

Genesis 40 Bible Devotions

❑ **Monday - Ministry in Every Situation.** Genesis 39:20-40:8
Joseph's "prison ministry" was an inside job, but then some of God's greatest works are in the most humble circumstances. There is absolutely no place on earth where some kind of ministry to others is not possible. Read Phil. 1:12-14

❑ **Tuesday - Fire that Softens.** Genesis 40:5-8
"[Joseph] asked Pharaoh's officials who were with him in confinement in his master's house, 'Why are your faces so sad today?'" (Gen. 40:6-7). Despite being rejected by his brothers, sold into slavery, falsely accused, and thrown into prison, Joseph was not consumed by self-pity, but could yet feel for others. The same fires that harden the steel, soften the wax. So it is, the fires of affliction harden some hearts yet soften others. "Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" (Job 2:10). Read Romans 12:15; Philippians 2:4

❑ **Wednesday - A More Sure Word.** Genesis 40:9-19
God spoke to two unregenerate Egyptian prisoners in their dreams. But the New Covenant people of God have the prophetic word made more sure (2 Pet. 1:19); that is, the inspired and inerrant written Word of God (2 Tim. 3:16). Read Jer. 14:14, 23:25; Col. 2:18; 2 Tim. 2:15

❑ **Thursday - Joseph's Defense.** Genesis 40:14-15
"Only keep me in mind when it goes well with you, and please do me a kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this house. For I was in fact kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing that they should have put me into the dungeon" (Gen. 40:14-15). Joseph does not impugn his brothers who had sold him into slavery, nor Potiphar's wife who had falsely accused him, but mildly states his innocence. "When we are called on to clear ourselves, we should carefully avoid, as much as may be, speaking ill of others. Let us be content to prove ourselves innocent, and not upbraid others with their guilt" (Matthew Henry). Read Job 16:19

❑ **Friday - Hope Disappointed.** Genesis 40:14-23
Joseph said to Pharaoh's cupbearer, "Only keep me in mind when it goes well with you, and please do me a kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this [prison]" (Gen. 40:14). But we read, "Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him" (Gen. 40:23). How apt those who are themselves at ease to forget others in distress. Joseph learned by his disappointment to trust in God only. We cannot expect too little from man, nor too much from God (Matthew Henry). Read Psalm 42:11