Psalm 23:1
1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
Whatever change is happening in your life – no matter how frightening – never forget that even though you can’t see it or feel it – your Shepherd is guiding you through it.

He somehow trusted that God had a plan.

“Trust is not being afraid.”

“It means being committed to God’s purpose no matter what life throws at us.”
Isaiah 58:11

11 The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Psalm 32:8
8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

When God is leading and you are following, mountains will melt, valleys will be filled, crooked places will be straightened, rough places will be smoothed, doors will be opened, walls will fall down.

Genesis 37:
2...Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers...and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.

3 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.
4 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.

5 Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more.
6 So he said to them, “Please hear this dream which I have dreamed:
7 There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf.”
8 And his brothers said to him, “Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?” So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.
9 Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me.”
10 So he told it to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?”

Genesis 37

18 Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him.
19 Then they said to one another, “Look, this dreamer is coming!
20 Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, ‘Some wild beast has devoured him.’ We shall see what will become of his dreams!”

23 So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him.
24 Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it.
25 And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt.
26 So Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? 27 Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh.” And his brothers listened.
28 Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

HIS SHEPHERD WAS LEADING AND GUIDING HIM.

What was the worst time in Joseph’s life – God was using that to get Joseph where He needed him where he would serve a greater purpose.

A life of ease with his daddy taking care of him...
James 1: 2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,
Romans 8:28
28 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.

3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.
4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 39:1–2
1 When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt.
2 The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master.
Genesis 39:6–12
6 So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn’t worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat! Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man,
7 and Potiphar’s wife soon began to look at him lustfully. “Come and sleep with me,” she demanded.
8 But Joseph refused. “Look,” he told her, “my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God.”
10 She kept putting pressure on Joseph day after day, but he refused to sleep with her, and he kept out of her way as much as possible.
11 One day, however, no one else was around when he went in to do his work.
12 She came and grabbed him by his cloak, demanding, “Come on, sleep with me!” Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he ran from the house.

Genesis 39:21
21 But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Genesis 40:20-22 Thus it came about on the third day, which was Pharaoh’s birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants; and he lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants. He restored the chief cupbearer to his office, and he put the cup into Pharaoh’s hand; but he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had interpreted to them.

Genesis 40:23 Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.
In God's Perfect plan...until it is His perfect timing...it won't happen.

You don't WANT it to happen if God's not in it.

According to where He needs you to be.

God needed Joseph to help save Egypt and Israel from a severe famine.

God needed Joseph in Egypt.

God needed Joseph in prison.
God needed Joseph to interpret their dreams.

God needed Joseph to speak with Pharaoh.

“It is those who fight for a common goal with no immediate reward are the ones who are truly successful.”

Joseph worked every day in prison - day in and day out with no immediate results.

You have to persevere and WAIT. You have to keep fighting despite the circumstances. Because you never know when God will open that door and you will get your chance to shine.
Either way it happens – I just know God wants it to matter.