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DEC
2021

DEUTERONOMY 22:1-4

BE A HELPING HAND

God was telling Israelites that if they see a lost sheep or ox, do not ignore it. Instead, bring them back to the owner. If they do not know who the owner is, bring them home and wait till the owner comes and finds it. When they bring it home, it means they have to take care of the lost sheep or ox. It included giving it food, cleaning it, sheltering it to sleep etc regardless how long it takes till the owner finds it. God was teaching them on how to be a helping hand to others and also be sincere when helping.

You and I do not live alone in this society. There are times when you need a helping hand from others and there are times when you can be a helping hand to others. You can help your friends and family get through their needs and they will do the same for you. Even small gestures can mean a great impact.

Sometimes, helping others is as simple as living a sincere life. By living thoughtfully and honoring God with your words and actions, you can actually inspire someone to help themselves by doing the same.

Key verse:

*Romans 12:13
Share with the
Lord's people
who are in need*

Prayer

*Dear God, help
me to be a
helping hand to
others and even
by the smallest
thing in Your
name. Show me
how to reach
out the people
in need and love
them with Your
love. Amen.*





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2021

DEUTERONOMY 27:15-26

HONOUR YOUR DAD AND MOM

“Honor your Parents” is one of commandment from God. God makes this commandment because He highly appreciates the responsibilities of parents and wants children to honor them. Honoring them is not just obeying their rules but also treating them with so much love and respect.

Just as God sacrificed His Son, Jesus to escape His people from eternal death, parents also sacrifice so many things for their kids so they don't suffer. They might be sacrificing their time, energy, money and even hobbies to raise their kids. Take more effort and time to appreciate your parents by valuing their guidance. Respect them by avoiding disrespectful speech and actions that hurt them. Saying a simple “I love you” means a world to them!

However, you have to understand that parents on earth are humans who are far from perfect. Sometimes they make mistakes. No matter how bad the mistakes they might make, please honor your parents by being a child who breaks the cycle of mistakes (try your best not to repeat their mistakes!), pray for them and choose grace to forgive them over hate.

Key verse:

*Colossians 3:20a
Children, obey
your parents in
all things.*

Prayer

*Dear God, I pray
today that you
will help me to
honor, love and
show respect
to my parents.
amen.*





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DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

A LIFE TO LIVE

God tirelessly reminded the Israelites that God offers life and blessing. When they choose to obey God it means they choose blessing or life. But when the people disobeyed Him, it means they rejected God's good blessings by choosing to go against His laws.

You and I do have this power to choose called a free will. Free will is being able to choose between different actions. It means whatever choice you choose, it will give its consequences.

Just like God, your parents also give you a choice to choose. When you follow their rules, they normally give some rewards for example bringing you to the theme park or to your favorite restaurant. But when you disobey their rules, they might give you some punishment like no screen-time or cut-off your money pocket. It breaks your parents' heart when they have to give you a punishment. But they have to do it to correct your mistakes.

Choosing to obey your parents is like choosing life while choosing to disobey is like choosing death. You make lots of little choices every day and with Jesus' help, you can make the right choice and choose life so you can live.

Key verse:

*Deuteronomy
30:19b*

*Now choose life,
so that you and
your children
may live*

Prayer

*Dear God, please
help me to make
the right choices
and to follow
your will for my
lives. Amen.*





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DEC
2021

DEUTERONOMY 31:1-8

DON'T WORRY!

Moses was 120 years old and too old to lead Israelites to the promised land thus God had appointed someone to replace him. He was Joshua. Joshua was one of the 12 spies who checked on the promised land and he was 2 of the 12 spies who encouraged the people actually to conquer the promised land.

Changing to the new leader would be a new environment for the Israelites and also for Joshua himself. This was why Moses said to Joshua and Israelites "Be strong and brave. He will be with you. He will not leave you or forget you. Don't be afraid. Don't worry".

Are you facing some changes? Do you have to move out from your comfortable daily routines? There is a quote saying "Do not be afraid of change, because it is leading you to a new beginning". Instead of worrying, you can try to accept the challenge and look out for the new opportunity that can make you grow. If you feel afraid, remember that God knows and pray to Him and can recite what Moses's words to Joshua. It will give you strength because the God who spoke to Moses is the same as the God whom you trust now.

Key verse:

*Isaiah 12:2b
I trust him. I am
not afraid.*

Prayer

*Dear God, I am
not afraid of
some changes
that might
happen in my life
because I know
you will guide
me. I trust in You.
amen.*





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JOSHUA 2

ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS

After Moses passed away, Joshua was in charge of the Israelites. When he was preparing to enter the promised land, he sent 2 spies out to check on the city named Jericho. There, they stayed at Rahab's house. When Jericho's king found out about it, he sent his men to go to Rahab's house to catch the spies. However, Rahab hid them and said she didn't know where the spies went. The spies were saved by Rahab.

Why did Rahab save them when they were actually strangers to her?

Because Rahab heard about Israelites' God did so many great and miraculous things to protect Israelites from their enemies and she believed in their God!

Rahab's action spoke louder than her words. She went such a great length to save the spies showed she demonstrated what she believed in and showed a great devotion to God. God rewarded Rahab for her faith. When Israelites took control of Jericho, Rahab and her family were spared. Rahab married an Israelite and hundreds of years later, one of her descendants was Jesus.

Key verse:

*1 John 3:18
Dear children,
let us not love
with words or
speech but with
actions and in
truth.*

Prayer

*Dear God, let me
be the person
who glorifies
Your name. Let
my actions speak
louder than my
words. Amen.*





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JOSHUA 6:2-16

MIGHTY GOD

God promised to give them the Promised Land, and Jericho was just the beginning. However, Jericho was protected with a mighty wall that no one could come in and out of the city. They didn't have bombs and cruise missiles like armies have today.

God instructed Joshua how to attack Jericho. The priests had to blow trumpets and the Israelites had to march the Jericho wall for six days. On the seventh day, they had to march for seven times and the priest had to make a long blast on the trumpets and all the Israelites had to give a loud shout. Just before their eyes, they witnessed the city walls of Jericho collapse. They successfully took over Jericho not with violence, but only with singing, praise and obedience.

Jericho had a mighty wall that no army could overcome but Israelites had a mighty God. God is mightier than any army. Sometimes, God tells you to handle your problems in a way totally different from how you think it is supposed to be done. Try to submit totally to His way because He is a mighty God. His ways give more incredible solutions to your problems.

Key verse:

Psalm 93:4

The sound of the water is loud. The ocean waves are powerful. But the Lord above is much greater.

Prayer

Dear God, you can overcome all things for You are mighty. I want to submit to You in everything I face. Amen.





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DEC
2021

DEUTERONOMY 9:3-25

LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING

The Gibeonites found that Israelites were so close to them so they were scared. They had heard how Israelites defeated all the enemies with God's help. They decided to play a trick. They posed themselves as if they were travelers from very far away. They put on old torn clothes and patched sandals. They packed their bags with old and moldy bread to make it look like they had been on a long journey. They asked Joshua to make a peace agreement with them. Joshua without asking God, believed them and agreed to have a peace agreement. Three days after this, Israelites found out that they had been tricked by Gibeonites.

Sometimes, what you see from the outside might not be the real thing. Looks can be deceiving. There are many people who can "pose" as christian. But God said that fruit and actions show what's inside. Your life and behavior should show who you are. Let's be the light of the world that brightens up the dark world.

As a child of God, you must carefully check on what other people are trying to convince you of. For example, choosing friends. This is important to choose your friends wisely to avoid you from having bad influences that could lead you away from God.

Key verse:

*Matthew 5:14a
You are the
light that gives
light to the
world.*

Prayer

*Dear God, I seek
your wisdom so
I can be the light
in everywhere I
am and whatever
I am doing.
Amen.*

