

***Excellence or Excuses #6***  
***Excellence When You Hold All the Cards***

**I. Review**

**II. Scripture Reading: Genesis 41:40-44, 42:1-8, 45:1-11**

**III. First day in the office**

In the office  
View of the pyramids out the corner office window  
Water front view of the Nile River  
New chariot is out front with #2 on the license plate  
Gold Necklace  
A new signet ring on his finger  
He is wearing a new robe

*What would you have done?*

*What would your first acts as Vice Pharaoh have been?*

**IV. The Ultimate test**

There are two **GREAT STRUGGLES** in life when we come through a difficult time.

**#1.** Not allowing the difficulty of one season to **DESTROY** the **POTENTIAL** of the next season

Joseph has two children and they each reflect some great truth about excellence in life.

41:51 **MANASSEH** “God made me forget all my trouble in my fathers household.”

41:52 **EPHRAIM** “God has made me fruitful”

**#2.** The second great struggle is **FORGIVENESS**

**V. Long Lost relatives come for a visit. 42:1-8**

## VI. When Dreams come true

1. The brothers **BOW** before Joseph – 42:6
2. Joseph is **UNRECOGNIZED**
3. Joseph has some **LEGITIMATE** concerns – 42:7-13
4. Judah's **REPENTANT** confession – 44:15-34

## VII. Excellence or Excuses

1. Joseph reveals his **IDENTITY** – 45:1-3
2. **RECONCILIATION**
  - Come close to me – 45:4
  - Do not be afraid – 45:5
  - It was God who sent me here – 45:8
  - Joseph reunited with his father – 45:9-11

## VIII. Excellence or Excuses?

1. We must guard **PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS**.
2. When we repent we must take **RESPONSIBILITY** for our mistakes.
3. God is **SOVEREIGN** in the affairs of men.