

“Position” Series

Echo Church | Week 49 | December 7, 2025 | Rich Saunders Jr. |
“Positioned for Favor” | Genesis 37:3-4 (NKJV); Genesis 50:19-21 (NKJV)

Genesis 37:3 (NKJV): "Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors."

Genesis 37:4 (NKJV) But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

Genesis 50:19 (NKJV): Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for *am I* in the place of God?

Genesis 50:20 (NKJV): But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive.

Genesis 50:21 (NKJV): Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Introduction

We all want favor. We pray for it, we declare it, but do we really understand what we're asking for? Favor isn't just about getting the promotion, the open door, or the front-row parking spot. Favor is God's divine endorsement on your life that supernaturally equips you for your assignment. It's the spiritual currency that funds your purpose.

The problem is that many of us get excited about the *idea* of favor without realizing that favor has layers. It's not always comfortable. Sometimes favor feels like friction. It feels like isolation. It feels like a setback.

We have to understand that just because a situation is uncomfortable doesn't mean God's favor has been withdrawn. In fact, the discomfort is often an indicator that God is positioning you for something greater.

God's favor is not about your comfort; it's about your calling. Joseph's life shows us that every position, every wound, and every test is a calculated part of God's plan to position you for a purpose that is bigger than your pain.

Point 1: **Favor in Every Position—From the Pit to the Palace**

No matter the position, favor is still present. Favor isn't only active when things are going the way we want.

We often mistake position for purpose. We think if we're not in the palace, we don't have favor. But Joseph's journey redefines favor for us.

He had favor in the pit, favor in Potiphar's house, and favor in the prison. Favor isn't a location; it's a presence. Where God's favor is, God is. He has already gone ahead of you and rigged the situation to work for you.

The Pit (Genesis 37:24): This wasn't just a hole; it was a holding place. Favor kept him from being killed and positioned him to be sold. Rejection was just redirection.

Potiphar's House (Genesis 39:2-4): As a slave, he was put in charge of everything. Favor gave him influence in a place of servitude.

The Prison (Genesis 39:21-22): Falsely accused, he still found favor with the warden. His gift made room for him even in confinement. God was training him in management while he was in chains.

In ancient Egypt, a slave had no rights, and a prisoner was forgotten. For a Hebrew slave to rise to a position of authority in a high-ranking official's home, and then again in a royal prison, was unheard of. This wasn't just Joseph being a good worker; this was the undeniable hand of God orchestrating his rise through the system.

You might feel like you're in a pit of debt, a prison of a dead-end job, or a slave to circumstances you didn't create. Stop looking at your title and start looking for the evidence of God's hand. Are you still here? Are you still learning something? God is using your current, uncomfortable position to prepare you for your ultimate destination. Favor is working, even when you're not in charge.

Point 2: Don't Let the Wound Steal the Word

We must stop fixating on our wounds and remember the Word God spoke over our lives.

It's easy to get stuck nursing the wounds of betrayal, disappointment, and injustice. Joseph had every right to be bitter. He was betrayed by his brothers, forgotten by the cupbearer, and wronged by Potiphar's wife. But he never let his wounds silence the Word God had given him in his dreams.

His wounds never negated God's word. In fact, the wounds are proof that the Word is real. You don't get wounded in a battle you're not in. If there were no wounds, there would be no testimony of victory.

In that culture, betrayal by family was a deep and permanent shame. A false accusation of assault against the wife of a high official was a death sentence. Joseph's survival and sanity, let

alone his continued belief in a divine dream, defied all logic. He chose to trust the promise over the pain.

What wound are you holding onto? The business that failed? The relationship that ended? The person who walked away? That pain is real, but it is not your identity. Your wounds are evidence that the enemy saw the Word on your life and tried to stop it. Look at your scars not as a reminder of what you lost, but as proof of what you survived. The Word of God over your life is more powerful than the wounds of your past.

Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV): "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed."

Our Savior's wounds brought our healing; your wounds are positioning you to bring deliverance to others.

Point 3: Favor Frees—From Pain to Purpose

True favor doesn't give you the authority to be petty; it gives you the power to set people free.

The ultimate test of favor is what you do when you finally get the power you were promised. Joseph is face-to-face with the brothers who sold him. He has the power to destroy them. But favor had done a work *in* him. He doesn't use his position for revenge; he uses it for restoration.

We think a new title or a bigger office makes us unrecognizable. No, it's enduring the process of favor that changes you so profoundly that people from your past don't even know who you are anymore. What they meant for evil, God fixed it with favor.

In the ancient world, revenge was not just common; it was expected. A ruler with Joseph's power would have been seen as justified in executing those who had wronged him. His act of forgiveness and provision was a radical display of a higher law at work—the law of grace.

When God elevates you, will you use your new platform to settle old scores or to build new futures? Favor will bring you face-to-face with your past. It will test you. Will you be petty, or will you be powerful?

The goal of favor isn't to get even; it's to get free and to free others. You'll know you're walking in true favor when your response to those who hurt you is, "Don't worry about it. God has already used it for my good and for yours."

Romans 8:28 (NKJV): "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Joseph's story is a roadmap for us. The coat of favor from his father marked him for his destiny. The journey through the pit, the prison, and the palace shaped him for his destiny. And his final declaration—"you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good"—is the victory of his destiny.

Embrace the process. Don't despise the uncomfortable positions. Don't let your wounds define you. And when God elevates you, use your favor to free people. Your journey is not a series of random events; it is a divinely orchestrated path. God is positioning you, preparing you, and promoting you for a purpose you can't even imagine. Trust the favor, even when it doesn't feel favorable.

"Favor is not God giving you what you want; it's God giving you what your purpose needs."