

GENESIS 39:1-6

A CHEERFUL HEART

Due to jealousy, his brothers sold Joseph as a slave to traders and he was brought to Egypt. From there, Joseph was sold to a very important Egyptian man, Potiphar.

There is a saying “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade”. You make something good out of something bad! Instead of dwelling in his past and thinking of the pain because his brothers had sold him to other people, Joseph worked hard in the new place. He was cheerful, responsible and respectful. He probably never complained. The Bible tells that Potiphar trusted Joseph and that he put Joseph as the person in charge of everything that he had. It is like being a very responsible Class President/Class Monitor who is trusted by the form teacher!

The same thing applies when you are given some homework or tests. Instead of complaining, you should do it with a happy heart because that is what God wants you to do. When you do your work responsibly and with a cheerful heart, God's favour will be upon you and your study, your friendship and your life will be so blessed!

Key verse:

*Ephesians 6:7
Do your work,
and be happy to
do it.*

Prayer

*Dear God, I want
to always be
responsible with
my work and I
want to do it with
a cheerful heart.
I know that You
will always help
me. In the name
of Jesus, I pray.
Amen.*



GENESIS 41

YOU ARE DEEPLY BLESSED

Sometime after Joseph was put in prison, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had dreams that nobody could interpret. Later on, he was informed about Joseph who had ever interpreted a dream correctly before.

So, Joseph was called to meet with the Pharaoh. The bible tells that Joseph gave credit for his ability to interpret dreams to God. He said, "I am not able to explain the meaning of dreams. God will do this for the king."

With the wisdom from God, Joseph interpreted the dreams for Pharaoh. Not only did Joseph interpret the dreams correctly, but he also gave ideas on how to save the nation. Since Pharaoh liked his idea, he put Joseph in a high government position in Egypt.

Every one of you has been blessed at least with one special ability or talent. Let's have a moment and think about it. Is it singing? Dancing? Drawing? Who gave this special ability to you? God. Since God is the One who gave you those abilities, you should always give Him the credit, shouldn't you?

Key verse:

*Ephesians 5:20
Always give thanks to God the Father for everything*

Prayer

Dear God, I thank you for giving me abilities and talents. Let me use it to glorify Your name. Amen.



GENESIS 42

THE SECOND CHANCE

Everyone has a conscience. A conscience is a person's sense of right and wrong. It means when you are about to do something not right, and you know that it is not right, there will be a small voice inside you that is sometimes too loud for comfort.

Twenty two years after Joseph was sold by his brothers, there was a great famine all over the world. The only place that had food was Egypt. So, Jacob asked his sons to go to Egypt to get food. The word "Egypt" stirred the brothers' guilt because many years before, they had sold Joseph to the passer-by who was going to Egypt. Time doesn't erase a guilty conscience.

What is your "Egypt"? You need to know that God will rescue you from your "Egypt". When you yield to Him and draw near in repentance, you will discover His grace. Turn to Him in genuine repentance and you will experience His sweet goodness.

Key verse:

*Acts 3:19b
... Turn to face
God so He can
wipe away your
sins*

Prayer

*Dear God, I know
that I am a sinner,
and I ask for
Your forgiveness.
Forgive all of my
sins, Jesus, my
saviour. Amen.*



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

