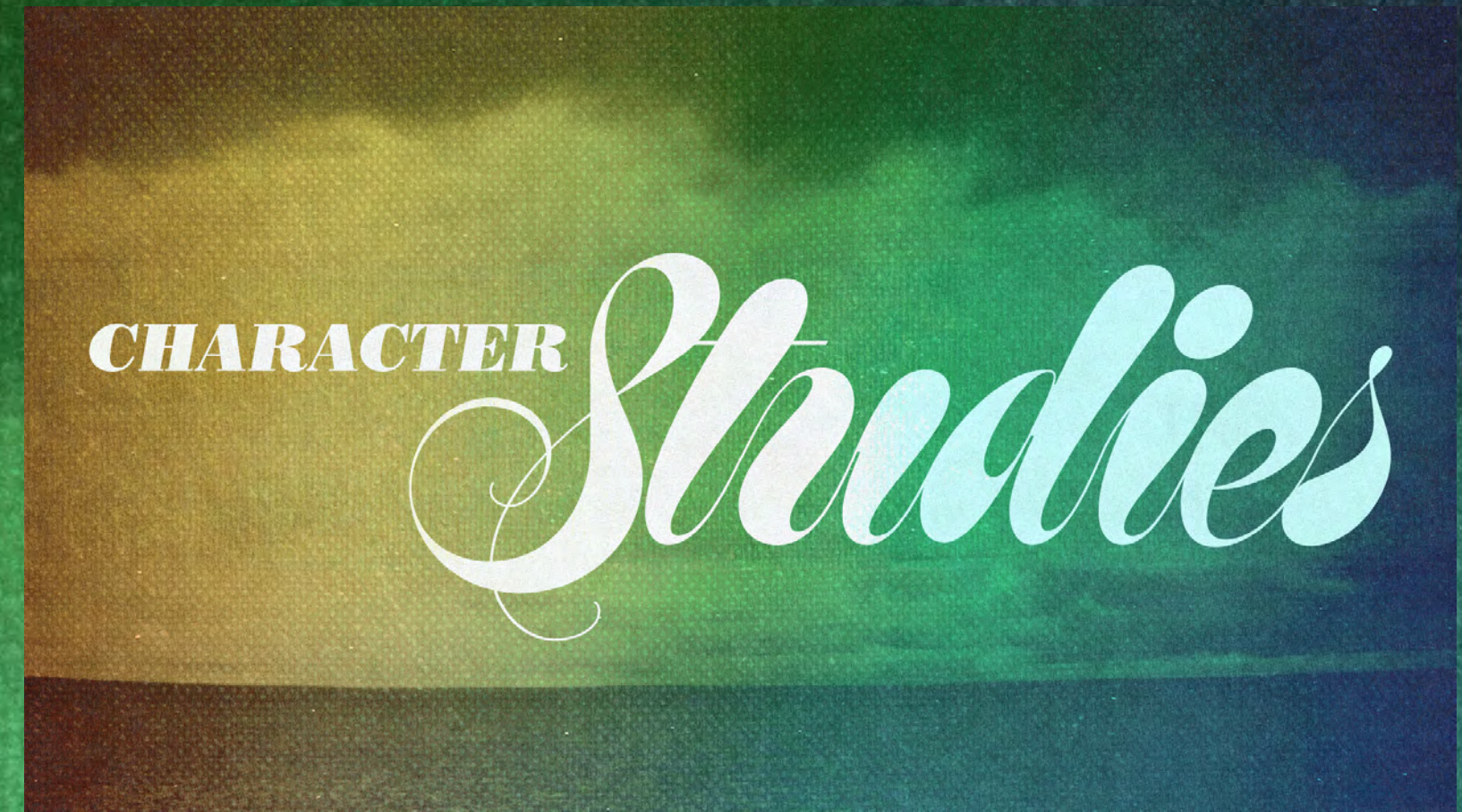




Character Studies

Week 2

Joseph

Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp — Reston Bible Church — Sunday, July 19, 2026

So he (Jacob) said to him (Joseph), “Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring me word.”

Genesis 37:14 ESV

“Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers listened to him.

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.

Genesis 37:27-28 ESV

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.

Genesis 39:1 ESV

The Lord Was With Joseph

The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. His master saw that the Lord was with him and that **the Lord caused all that he did to succeed** in his hands.

The Lord Was With Joseph

So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him **overseer of his house** and put him in charge of all that he had.

The Lord Was With Joseph

From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field.

The Lord Was With Joseph

So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge,
and because of him he had no concern about
anything but the food he ate.

Genesis 39:2-6 ESV

...the Lord caused all that he did to succeed
in his hands.

Genesis 39:3 ESV

Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

Genesis 39:6 ESV

Joseph Obeyed God

And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house,

Joseph Obeyed God

and he has put everything that he has in my charge. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?”

Genesis 39:7-9 ESV

Obedience Does Not Always Equal Immediate Reward

Then she laid up his garment by her until his master came home, and she told him the same story, saying, “The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to laugh at me.

Obedience Does Not Always Equal Immediate Reward

But as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment beside me and fled out of the house.” As soon as his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, “This is the way your servant treated me,” his anger was kindled.

Obedience Does Not Always Equal Immediate Reward

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.

Genesis 39:16-20 ESV

The Lord Was With Joseph

But **the Lord was with Joseph** and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison.

The Lord Was With Joseph

Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. 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.

Genesis 39:21-23 ESV

Some time after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker committed an offense against their lord the king of Egypt. And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker,

and he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined. The captain of the guard appointed Joseph to be with them, and he **attended** them. They continued for some time in custody.

Genesis 40:1-4 ESV

Attended – to be a servant to

Joseph Was Forgotten

Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Genesis 40:23 ESV

After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed...

Genesis 41:1 ESV

Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, “I remember my offenses today. When Pharaoh was angry with his servants and put me and the chief baker in custody in the house of the captain of the guard,

we dreamed on the same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own interpretation. A young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard.

When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation to each man according to his dream. And as he interpreted to us, so it came about. I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged.”

Genesis 41:9-13 ESV

**Joseph answered Pharaoh, “It is not in me;
God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.”**

Genesis 41:16 ESV

**Now therefore let Pharaoh select a discerning
and wise man, and set him over the land of
Egypt.**

Genesis 41:33 ESV



Faithful

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 ESV

Servants of Christ – under the authority of Christ

Stewards of the mysteries of God – manager, responsible party

Faithful – worthy of responsibility of trust

Everyone Faces Tests In Life

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4 ESV

Our Response To Tests Matters

God Rarely Reveals His Plan In Advance

What If You Have Failed The Test?