



**Haven Community Church
Pastor Jack D. Cohen – June 13, 2010**

“I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other in the Lord....Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”
– Philippians 4:2-9 (NIV)

Average Joseph: Chaotic Character

I. Orderly character in chaos

“Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.”
– Romans 5:3-4 (NIV)

• Focus on the presence of God, not the presents of God (Genesis 39:2-5)

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.”
– Psalm 51:17 (NIV)

– Changes attitude from pride & arrogance to brokenness & humility

• Have faith in God for who he is, not what you see him doing (Genesis 39:2-3)

“You never saw him, yet you love him. You still don't see him, yet you trust him—with laughter and singing. Because you kept on believing, you'll get what you're looking forward to: total salvation.”
– 1 Peter 1:8-9 (NIV)

– Joseph lived in obedience for relationship NOT for riches

• Best preparation for success in the future is do what you're doing now, well (Genesis 39:3)

“David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth." But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you.”
– 1 Samuel 17:32-37 (NIV)

– God will bless you & those around you when you use your giftedness for Him

– God will use what you trust in to trust Him

II. Steps to protect & preserve character

• Let your faith be known to those around you (Genesis 39:3)

“When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did ,”
– Genesis 39:3 (NIV)

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden...In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”
– Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

– You are flavor, preserver, guider to Jesus

• Keep busy (Genesis 39:2-6)

“Now we learn that some of you just loaf around and won't do any work, except the work of a busybody.”
– 2 Thessalonians 3:11 (CEV)

• Seek contentment not happiness

“...for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.”
– Philippians 4:11a-12 (NIV)

– God never promised happiness but joy

• Have integrity, take responsibility & open up to hope

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
– Proverbs 29:11 (NIV)