

## Study Guide

**Pray:** Pray that God will show you something new in His Word and that you will be fully present as you consider these questions.

**Read:** Begin by reading Genesis 41 straight through, as you would read the chapter of any book. Read it a second time (it's only one chapter!)

### Questions:

1. More surprises and more dreams - was there anything one particular thing that impacted you personally in Genesis 41 this week?
2. Joseph had proven accurate in receiving dream interpretations from God (read Chapter 40 if you missed that last week) but his gift of interpretation was not known to Pharaoh. Who did Pharaoh think could give him answers?
3. What was unusual about Joseph's first words in response to Pharaoh's request?
4. a. Joseph tells Pharaoh that the dreams relate to the same matter, why did he say the dream was repeated / confirmed?  
  
b. How might that repeating / confirmation be important when we interpret something as instruction or a message from God?
5. Joseph went on (vs.33-36) to offer very practical, tangible and operational advice to Pharaoh – where might he have learned these management skills?

6. In v. 40 Joseph is given quite the promotion – from dirty, unshaven prisoner in the morning to second in command in the land by afternoon with the Pharaoh’s signet ring, robes of fine linen and a gold chain .....and it was all gifted / given to him. Joseph didn’t have a great legal team fighting against injustice, a political campaign, lobbying or any craftiness to end up in a position of favor. How does that encourage us and give us hope?
  
7. Joseph is given a name by Pharaoh and given a socialite Egyptian wife – what are the clues that he did not fully assimilate into Egyptian culture and maintained his Hebrew culture and beliefs? (v.51)
  
8. What are some of the pressures we feel to assimilate into worldliness and the surrounding culture? What are the dangers of this, and how can we prevent it?

These next two questions are intentionally the same as last week – like any relationship, the more time we spend with someone, the more we learn about them.

9. a. Joseph’s life had enormous ups and downs...but he maintained his integrity and faithfulness to those in authority and to God. What words would you use to describe Joseph in chapter 41?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. Are the descriptors you gave for Joseph in Genesis 41 words that could be said of you?

Psalm 37 was written by David and is a psalm contrasting the wicked with the righteous. Read and pray these verses from Psalm 37:5-9 for yourself.

- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him, and he will act.
- <sup>6</sup> He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,  
and your justice as the noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;  
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,  
over the man who carries out evil devices!
- <sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!  
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.
- <sup>9</sup> For the evildoers shall be cut off,  
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.