# Joseph and Leadership

St Mary's Homegroup studies Autumn 2017, Number 2.



# **Temptations and Dreams**

Two opening questions:

What are the main temptations that Christians have to deal with?

What are the ways in which Christians deal with temptation?

# Read Genesis 39: 1-19

- 1. Briefly recap the story of Joseph so far.
- 2. How is Joseph able to survive his major setback in life?
- 3. Why does Potiphar promote Joseph to be in charge of his household?
- 4. How does Joseph react to Potiphar's wife's suggestion?
- 5. Was Joseph tempted by Potiphar's wife?
- 6. What would have been the consequences if Joseph had succumbed to Potiphar's wife?
- 7. What were the reasons Joseph gave for not agreeing to her suggestion?
- 8. What were the consequences for Joseph in taking the course of action that he did?

- 9. What other temptations and sins have we seen in Joseph's story so far?
- 10. Does doing the right thing always have a happy outcome?

# Read Genesis 41: 14-39

Joseph's up and down life continues. After being thrown into jail following the incident at Potiphar's house he had an up and down time there, and now suddenly finds himself brought out of the dungeon and before Pharaoh.

- 1. Compare the Joseph of Chapter 37 with Joseph now. Changes?
- 2. Who does Joseph say is responsible for his ability at dream interpretation?
- 3. Having interpreted the dream what does Joseph suggest that Pharaoh should do?
- 4. How would you feel if you were Joseph at the end of this passage?

### **Extension study**

We are rapidly approaching Harvest Festival time. Imagine you are Joseph in 2017. How would you interpret the seven years of plenty and seven of famine for us today?

#### Resources

The sermons on Joseph are now appearing on the benefice website, and are worth listening to before, during or after your study: <a href="http://www.wychertvale.org/joseph-autumn-2017/">http://www.wychertvale.org/joseph-autumn-2017/</a>