

**Day One: Genesis 39**

- Set the scene of this story (1). Describe Joseph's life at Potiphar's house (2-6)? Re-read verse 6. Joseph was extremely successful *and* extremely trustworthy. How often do you see people today embodying both of these traits? Do you embody both? Pray this would be a package deal in your life, and that exuding these characteristics in unison would point people toward Jesus.
- What did Potiphar's wife notice about Joseph, and what did she do about it (6-7)? Summarize Joseph's response to her (8-9). How did this situation persist (10)? What was the climax (11-18)?
- How did Potiphar respond to his wife's version of the story (19-20)? What was prison life like for Joseph (20-23)? Notice that "success in everything he did" followed him from mansion life to prison life. What does this tell you about his faith? Ask God to grant you faith to handle success the way Joseph did. What fruit in your life would indicate that the Lord is answering this prayer?

**Day Two: 1 Kings 10:14—11:13**

- Describe the amount and sources of gold Solomon received each year (10:14-15)? What did Solomon make with the Gold, and where did he put these items (16-17)? Describe the throne (18-20). What about all the other items in the palace (21)? And the trading ships, chariots, and horses (22, 26, 28-29)?
- Compare Solomon to other kings of his time (10:23). Describe the way people sought him out (24-25). What did he make plentiful (27)? How does it feel to read about "Solomon's splendor"?
- What tarnished Solomon's success (11:1-3)? How did his wives and concubines influence him (4-8)? How did the Lord respond to all of this (9-13)? In verse 9 it says that God appeared to Solomon twice. Yet, these powerful experiences did not keep Solomon from turning away from the Lord. Why do you think so? Do you doubt your ability to stay faithful to God during times of success? Pray for protection from such a downfall.

**Day Three: Matthew 13:1-23**

- What is the setting of this text (1-2)? In the parable, describe the four types of soil the farmer sows upon, and the respective outcome of each (4-8).
- What did the disciples then ask Jesus (10)? Summarize Jesus' response (11-17). Do any parts of his explanation confuse you? Why? Which part makes you want to draw closer to Jesus? Why?
- Summarize Jesus' explanation of the parable (19-23). Which seed-soil scenarios describe a failure to deeply internalize faith in God? Which ones speak to an inability to faithfully handle setbacks? Which convey the power of tempting environmental factors? Finally, what does the last scenario teach you about the faith life of someone who trusts in God's provision? Pray for yourself, your church, and others: that each of you "hear the word and understand it." How would this impact the world?

**Day Four: Luke 22:1-6**

- What holiday was approaching (1)? What did the chief priests and teachers of the law want to do (2)? Why (2)? How does Satan come into play in this situation (3)? Do you think this was the first time Satan entered Judas? Why or why not?

- Six days prior to this event, in John 12:6, Judas is described as a thief. A pattern of succumbing to temptation and failing to internalize faith in Jesus – even when in his very midst, witnessing great miracles – characterized Judas' life. Why do you think this befalls some people? How can you prevent it in your own life? Ask God to inspire you with one or two ideas. Pray for power and grace to walk out these preventative measures.
- After Satan entered him, what did Judas then do (4)? What did the leaders think of Judas' idea (5)? To what did they all agree (5-6)? What opportunity did Judas then seek out (6)? Imagine this scene in your mind's eye. How does it make you feel?

#### **Day Five: Ephesians 3:14-21**

- Before whom does Paul kneel as he begins this prayer (14)? What does he pray would be the source of our strength and empowerment (16)? Via whom (16)? Where should this strength and empowerment reside (16)? What will this accomplish (17)?
- In what are we rooted and established (17)? What does such rootedness allow us to grasp and to know (18-19)? What is unique about God's brand of love (19)? All of this rooting, grasping, and knowing results in what, exactly (19)? Begin to regularly pray this for yourself. How might fully grasping God's love and being filled with his presence increase your faith to handle strife?
- What is God able to do (20)? How (20)? Ask God to astound you like this in just one area of your life. What do you sense him speaking in return? What is Paul's prayerful vision for how the church should esteem Christ (21)? What is a new or magnified way *you* can give Jesus glory? Where do you see this echoed throughout other generations? Thank God for such unity in Christ.