

# GOAL SETTING

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LEARNING FROM JOSEPH: THE DREAMER, THE PRISONER, AND THE PRIME MINISTER

# WHY SETTING GOALS?

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- Goals help you know where you are and where you are going.
- Goals help you measure progress.

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- Goals give you a sense of accomplishment when you achieve one.
  - Goals give you a sense of hope when you make progress towards one.

# JOSEPH'S KEYS FOR TURNING DREAMS INTO REALITY ( GENESIS CHAPTERS 37-41)

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- KEY# 1: Desire it.
  - Desire is one of the highest powers of the soul as without desire, nothing would ever be achieved.
  - Joseph had a strong desire to be in a position where he could make a difference to the world.

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- He wanted it so strongly and thought about it so much that he even had dreams about it. (Gen 37:5-9)
  - It is for this reason that his brothers were so angry with him. They understood that it was not merely a dream; it was a clear and strong desire, they took it as he wanted to rule over them.

## KEY # 2: BE A DREAMER.

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- All significant reality begins with a dream.
- A dream is a vision that sounds and looks impossible when you measure it against your current stage in life and your past life's experiences.
- You need to make a decision that your past does not equal your future and take on things never done before

## KEY # 3: BE CAREFUL WHO YOU SHARE YOUR GOAL WITH

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- Joseph caused his brothers' increased hatred toward him by sharing his dreams with them.
- Jealousy can lead to appalling destruction. Eg. Cain and Abel. The first murder committed when there were only a few people on earth. Cain felt God's recognition of Abel took away something from him.

## KEY # 4: PICTURE YOUR DREAM ACCOMPLISHED

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- Visualize that you have already accomplished your goal
- You must believe in advance that you will reach your goal no matter what, because if you believe that success is assured, you will make maximum effort to reach goal.
- Joseph kept repeating his dream in detail in mind. It became a reality firmly existed in the mental world.

## KEY # 5: HAVE A PLAN

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- Failing to plan is planning to fail.
- You need a clear road map that will guide you on the best possible route to follow in reaching goal.
- Joseph appeared before Pharoah for one reason: to interpret his dream. But he didn't stop there.

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- Joseph knew that in order to prevent Pharoah's dream from fading away, and to ensure that they became reality, a proper and detailed action was required.
  - He advised Pharoah in great detail as to what measures were necessary to reach the goal of saving the entire region. (Gen. 41:32-36)

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- He suggested management plan that would be necessary for the plan to succeed.
  - Joseph knew that failing to have a plan would mean that this dream would fade as many dreams do.

## KEY # 6: WORK YOUR PLAN

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- A smart person draws up a precise plan of actions necessary to achieve goals, and he gets down to work.
- In other words, plan your work and then work your plan.

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- Pharoah was more impressed with Joseph's precise plan than with his interpretation of dreams. Thus, he decided right there to make Joseph as second to king.
  - Joseph was given power and duty to implement the plan of action he proposed. (Gen. 41:37-44)

## KEY # 7: HELP OTHERS ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS AND THEY WILL HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOURS.

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- All Joseph had been asked by Pharaoh was to interpret his dreams. He was not asked to provide the solution as to how to deal with the 7 years of famine/ disaster.
- Only when Joseph helped Pharaoh to achieve his goal of dealing with the famine that he reciprocated by helping Joseph fulfill his goal of becoming a ruler.

## KEY # 8: DO NOT ABANDON YOUR GOAL WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH

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- When Joseph was in a pit, became a slave, and put in prison, his goal of being a great leader seems an illusion
- Many would have given up, “Forget it. I give up. I am not cut out for success. Being successful is only for the elite. I’ll stop dreaming. At least, I won’t be disappointed”.

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- Not with Joseph. As a slave, he gave his best shot. In a short time, he was recognized by his master as a man of determination and commitment and promoted him.
  - Never allow yourself to feel a victim. Don't abandon your goal because your plans did not work out as you planned.

## KEY # 9: STICK TO YOUR MORALS AND BELIEFS AT ALL COST

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- Joseph was put to the ultimate test with Potipher's wife. He was pressured daily to break godly principle.
- Joseph stick firmly to his morals and beliefs even though he risked losing his life's ambition.

## KEY # 10: HAVE A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL

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- Joseph did not succumb to temptation because he wanted to stay true to God.
- What empowered Joseph to stick to godly principle was his bond with his father. 2 years in prison was a high price to pay but that led him to the palace.

KEY # 11: WHEN ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTIES AND SETBACKS,  
REACT BY WHAT YOU CAN LEARN AND BENEFIT FROM THEM.

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- In prison, he did not feel a victim. He saw God's providence and look for his mission there and worked to improve the conditions of others.
- He stopped focusing on what he himself needed and started focusing on what he was needed for.

## KEY # 12: BE FULLY FOCUS ON THE JOB AT HAND

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- Joseph decided to put his personal need aside and applied himself completely to the task entrusted to him
- He noticed the sad faces, interpreted their dreams. He was later commended for this gift. (Gen. 40:6-7)
- All this happened because he was fully focus on the task at hand, focus on the NOW, not past nor future.