

Joseph, Daniel, and My Sisters

by

Elise Choi

Faith of my sisters are joy and pride of my family. Our faith stems from my favorite book –the Bible. The Bible changed my heart into a kinder, more amiable soul. My favorite characters in the bible are Joseph and Daniel. Joseph and Daniel’s diligent, forgiving, and altruistic attitude is in direct contrast to my daily behaviors toward my sisters. The Bible has made me realize that for me to succeed in life, I must convert.

When Joseph forgave and still loved acrimonious brothers, I imbibed a lesson I shall never forget. I wanted to be as patient and affectionate as Joseph towards my sisters and friends; for example, if my sisters treated me harshly, I will pass it by and say, “It’s all right, I will still be tender towards you”. Also, if my friend speaks callous words, I will not long for payback; I will try my best to be friendly however irritating an individual is.

To be honest, I was the harsh and acrimonious one among my family. Both of my sisters are optimistic and plucky. Their encouragement and advice towards me were always done in a kindly manner; analogous to Jesus. Like my sister and Joseph, I want to be a motivator and counselor to folks around me when they are feeling low. My younger sister Ella not only looked on the bright side even when no one talked her at her new school but also cheered others up. But reading about Jesus’ positive influence on this world has inspired me even more; my desire to

become a great healer as a physician has solidified – I will be a person who brings joy and peace onto others!

I was further transformed by Joseph's patience. When he initially arrived in Egypt, he had an icy welcome but did not complain. When he was put in jail, no complaint was present anywhere. Amazingly, Joseph did not complain even once. I was touched by this, and I attempt to not to grumble as much to my parents.

Diligence of Joseph and my sisters has affected me solidly. They remind me to work conscientiously with effort to gain skills and knowledge. Lesson on discipline I gained from the Bible will assist me throughout my lifetime; I will work hard with all my heart to become a best physician I can be and work even harder to provide best medical service to my patients. Daniel's wisdom and knowledge that transcend above other scholars in Babylon inspired me to outshine no matter where I was; I decided to build a firm foundation of the various subjects of study and to never give up until the goal has been realized. Joseph struggled with false accusations and jealousy but did not give up. I learned that I had to continue working on my weaknesses with faith, prayer, and persistence.

Just like Joseph and Daniel, I might be scared and frightened when I arrive at a new place, but I would be ashamed to run. Daniel has taught me that courage is facing the difficulties even when I am afraid. Valor is somewhat difficult to have; facing hardships, i.e. persecutions and false accusations, may be difficult. But by facing his obstacles, Joseph overcame them. When I could not find my yo-yo, I kept on looking for it, and I found it under my parents' couch. The search was not brief, but at least I recovered it.

I also learned altruism from the Bible. Joseph's generosity toward his mean brothers encouraged me to be free-giving and sharing towards others. I am still wobbly but getting sturdier in my altruism. As I saw needy people in the streets, I told myself, "I shall divide my fortune with the penniless, they need it." That is when I have a real job. Daniel earned esteem and respect by wisdom given to him through prayers. With his good nature and complacency, Joseph won the heart of the king; he used his trivial success to help the people of Egypt and neighboring nations, and I wish to do the same for others. Using one's gift to make someone's life sunny is a great thing!

Joseph was even grateful for his abusive brothers. Daniel was also thankful under the harsh conditions, but I was usually not very thankful person. I was so selfish and self-centered that I was covered with shame when my sisters seemed to teach me. I had learned from my bible friends and sisters to appreciate all the goods that were given. I then realized that I was extremely fortunate to have my family. Unlike Joseph's brothers, I will not overlook all the sacrifices and contribution from my family and friends. Because of my family, I now know that I shouldn't take anything I have for granted.