Genesis 40:1-41:57 – Forgotten By Man, Remembered By God

Big Idea: “The two agents most responsible for who you are and what your life is like are you and God.”

1. Pastor Kevin said, “Joseph is the most exemplary character in Genesis” (e.g. 41:37-38). He also reminded us that “Character is who you are when no one is looking.” What helped to shape Joseph’s character and how might his life have been different without his growth in character?

2. Pastor Kevin pointed out that Joseph knew how to live and work in a culture not his own and yet not lose or compromise his faith and personal identity (e.g. 41:37-57). What do you personally find to be most challenging about living in that same tension today? Have you found any resources or supports particularly helpful as you seek to live faithfully in that tension?

3. What do Joseph’s life and story reveal about the nature and extent of God’s sovereign control (e.g. 41:32 and the repeated doubling of dreams and dream accounts)? (And/or) What does Joseph’s story teach us regarding how God’s sovereign work in history at large connects with his sovereign work in our lives (particularly as God’s people)?

4. God’s sovereign plan involved a repetition of exaltation and humiliation in Joseph’s life. How can his story help us to interpret both the successes and the “pits” in our lives?

5. How do we thoughtfully apply God’s sovereignty as we seek to minister to others, especially when they are in a place of pain or difficulty?

6. Pastor Kevin said, “People will forget you (e.g. cupbearer, 40:23). God will not.” Are there times when you have felt or been forgotten by people, but seen how God has remembered you? What other passages or verses of Scripture do you look to remind yourself that God will not forget you? What other ways do you fight to keep God’s steadfast presence and concern for you in mind?