

## Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown

### October 25-31: Read Genesis 41 & Gospel of Mark 6

#### Genesis 41

Chapter 37 began the story of Joseph, and in chapter 41, we find Joseph in prison. In between, Joseph became a slave to an Egyptian businessman named Potifar, and then was wrongly accused and thrown into jail. But “the Lord was with him” (Genesis 39:2, 21, 23), the Bible declares. Now, he is brought out of prison to interpret a dream for Pharaoh. This proved to be the turning point of his life.

#### Further Study & Discussion

- As quoted above, Genesis 39 repeats the phrase, “the Lord was with Joseph” throughout – all the while Joseph’s life goes from bad to worse. How is that possible? Talk about that and try to make sense of that from God’s perspective.
- Joseph is brought before the Pharaoh. Joseph lets him know, “It is not I; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer” (v.16). And with that, Joseph gave God all the credit for his unique talent. Talk about a great talent you have, and how has God given that to you? How are you using that for God? What was the dream and the interpretation?
- What was the dream and the interpretation? And what do you think about Joseph’s plan for the Pharaoh?

#### Gospel of Mark 6

This chapter begins with rejection of Jesus by his hometown. It’s a sharp contrast to what comes next – Jesus multiplies his ministry reach as he sends out his disciples to be like Jesus to the masses. And when they return, Jesus feeds them and takes them on a trip across the Sea of Galilee.

#### Further Study & Discussion

- People who watched Jesus grow up and were the closest to Jesus rejected him as the Messiah to come. We see that played out in our own lives. Talk about a time your family let you down because they didn’t believe you could do something great.
- John the Baptist was beheaded by an evil king. Talk about why God would allow that to happen? John the Baptist was the last of the prophets, excellent in the work that he did. So why did God not protect him?
- To the disciples who returned with success stories, Jesus reminds them that without Jesus in the boat, they are all too human and needy. But Jesus returns to the boat that’s buffeted by the waves, and he brings peace and drives out fear. Talk about a time when you were successful. Did you remember to thank God? How did you tell others about what he did?