Conversation Starters

- Did you make goals for 2021?
- How are you doing with your goals so far?

Discuss

Joseph could be trusted because he was a man of integrity. Integrity is who you are when no one is looking.

"... he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned.... Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn't worry about a thing." (<u>Genesis 39:4,6, NLT</u>)

- Is there someone you look up to because of their integrity?
- Why is it important?

Integrity is not a matter of willpower, but choice. It's not something you do, but someone you are. Joseph demonstrated this over and over again against strong temptation.

Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, and Potiphar's wife soon began to look at him lustfully. "Come and sleep with me," she demanded. But Joseph refused...She kept putting pressure on Joseph day after day, but he refused to sleep with her, and he kept out of her way as much as possible. (<u>Genesis 39:6b-8a, 10, NLT</u>)

- Have you ever had your integrity strongly tested?
- How did you respond?
- Would you change anything about it if you could do it over again?

Authentic integrity that God blesses and arrests the world's attention is found in having a deep sense that there is a God and you live your entire life before His very eyes - even your most private moments.

"How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God." (<u>Genesis 39:9, NLT</u>)

- Do you have a sense that God sees everything you do?
- How would this change how you live your life?
- What would living like this mean for the true quality of your life?



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Next Steps

Joseph's integrity served him in the short-term, but more importantly, it served him in the long-term. Joseph made a decision to invest in his spiritual life with integrity and it paid off. How are you or can you be investing in your spiritual life?

Jan. 16: <u>Habitat for Humanity</u>
Jan. 19: <u>Money God's Way</u>
Jan. 20: <u>The Grounds Online Book Club: "A Mind for God"</u>
Jan. 25: <u>Game Time Online</u>

Continued Reading

Read <u>Genesis 39:1-20</u>. For Joseph's full story, read Genesis chapters 37 and 39-50.

Prayer

God, you see everything that we do. You know better than anyone who we are and how we are living. Thank you for loving us still and for the grace you show us each day. Thank you for the life of Joseph and preserving it so we can learn from it. Help us to have a deep sense of your watch on our life and to choose to honor you with everything we say and do, even when no one else is looking and we may be tempted to fall.



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