

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 2

Law/Gospel

I sin when I do not want to live out my vocation or forget that God is with me in my troubles; these sins, like all sin, condemn me to eternal death.

Nevertheless, God is with me in all my troubles and offers me and all who sin His steadfast love and mercy for the sake of His Son, Jesus.

Bible Words

But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Genesis 39:21

Vocation

Work or social roles God “calls” us to do by using the gifts, skills, and talents He gives us.

Dig Deeper

Want to find out more about God’s help in troubled times? Read **James 1** and **1 Peter 1** in the New Testament.

Joseph’s Troubles

Genesis 39

Joseph’s life took a dramatic turn when his brothers sold him as a slave. Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh’s guard in Egypt, bought him and the Lord gave Joseph success. Soon, Potiphar made Joseph overseer of his house and all he owned.

But Joseph ended up in jail after a dispute with Potiphar’s wife. Still, God did not abandon Joseph. God showed him steadfast love and gave him favor with the prison keeper, who put Joseph in charge of the prison. The Lord gave success to everything Joseph did.

From favorite son to lowly prisoner, Joseph’s life seemed off course. But God was still at work and He did not abandon Joseph.

We live in a sinful world and the Bible clearly says we will have troubles and trials. Sometimes, we wonder why God doesn’t intervene, but we don’t always see God’s work. The Lord promises to help all who call on Him (Psalm 50:15). And our God, who gave up His own Son for us, loves us. He will not abandon us. He answers prayer. He acts.

What Is a Vocation?

God is at work in the world through people, as we see in Joseph’s life. Each person serves others and the world as we use vocations the Lord gives us in our relationships, families, and communities. And yes, God even uses the vocations of unbelievers, such as the keeper of the prison.

Farmer, engineer, nurse, teacher, and politician are vocations, but a vocation may also be a role, such as parent, son, daughter, brother, sister, student, wife, and husband.

God wants us to use our vocations to share His love with others. With the Holy Spirit’s help, how can you serve the Lord and use your gifts in your vocations?

Prayer

Lord God, thank You for caring for us and for loving us. Keep us in Your grace, even in days of trouble, and help us trust You for all of our needs. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

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