

“Some time later, Reuben returned to get Joseph out of the cistern. When he discovered that Joseph was missing, he tore his clothes in grief. Then he went back to his brothers and lamented, “The boy is gone! What will I do now?” Then the brothers killed a young goat and dipped Joseph’s robe in its blood. They sent the beautiful robe to their father with this message: “Look at what we found. Doesn’t this robe belong to your son?” Genesis 37:29-32 NLT

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The dreamer versus the schemers. These are the odds stacked against a dreamer. Yet, what the brothers meant for evil, God used for good - a lot of good! Saving a nation from starvation kind of good. The full circle came around many years later when Joseph said, “But don’t be upset, and don’t be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives.” Genesis 45:5 NLT. The dreamer had many years of cycles where he was first a slave then a master, first a prisoner then a ruler. He went from pit to Potiphar, then from prison to palace. God’s favor went before him and protected him. His circumstances prepared him. Joseph and his family was blessed, but he also had favor that moved him through life, starting at the bottom and being asked to serve at the top. There was a big difference between the dreamer and the schemers. When Joseph sent his brothers back to get their Dad and their families he said something so interesting, he scolded them and said, “Don’t quarrel about all this along the way!” Genesis 45:24 NLT. He knew he had changed, but his brothers may have still struggled with petty positioning and posturing which is exactly what caused them to want to kill the dreamer in the first place. Do I want to be a dreamer or a schemer? What if Joseph had given in to Potiphar’s wife’s invitation? What if Joseph had given up in prison?

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Dad,

You know where I’m at right now in this season of my life. And only you know what the future holds. I have had a rough three years and only this year has been a year of rebuilding my life. My confidence was crushed, my hopes and dreams were dashed. Heartache and frustration seemed to be everywhere I looked. I know that I have been blessed even through the toughest circumstances of loss, yet I look for your favor. I look for your favor where my life makes sense and things work for your Kingdom not mine.

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rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root