

## Take the Long-Term View

**Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can before we die. Period.**

**Taking the long-term view will cause you to...**

### **1. Serve others.**

When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. **Genesis 39:1-2 NLT**

Get the facts at any price, and hold on tightly to all the good sense you can get. **Proverbs 23:23 TLB**

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### **2. Work hard and get organized.**

Potiphar was furious ...So he took Joseph and threw him into the prison where the king's prisoners were held...But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the Lord made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden...[he] put Joseph in charge of...everything that happened in the prison. The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed. **Genesis 39:19-23 NLT**

### **3. Save money.**

So Pharaoh told Joseph his dream..."God has revealed to Pharaoh in advance what he is about to do. The next seven years will be a period of great prosperity throughout the land of Egypt. But afterward there will be seven years of famine so great that all the prosperity will be forgotten in Egypt. Famine will destroy the land. This famine will be so severe that even the memory of the good years will be erased. **Genesis 41:17,28b-31**

"Therefore, Pharaoh should find an intelligent and wise man and put him in charge of the entire land of Egypt. Then Pharaoh should appoint supervisors over the land and let them collect one-fifth of all the crops during the seven good years. Have them gather all the food produced in the good years that are just ahead and bring it to Pharaoh's storehouses. Store it away, and guard it so there will be food in the cities. That way there will be enough to eat when the seven

years of famine come to the land of Egypt. Otherwise this famine will destroy the land." **Genesis 41:33b-36 NLT**

Every prudent man acts with knowledge, but a fool displays folly. **Proverbs 13:16 NCV**

#### **4. Forgive others.**

"Please forgive your brothers for the great wrong they did to you—for their sin in treating you so cruelly...When Joseph received the message, he broke down and wept." **Genesis 50:17 NLT**

You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people. No, don't be afraid. I will continue to take care of you and your children." So he reassured them by speaking kindly to them. **Genesis 50:20-21 NLT**

**Message Notes: The Holy Bible, New Living Translation, New Century Version.  
*Strengthening Your Confidence*, by Rick Warren.**