

August 16 | Sunday
Facing the Unexpected with Joseph
[Genesis 45:3-7](#)



17 | Mon – An Unexpected Trip | Read [Genesis 37:1-36](#)

The story of Joseph is one of the most readable, entertaining and moving stories in the Bible. This young man, full of big dream, had his life interrupted in an ugly way when his brothers' hatred resulted in him being sold as a slave and taken to a foreign country. Do you believe that God can still guide your life in spite of difficult family issues? How can you show God that you trust him in every circumstance?

18 | Tue – An Unexpected Imprisonment | Read [Genesis 39:1-22](#)

Joseph acted honorably toward his master, refusing to betray Potiphar's trust in him. The result was prison. Yet, even there Joseph distinguished himself as a man of character earning the trust of the jailor. What inner choices do you think Joseph had to make to maintain his integrity in the face of injustice? Are you willing to pay the price it may cost to refuse unexpected temptations that would compromise your character?

19 | Wed – An Unexpected Opportunity | Read [Genesis 40:1-23](#)

How could Joseph escape his predicament as a foreign slave, imprisoned unjustly by one of Egypt's elite? His story took a turn when two of Pharaoh's trusted servants were jailed in his prison. Joseph's response? He allowed God to use him to encourage these fellow prisoners. How often do we look at others only in terms of how they can help us be successful? Instead, find ways to bless and serve those around you in any way you can.

20 | Thu – An Unexpected Promotion | Read [Genesis 41:1-45](#)

Two years later, Pharaoh called for Joseph after hearing about his ability to interpret dreams. When questioned, Joseph clearly stated that only God could and would give Pharaoh the interpretation. Day-by-day choices had formed Joseph's character. What choices will you make today to build the character God wants you to have?

21 | Fri – An Unexpected Reunion | Read [Genesis 42:1-11, 44:18 - 45:15](#)

Imagine yourself in Joseph's place when his brothers appeared before him to purchase food during the famine. How do you respond when you have the power to take revenge on someone who has hurt you? Joseph had the ability to see that God was at work, even in the most difficult of circumstances. Can you find strength to forgive those who have wounded you deeply? Can you trust that God's purposes will not be thwarted by others more powerful than you?

22 | Sat – Expecting God | Read [Genesis 49:29-30, 50:1-26; Hebrews 11:21-22](#)

Joseph, and his father Jacob, never forgot God's promise that their people's future lay outside of Egypt. Through all of life's unexpected twists and turns, Joseph kept God as a fixed point, the one source of certainty in an uncertain world. His last faith request was "God will certainly bring you out of this land...you must bring up my bones out of here." Ask God to help you expect with trust that God's purposes will be fulfilled in your life.

August 23 | Sun – The Miracle of Pentecost | Read [Acts 2:1-4, 14-21](#)

