

**DREAMS AND DETOURS**  
*Lessons from the Life of Joseph*

**MAKING THE BEST OF THE WORST**

Genesis 39:1-6      Jeff Schreve

*Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there.  
Genesis 39:1*

**Are you facing the lemons of life in a place called rock bottom?**

**1. Rock bottom causes us to evaluate our lives.**

A. At rock bottom, you will experience many emotions.

*And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 1 Corinthians 2:3*

B. At rock bottom, you will have lots of questions.

*Some things are hidden. They belong to the LORD our God. But the things that have been revealed in these teachings belong to us and to our children forever. We must obey every word of these teachings. Deuteronomy 29:29 GW*

C. At rock bottom, you will have a choice: bitter or better?

*Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. Revelation 12:19*

**2. Rock bottom creates an environment for God's grace.**

*But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."*

*James 4:6*

A. At rock bottom, you can choose to accept your situation.

*"Faith is not primarily receiving from God what you want. It is accepting from God what He gives." Adrian Rogers*

B. At rock bottom, you can choose to trust the Lord.

*And the Lord was with Joseph .... Genesis 39:2*

C. You can choose to bloom where you are planted.

*"Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out." Coach John Wooden*

**3. Rock Bottom becomes a launching pad for greater things.**

*And the LORD was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. Now his master saw that the LORD was with him and how the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand. So Joseph found favor in his sight, and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he owned he put in his charge. Genesis 39:2-4*

A. At rock bottom, God wants to teach you and grow you.

*Teach me Your way, O Lord .... Psalm 27:11*

B. At rock bottom, God wants to bless you and use you.

*And it came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house, and over all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the LORD'S blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field. So he left everything he owned in Joseph's charge; and with him there he did not concern himself with anything except the food which he ate. Genesis 3:5-6*

**Rock bottom is a test to see if you will still be faithful.**