

GENESIS 45

GOD CAN FLIP ANY SITUATION

Joseph looked at the 11 men who were standing in front of him. Although they did not recognize him, Joseph knew clearly they were his brothers. He remembered the horrible day when they sold him to be a slave in Egypt.

Tears began to stream down Joseph's face as he said, "I am Joseph!" When Joseph saw how terrified his brothers were, he told them, "Come closer to me, I am your brother Joseph... Don't be worried, don't blame yourselves. It was God's plan. God sent me here ahead of you to save lives."

Joseph was so powerful in Egypt. He could just easily take revenge on his brothers. But he chose to forgive them because he had faith that God was in control of everything even in the most uncomfortable situation. God is with you just as he was with Joseph and God can easily flip those unhappy things around you into great things, just as what He did in Joseph's life.

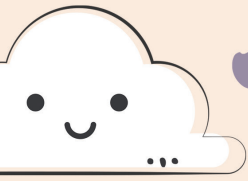
Key verse:

*Romans 8:28
We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love Him.*

Prayer

*Dear God, I forgive those people who have hurt me in the past because I know You are in control of everything I am going through.
Amen.*





GENESIS 46:1-7

MAKING DECISIONS IN GOD'S WAY

Jacob was 130 years old when he finally found out that his son Joseph was still alive and living in Egypt. He had to choose to either go to Egypt to meet his son or stay in Canaan to wait for God's promise to happen.

So, Jacob went to a place called Beersheba to pray and offer a sacrifice to God. That is where God told him not to be afraid to go to Egypt and He would bring his family back to Canaan one day. Once God told him this promise, he decided to bring his family to Egypt. Imagine, someone older than your grandparent was willing to walk for 11 days, 264 hours just to meet his beloved son!

If you are now in the middle of making a decision, just take a moment, put down everything, read your bible and pray to God. Tell Him about your problems and ask Him what you should do. He will definitely help you make the right decision.

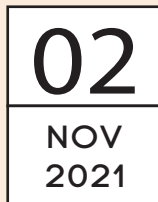
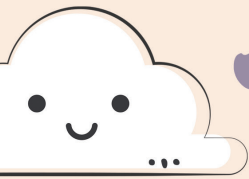
Key verse:

*Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the Lord
with all your
heart*

Prayer

*Dear God, thank
you for loving me
and please help
me to always put
my trust in You. I
believe that You
will guide me to
make the right
decision. Amen.*





GENESIS 49:1-28

A FATHER'S BLESSINGS

One day, Jacob called his sons to gather around him and he blessed them one by one. The bible tells us how Jacob spoke blessings to his children.

He compared Judah to a lion which means he was blessed with so much power;
Issachar to a donkey and he was blessed to be a strong worker;
Dan to a snake and that he would handle matters of justice for his people;
Naphtali to a deer as he was graceful;
Benjamin to a wolf because he would be blessed as a persistent and fierce person in defeating his enemies.

It shows that a father knows his children best. He knows what you are good at. When a father gives his children his blessings, he is putting them under a blanket of God's protection so that the children will be excellent in the things God wants them to do. Your parents on earth know how to bless you with so many blessings. How much more does your Father in Heaven! HIS blessings are even greater than anything the world has to offer.

Let's live each day in the blessings from our Father in Heaven.

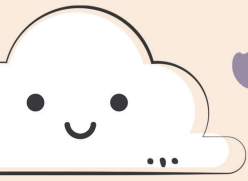
Key verse:

*Numbers 6:24
The Lord bless
you and keep
you.*

Prayer

*Dear God, thank
You for being my
loving Father who
always cares for
me. Embrace me
in Your arms and
closer to Your
heart. Amen.*





EXODUS 2:1-10

GOD'S PROTECTION

After Jacob and his children passed away, their descendants grew bigger and filled Egypt, and it made the new Pharaoh unhappy. So, he came up with an evil plan: to have all the Israelites baby boys killed.

During this time, an Israelite woman had a baby boy. When the baby was born, she hid him for three months. As the baby grew bigger, she couldn't hide him anymore so she got an idea. She placed him in a basket to float along the bank of the Nile river. Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket and she spotted the baby inside it. Not only did Pharaoh's daughter take pity on the baby, she also decided to adopt him. She even hired the baby's own mother to take care of the baby without knowing that she was the mother. This baby was Moses.

God took care of Moses and protected him. Even though there was danger everywhere else, Moses grew up safely in the very palace where Pharaoh lived. God's protection is always there, even when you don't know it. He has a great plan for you just as He did for Moses.

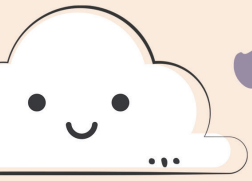
Key verse:

*Jeremiah 29:11
I have good plans for you. I don't plan to hurt you. I plan to give you hope and a good future.*

Prayer

Dear God, thank You for the amazing ways You look out for me and protect me. Show me the plans You have for me. Amen





EXODUS 3

THE UNCHANGING GOD

One fine day, Moses was out taking care of sheep and he saw a burning bush but it didn't burn up! When he got closer, a voice came out of the bush, telling him to take his shoes off because he was on a holy ground. The Voice told Moses that he would lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Moses was nervous and he asked the Voice what His name was. The Voice, who is God, said "I AM WHO I AM."

This was very special. God is so big and extraordinary that He can't have an ordinary name like Parker or Popeye. When God says that His name is I AM, it means He has no beginning and no end and He is the same yesterday, today and forever! He was telling Moses and is telling you that He is an unchanging GOD.

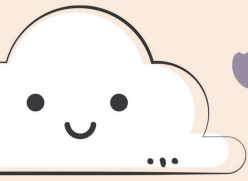
Key verse:

*Revelations 1:8
I'm The God
Who Is, The God
Who Was, and
The God About
to Arrive.*

Prayer

*Dear God, thank
you for Your
word and for
showing me who
You are. I praise
and worship You
for who You are.
Amen.*





EXODUS 4:1-17

I CAN'T, BUT GOD CAN

Moses gave God a lot of excuses when God asked him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. God showed him two signs of His power but Moses still make excuses. His biggest excuse was he could not speak as he stuttered. He feared that he would say the wrong things and he was also scared to face Pharaoh.

God knew about Moses' speech issue but yet He still asked him to do that big job because He knew that with His help Moses could do anything.

Just like Moses, we make excuses too sometimes. Is God asking you to do something and you don't think you can and you've been giving Him excuses? You only need to remember this simple sentence. GOD CAN. God has an answer for every excuse that you give Him. When He wants you to do something, He will find a way. All you have to do is be willing to let Him do what He wants in you.

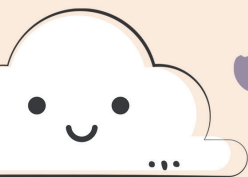
Key verse:

*Philippians 4:13
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

Prayer

*Dear God, thank You for giving me strength and confidence when I feel desperate. I can do all things through You.
Amen.*





EXODUS 7:1-13

WHO RULES YOUR HEART?

Moses and his brother, Aaron, met with Pharaoh in Egypt to ask him to let the Israelites go. Pharaoh said, "No!" because his heart was stubborn.

God instructed Moses and Aaron to perform a miracle to show God's greatness. Aaron threw his staff* and it turned into a snake. Pharaoh also commanded his men and magicians to do the same thing and they did it, too. However, Aaron's staff swallowed theirs. It showed that the power in Aaron's staff was greater than the one in Pharaoh's. However, Pharaoh's heart was still stubborn and he didn't want to let them go.

The danger of a stubborn heart is real. When someone's heart becomes as hard as a stone, it will become numb and dull to God's voice. But, when God of peace guards your heart, the peace of God will rule your heart.

Let God be the ruler over your heart. When you know that your heart is getting harder, turn to Him and let Him take over it. He will transform your heart to a new and clean heart.

*a long, straight stick, especially one used to assist in walking

Key verse:

*Hebrews 3:15
Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.*

Prayer

*Dear God,
strengthen my heart to trust You. Deliver me from being stubborn and help me to be able to listen to You and obey Your words.
Amen.*

