thrive
A HOPE WOMEN'S GATHERING

Persevering Faith: Lessons from the Life of Joseph

Lesson 6: Elevated
Teacher: Heather Beckmann
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INTRODUCTION:

READING: Genesis 41:37-43 (NLT)

37 Joseph's suggestions were well received by Pharaoh and his officials. 38 So Pharaoh asked his officials,
"Can we find anyone else like this man so obviously filled with the spirit of God?"

39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has revealed the meaning of the dreams to you, clearly no one
else is as intelligent or wise as you are. 40 You will be in charge of my court, and all my people will take
orders from you. Only I, sitting on my throne, will have a rank higher than yours."

41 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the entire land of Egypt." 42 Then Pharaoh
removed his signet ring from his hand and placed it on Joseph's finger. He dressed him in fine linen clothing
and hung a gold chain around his neck.

43 Then he had Joseph ride in the chariot reserved for his second-in-command. And wherever Joseph went,
the command was shouted, "Kneel down!" So Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of all Egypt.

TABLE STUDY:

1. Why does Pharaoh put Joseph in charge?

2. What are the different ways that Pharaoh makes it obvious that Joseph is in charge?

3. What do you think Joseph was thinking while all of this was happening?

TEACHING NOTES:

TABLE DISCUSSION:

1. Joseph's story includes times of waiting as well as rapid change as God was at work. Which of these two seasons do you feel that you are in now: waiting or change? How do you feel about the current season and how are you responding to it?

2. Do you find it easier to be close to God during times of waiting or in times of big changes? Why do you think one draws you closer to God than the other?

3. Recall a season of waiting or change that has helped to develop your character. Talk about some of the character traits that God has developed in you.

4. Romans 5:3-5 states "We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." What does this mean to you?

5. Have you known someone who displayed the Spirit of God? Share what has made that obvious to you.

UNISON READING: Genesis 50:20

You planned something bad for me, but God produced something good from it.