

God's Call On Your Life

LIFE with Purpose

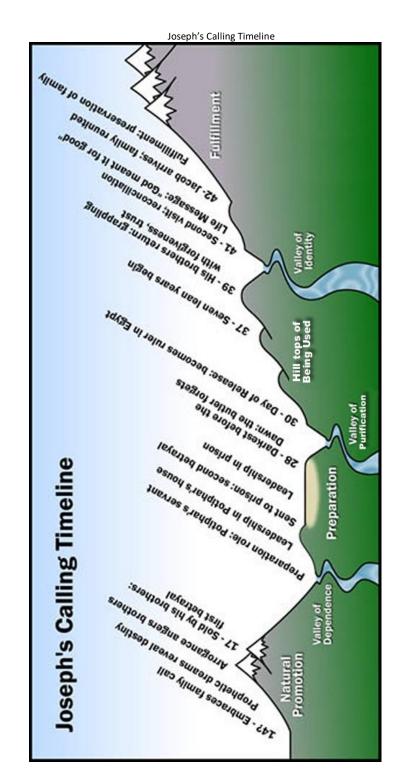
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There is no greater adventure or life better lived than the one used to make much of God

For Young Adults



Introduction

Previously we discussed how we are uniquely "crafted by God" and that every God given detail is there for a purpose. We finished our time considering that some characteristics can be our own doing and outside of God's design and therefore need to be removed.

Last time, we considered the stages in Moses' life and how God's personal dealing with him to strip him of self confidence, build him up and finally use him are easily seen in the 40-40-40 years of his life

STAGE 1: 40 Years in his own natural ability

STAGE 2: 40 Years to discover his inability

STAGE 3: 40 Years seeing God's ability and power

TONIGHT, we what to take another step and begin to consider how the calling of God is working in your life by thinking together about another example: the life of Joseph and His calling Timeline.

Let's start by reviewing the Life of Joseph emphasizing the TIMELINE OF GOD'S CALLING ON HIS LIFE

(CRONOGRAMA DEL LLAMADO DE DIOS EN SU VIDA)

Every believe has a calling: How is God calling you?

Joseph's call is early in his life and is seen in the stages of His life. We area seeing his life based on a timeline of His calling (Not life stages)

COMMITMENT TO THE LORD (COMPROMISO CON DIOS)

A timeline begins when a person fully embraces his or her place in the general calling to live as part God's people and submit to his Kingdom. For us, that means the starting point is **when accept Jesus as Savior Lord of our lives and our future** and embrace his design for our destiny.

NATURAL PROMOTION (PROMOCIÓN NATURAL)

That commitment is followed by a season of Natural Promotion where we feel we are moving rapidly upward toward our call.

- These are Joseph's teenage years, when he was the favorite son at home and experienced God's blessings.
- He could see the limitations of his natural character and spiritual gifts to some degree.
- In this season, he got a taste of what living his call would be like.
 Taking his faith seriously lead to adventures and getting a taste of what walking with God and using gifts and abilities can be like.

VALLEY OF DEPENDENCE (VALLE DE DEPENDENCIA)

It is in adversity that we discover that our natural abilities and even our spiritual abilities are not enough. **We must learn to depend wholly upon God.**

Joseph entered this stage when he was betrayed by his brothers and sold into Egypt.

- It may be a direct result of our own arrogance and inexperience (Joseph's dream did not sit well with his brothers).
- Or it is often triggered by external events beyond our control.
- God uses major difficulty and failure to form us, and we struggle and kick against those pricks to our ego.
- Eventually, we discover how much we are depending on our own strength and how deeply we need God.
- Some learn through a time of isolation that ignites an intense fellowship with God, while others get the same lesson through running from him!

The details of how it happens are unique to each person, but the valley experience is common to man.

PREPARATION STAGE (ESTAPA DE PREPRACIÓN)

As we learn to let God take control, we move out of this difficult time and into the Preparation Stage.

God takes us through Preparation as He sees fit.

(for Joseph, there was a desert experience of living under restraint, caught in the tension of yearning for God to free him while hearing him say, "Not yet". This feeling tends to be most intense at the end of the stage.

As time passes, we can wonder if we've missed our time and call and God has passed us by. Joseph's imprisonment and disappointment at being forgotten for two years by Pharaoh's butler represent that desert time.

VALLEY OF PURIFICATION (VALLE DE PURIFICACIÓN)

God uses a second difficult valley near the end of this stage to **deal with personal issues** that threaten to challenge God's plan for your life.

 This Valley of Wholeness is usually a couple of years long. In it, God commonly deals with things like marriage or relationships, life balance and other issues of brokenness.

HILL TOPS OF BEING USED (CIMA DE LAS COLINAS DE SER UTILIZADO)

This is experienced as a productive, fulfilling season, often filling a role that serves as an apprenticeship for one's calling.

- Joseph's being taken out of prison and becoming Pharaoh's second-in-man is a great example of how God moves.
- In this stage we experience the joy of finally beginning to do the thing we were made for. Joseph's first nine years as Pharaoh's second in command comprise this season on his life.

VALLEY OF IDENTITY (VALLE DE IDENTIDAD)

This additional valley represents additional areas of transformation of who we are--from preparation to becoming fully prepared and useful in God's hands.

 This stage defines more who you are and what God's is doing in and through your life

FULLFILMENT STAGE (ETAPA DE CUMPLIMIENTO)

In the BEING USED Stage, Joseph is accomplishing great things outwardly in his role. However, he is not yet fulfilling his call because that call involves his family.

- Instead of forgetting his past hurt and betrayal, Joseph must come to terms with it.
- God sends a Valley of Identity with the return of his brothers, an event which compels him to let go of being betrayed and take on his calling identity as preserver of life for his family line.

Like Joseph, at this stage, we must embrace who God has made to be, take a Big Risk and begin to move into our Fulfillment years.

SUMMARY

our map consists of four key stages of productivity and outward advancement, separated from one another by three valleys where God focuses on shaping our inward being.

Since this is a Calling Timeline and not a life stage model, it starts with when Jesus becomes Lord of your life. If you come to Christ later in life, the stages are shortened in length but still take you through the same progression.

timeline.