



Bad to Badder

When life goes from bad to worse, will you simply react—or respond as if God is still with you?

Discussion Questions:

1. Were your parents reactors or responders? How did their pattern work out for them? How did it impact you?
2. What kinds of situations tend to trigger a “reactive” response in you—anger, fear, defensiveness, pride?
3. Is it difficult to imagine the events of your life are part of a bigger story?
4. Read **Genesis 40:12–14**, then **Genesis 40:23** aloud. This is when Joseph interpreted the cupbearers dream, when they were in prison together.

“This is what it means,” Joseph said to him. “The three branches are three days. Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position, and you will put Pharaoh’s cup in his hand, just as you used to do when you were his cupbearer. But when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to Pharaoh and get me out of this prison.”

Verse 23, when the cupbearer was released from prison:

The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

How can we relate to moments when others—or God—seem to forget you? Can you think of a time you felt that way? If so, share.

5. Read **Romans 8:28** aloud.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

What are the implications of Paul’s words to Christians navigating adversity?

6. Where are you reacting as expected rather than responding in a way that opens the door for an unexpected outcome?