**Having a Plan for Purity**

## God Meant it for Good- A study of the life of Joseph-(Part 3)****(Pastor Pastor John Mulligan)****

## Genesis 39:1-12****(ESV)****

Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there.  (2)  The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master.  (3)  His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands.  (4)  So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had.  (5)  From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field.  (6)  So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.  (7)  And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me."  (8)  But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge.  (9)  He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"  (10)  And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her.  (11)  But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house,  (12)  she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house.

**1) The power of Temptation**

* **Often rises up in the midst of success and spiritual favor (Vs. 1-6)**
* **Often reaches out by surprise and sustained with fervor (Vs. 7-10)**
* **Often rationalized as a secret and sensible....even deserved (Vs. 11)**

**2) The power OVER temptation**

* **He had conviction before crisis (Vs. 7-8a)**
* **He knew love involved loyalty (Vs. 8b-9a)**
* **He was shocked over sin (Vs. 9b)**
* **He had sense to avoid the source (Vs. 10)**
* **He knew retreat was better than defeat (Vs. 11-12)**