

JOSEPH'S INTEGRITY.

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Integrity means to be upright, of good character.**
- B. Joseph faced many trials, yet he maintained his integrity.**
 - 1. **Genesis 39:9** reveals his integrity.
 - 2. Our character/integrity shines through when we reject temptations.

DISCUSSION: FROM THIS LESSON WE OBSERVE...

I. JOSEPH'S GREAT FAITH.

- A. His faith revealed by his actions (**Genesis 39:9; 45:5**).**
- B. By faith he looked to God's promise of Canaan and desired that his bones should rest there (**Hebrews 11:22; Genesis 50:4-5; Exodus 13:19; Joshua 24:32**).**

II. JOSEPH'S SELF-CONTROL.

- A. In Potiphar's house (**Genesis 39:6-12**). He was prepared to say no to the temptation.**
- B. In the manner in which he dealt with his brothers (**Genesis 42:6-8**).**
- C. Self-control should be our characteristic as well (**1 Corinthians 9:25; 2 Peter 1:6**).**
- D. We must FLEE and ABSTAIN from temptations (**1 Corinthians 6:18; 1 Peter 2:11**).**

III. JOSEPH'S LOVE FOR HIS BROTHERS.

- A. His countenance demonstrated his heart (**Genesis 45:1-8**).**
 - 1. God had shown him mercy (**Genesis 39:20-23**).
 - 2. He realized God's mercy toward him. Thus, he was merciful to others (**Psalms 18:25; Matthew 5:7**).
- B. We must have the desire to forgive those who seek forgiveness.**
 - 1. We are even to go to those that have sinned (**Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1-2; Galatians 2:11**). Note the word mending in **Matthew 4:21**.
 - 2. A demonstration of love.
- C. How often? As often as one will repent (**Luke 17:3-4**).**

IV. CONCLUSION:

- A. Joseph never forgot God. Even when in a foreign land, in difficult circumstances.**
- B. My integrity must demonstrate these things as well.**
 - 1. Great faith.
 - 2. Self-control.
 - 3. Love for those who may have done us wrong.