

7 Steps to Honor

Gen. 39:1-10, Luke 14:7-11

“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”
—Luke 14:11

Step 1. Godly **influence**—We know God.

The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. —Gen. 39:2

- Joseph had godly **roots**, but...
- One cannot depend on **parent’s** faith.
- God has no **grandchildren**.
- Joseph had his own intimate **relationship** God.

Step 2. Business **fidelity**—Be faithful in little.

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?”

--Luke 16:10-11

⁶So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. —Gen. 39:6

Faithful in little leads to faithfulness in **abundance**.

We must be faithful with earthly riches before being entrusted with **true riches**.

Step 3. Resistance of **temptation**—Be trustworthy when alone.

No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?” --Gen. 39:9

“Power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men.” —Lord Acton, 19th century.

Step 4. Divine **Favor**—Receive power and favor of God.

The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered, --Gen. 39:2

The LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. —Gen. 39:21

The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did. —Gen. 39:23

Step 5. **Providential** circumstances—Allow God to provide opportunity.

Some time later, the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt offended their master, the king of Egypt. —Genesis 40:1

After they had been in custody for some time, each of the two men ... had a dream the same night... —Genesis 40:4, 5

- **Luck** did not bring the cupbearer and baker to prison.
- **Coincidence** did not bring dreams while they slept.

- You may be striving to be **faithful** in the most **difficult** circumstances.
- Providential circumstances are right around the **corner**.
- Be on the alert for God's **opportunity**.

Step 6. **Honoring** God—Give God the glory

I cannot do it [interpret the dream], but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires. —Genesis 41:16

- Joseph does not say, “**I can** interpret dreams.”
- True humility recognizes that we can do all things **only** through the Lord.

Step 7. Divine **Revelation**—God uses and honors you.

So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.” —Genesis 41:41

Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. —Genesis 41:46

- The 7 steps of honor took **13** years in Joseph's life.
- 13 Years is both miraculously **short** and eternally **long**.

Memory Verses:

November 5:

The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. —Genesis 39:2

November 12:

“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” —Luke 14:11