence we can have, when **we know this** about God

Example Joseph Hated By His Brothers - Sold into Slavery (age 17)

- Gen 37:4 - "But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, **they hated him** and could not speak peacefully to him."--20 Come now, **let us kill him** and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams.".[SLIDE].23-24 - "So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. And they took him and **threw him into a pit.**".....28 Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and **sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver.** They took Joseph to Egypt.

Gen 39:1-3 Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, **had bought him** from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there.² **The LORD was with Joseph**, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master.³ "His master saw that **the LORD was with him** and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands."

Falsely Accused of Trying to Commit Adultery And Thrown into Prison, But the Lord was with him

- Gen 39:20-21 - "And Joseph's master took him and **put him into the prison**, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison." 21 "**But the LORD was with Joseph** and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.".[SLIDE].23 - "The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because **the LORD was with him.** And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed."

Forgotten by the Cup Bearer (interpreted dream of the baker (hanged) and cup bearer (restored))

- Gen 40:14-15 Only remember me, when it is well with you, and please do me the kindness to mention me to Pharaoh, and so **get me out of this house.** 15 For I was indeed stolen out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also **I have done nothing that they should put me into the pit.**".....23 Yet the chief **cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.**

Interpreted Pharaoh's dream 2 yrs later (7yrs plenty - 7yrs famine) - - Set over all of Egypt (age 30)

- Gen 41:39-41 ESV Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. 40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." 41 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

(Joseph knew something about God) Gen 50:20 ESV As for you, you meant evil against me, **but God meant it for good**, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

- **God was good to Joseph's brothers (who betrayed him), to Israel, to Egypt future oppressors**
- Psalm 145:9: "**The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.**"
- Psalm 100:5: "**For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**"
- Psalm 34:8: "Oh, **taste and see** that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man **who takes refuge in him!**"
- Lamentations 3:25: "The Lord is good to **those who wait for him**, to the soul **who seeks him.**"