



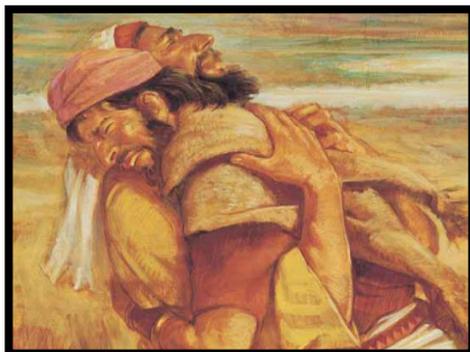
# FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: Dennis & Diane Gordon

## Volume 3: From Prison to Praise #3

### **RECONCILED WITH GOD & MAN (Jacob & Esau)**

*Genesis Chapters 32-34*



**CHILDREN'S STORY:** (See Page 15) **Beauty from Broken Pieces**

### **SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK**

*1<sup>st</sup> Reader Repeats 2x with Congregation*

*2 Corinthians 5:18*

*“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.”*

### **GOD'S PURPOSE & PLAN FOR ME**

**JESUS FORGIVES ME AND MAKES ME WHOLE**

**I WANT TO TELL OTHERS SO THEY CAN KNOW**

**1. INTRODUCTION:** Throughout his life Jacob held on tightly to God's blessing. Jacob deceived his brother, and for 20 years Jacob had been deceived by his uncle Laban. God showed Jacob how to increase his flocks and escape from the unfairness of Laban. This week we follow Jacob and his family through times of fear, and reconciliation. We will see that like our families, when quick temper rules over self-control, there is a great price to pay, because revenge belongs only to our kind and gracious God who alone can judge our brothers.

***Objects to Bring:*** *Jars filled with Balm of Gilead; Gospel Crafts*

## 2. REAL LIFE PARABLE: The Angry Mechanic



Years ago, as our family grew to six, after I wrecked my husband's White Mustang, we purchased an old VW Bus with re-upholstered seats and 'perfect for the '80's' new brown paint, which was absolutely perfect for our young family. It soon became necessary to replace the engine, but estimates were way too high. A mechanic at our church needed work, and without the overhead of a shop he could do the work at a reasonable price. The mechanic arrived at our home angrily complaining that Christians were cheap, unfair, and all a bunch of hypocrites! So, we prayed for wisdom and grace, and did our best to show him God's love. At a prayer meeting, the mechanic's wife confided that he was an alcoholic, and so abusive that she and her children were afraid of him! We all hoped that this second chance for a new beginning would help turn his life around, so every day I carried out a wonderful meal and kept the cool drinks coming!

Finally after a month, the work was finished just in time for a holiday trip over the mountains! On our return trip, we heard a terrible loud clanking as the bus came grinding to a stop, and we had to push the bus uphill, and down an exit ramp to safety. After being towed to a Volkswagen mechanic, we learned that our "new engine" was old, had missing parts and had been pounded into place with a sledge hammer! This man had cheated us and put our family in serious danger, but God's word tells us not to take our brother to court, so we held our peace and said nothing.

The Lord took good care of us and provided a new van, but we learned from the mechanic's wife that when police were called to break up a drunken party, he had jumped a fence and was found dead the next morning, hanging from a clothes line. His wife and children no longer had to live in fear, but it was tragic that God had given this man a second chance to choose a happy life, but he did not choose life. **God came to reconcile the world to Himself and He wants us to reconcile with one another for Him.**

### 3. JACOB HOPED TO BE RECONCILED WITH ESAU.

2 Corinthians 5:1:19 *“T’to wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself**, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”*

Jesus shed His blood on the cross to reconcile the world to Himself, but even though everyone does not receive Him as their Savior, He still paid the price for them. We must be like Jesus and lay aside our ‘self’ to love others for Him, even though some may mock us, reach out to love them so that some might be saved.

Genesis 32:3-7 *“And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother ....<sup>4</sup> And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall ye speak unto my lord Esau; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, ... I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight.”*

Terrified, that Esau still wanted to kill him, after leaving his uncle Laban, Jacob prayed for deliverance. He sent gifts ahead with messengers to appease Esau. The messengers returned, saying Esau was on his way with 400 men! Would they kill Jacob?



Genesis 32:9-10 *“And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, **the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:***<sup>10</sup> *I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.”*

God had revealed to Jacob that he would receive amazing promises, yet Jacob felt gripped by fear and he was terrified, but he still prayed and trusted God. In the midst of uncertainty, it is not easy to keep believing that God has a plan for our lives and keep praying in faith, but Jesus tells us to believe and trust Him. When we too are gripped by fear, may we trust God like Jacob, and pray! We cannot name claim to our own future, but we can trust our God, for we know He has already planned our future!

#### **4. GOD MAKES PLACES OF HEALING FOR HIS PEOPLE.**

**Genesis 32:1-2** “*And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. <sup>2</sup>And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God’s host: and **he called the name of that place Mahanaim.**”*

The sites of Penuel and Mahanaim, where Jacob stopped during the return journey from Mesopotamia to Canaan, have long been identified with two sites in north-central Jordan, Tulul Eddahab El-Gharbi and Tulul Eddahab El-Sharqi. **The angels of God met Jacob on his way just south of Mt. Gilead on these very hills above the Jabbock River.**



“In ancient times **when Jacob and Laban met there, parts of Gilead were covered with forests of the Aleppo pine.** Today, only remnants of these forests remain. A prime example is Dibbeen National Park. Recent research in Turkey shows that of the seven plants

used as folk remedies for ulcers, **the one with the greatest efficacy is the Rock Rose or Balm of Gilead from beside the Jabbock river.**” Gilead, just north of the Jabbock River was a symbolic place of healing for Jacob and Laban, and the source of a healing balm made from the resin of the ‘Rock Rose’, also called the ‘Balm of Gilead’ plant that grows there.” *Baumann, H. 1996. The Greek Plant World*



**Jeremiah 8:22** “*Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people?”*

**Matthew 18:10** “*Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That **in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father** which is in heaven.”*

Jacob saw the angels God sent to protect him. We also have angels watching over us! We may not get to see them, but God provides them us all, and healing too. **Here is a jar containing the Balm of Gilead for each of you,** so we can anoint each other, pray, and receive healing from Jesus our healer!

## 5. JACOB PRAYS AND STANDS ON GOD'S PROMISE.



Genesis 32:11-15 “*Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.* <sup>12</sup> *And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude....”*

What did Jacob do? He went to his altar of praise, remembering the promises of God, and praying aloud the things that God said! And we are to do the same! The next day Jacob did everything he knew how to do, and then WHILE he was still afraid, he stood in faith on the promise of God. Jacob sent his servants ahead of him with gifts in three different companies, thinking that if Esau killed the first two groups, then at least he and his family could escape!

Genesis 32:16-23 “*And he delivered them into the hand of his servants, every drove by themselves; and said unto his servants, Pass over before me, and put a space betwixt drove and drove....saying, When Esau my brother meeteth thee... then thou shalt say, They be thy servant Jacob's; it is a present sent unto my lord Esau: and, behold, also he is behind us....and afterward I will see his face; peradventure he will accept of me....* <sup>22</sup> *And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two womenservants, and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford Jabbok....”*

In the middle of the night Jacob sent his wives and sons across the Jabock river, and then he prayed, waiting to see what God would do. Praying in faith does not mean that you cannot be afraid and still have faith. When you are afraid, you can still trust God and stand firmly in faith in His word. When we are faced with the impossible, we too must seek God with our whole heart, do everything we can think to do, and then stand, trusting God knowing that He is able!

Ephesians 6:13 ” *Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”*

## **6. JACOB HELD ONTO GOD UNTIL BLESSING CAME.**

**Genesis 32:24-32** “*And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. <sup>25</sup> And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob’s thigh was out of joint.... <sup>28</sup> And he said, **Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel:** for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed...<sup>30</sup> **And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.** <sup>31</sup> And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and **he halted** upon his thigh. <sup>32</sup> Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day....”*



Jacob, who was born holding onto blessing, struggled all night with the angel, refusing to let go until God blessed him! As the sun rose in the morning Jacob crossed over the river Jabbok limping, so to this day the Jewish descendents of Israel do not eat the meat of the thigh, to remind them always of the night when God touched Jacob’s thigh and changed his name to Israel - the Father of Many Nations.

In hard times – hold onto God until blessing comes, like Jacob!

This angel man was not a second God but God Himself. Before becoming flesh, God appeared to men in various ways. It was the person of Almighty God in the angel who fought with Jacob, and the person of the Almighty Father God who came in His Son. God is in Jesus **expressing His invisible person of Spirit** in a body.

**Hebrews 1:1-3** “*God, who at sundry times and **in divers manners** spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2. **Has in these last days spoken to us by his Son,** whom He has appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds. 3. Who **being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person,** and upholding all things by the word of His power, **when He had by Himself purged our sins,** sat down **on the right hand** of the Majesty on high.”*

## **7. THE ANGEL EMBODIED THE FULLNESS OF GOD'S PERSON AS HIS RIGHT HAND EXTENDED ON EARTH.**

Isaiah 48:12-13 *“Hearken to Me, O Jacob and Israel, My called; **I am He; I am the First, I also am the Last** <sup>13</sup> My hand also has laid the foundation of the earth, and **My right hand has spanned the heavens**; when I call to them, they stand up together.”*



**Jesus is the same God who spoke to Isaiah:**

Revelation 22:12-13 *“And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be. **13. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the First and the Last.**”*

God created the worlds by His word, by the breath of His mouth: His invisible person of Spirit spoken out from Himself. And in the fullness of time, God became visible in flesh by that same word.

Psalms 33:6 *“**By the word of the Lord** were the heavens made; and all the host of them **by the breath of his mouth.**”*

Isaiah 44:24 *“Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, **I am the LORD that maketh all things**; that stretcheth forth the heavens **alone**; that spreadeth abroad the earth **by myself**;”*

God through Isaiah (43:10-11) and through His Son, proclaimed there was never nor can be a 2nd person formed to come alongside Himself, for He is One God who is plural in presence and majesty.

John 1:14 *“**And the Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, **the glory as of the only begotten of the Father**.) full of grace and truth.”*

God in both Old and New Testaments, does not speak of sending the Son to do His bidding before His word was manifest (made visible) in the Son. Theophanies of the O.T. were angels through whom God spoke; in these last days the Father came in His Son in whom, while yet remaining Omnipresent, He shall dwell forever.

## **8. GOD RESTORED THE RELATIONSHIP OF JACOB AND ESAU & HE CALLS US TOO, TO BE RECONCILED.**

As Jacob limped across the river, he looked up and saw Esau coming with 400 men! Jacob feared for his family because Esau had threatened to kill him. Jewish tradition records that Jacob had good reason to fear the wrath of his brother.

*“As soon as Laban had departed from Jacob, he sent his son Beor to Esau, in the hills of Seir, to inform him about the great wealth Jacob had amassed during the years of service in his, Laban’s, house. “Now would be the right time for you to take revenge for the injustice Jacob had done to you, and to take away all of Jacob’s possessions,” Laban told him. Esau did not need any more coaxing to reawaken his old hatred ... He gathered four hundred able-bodied and well-trained and equipped men and moved against Jacob.” [Jewish History Chabad.org](http://JewishHistoryChabad.org)*

**Genesis 33:1-3** *“And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids...And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times until he came near to his brother. And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept. <sup>10</sup> And Jacob said... I have seen thy face, as though I had seen the face of God, and thou was pleased with me. Take, I pray thee, my blessing that is brought to thee...and he urged him, and he took it.”*



God answered Jacob’s fervent prayer and turned away Esau’s wrath. When we sin against God, there is no gift we can bring Him but our broken heart, Jesus just wants you back! And He is waiting to hug you close and commune with you every day!

**Psalms 34:18** *“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”*

**James 5:16** *“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”*

## **9. WHEREVER JACOB STOPPED TO REST HE BUILT AND ALTAR TO THANK AND WORSHIP GOD.**

Hundreds of family members were reconciled that day, and headed back with Jacob to his home in Seir.

*Genesis 33:12-16 “And he said, Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before thee...<sup>16</sup> So Esau returned that day on his way unto Seir.”*

The caravan moved on to Shechem in the land of Canaan, and Jacob purchased a field where he built an altar to worship God.

*Genesis 33:17-20 “And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him an house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Succoth. <sup>18</sup> And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan-aram; and pitched his tent before the city. <sup>19</sup> And he bought a parcel of a field..... for an hundred pieces of money. <sup>20</sup> And he erected there an altar, and called it El-elohe-Israel.”*

Jacob’s first thought was always to pray. When he arrived in Canaan his first priority was to purchase land for himself and his family to worship God! Listen to the Holy Spirit of God as He calls you to come away, to find rest in Him, and build an altar of praise there!



*Song of Solomon 2:10 “My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.”*

Everywhere Jacob went, he built an altar to worship God, and left it behind for a memorial where others could come to worship. God gave His Sabbaths as His memorial calling us to come away gathering together weekly to build a living altar of praise where many will be drawn to worship Him!

*Hebrews 10:24-25 “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”*

## **10. BAD THINGS CAN HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE, SO DO NOT GO WALKING INTO ENEMY TERRITORY!**



*Genesis 34:1-12 “And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. <sup>2</sup>And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her. <sup>3</sup>And his soul clave unto Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spake kindly unto the damsel. <sup>4</sup>And Shechem spake unto his father Hamor, saying, Get me this damsel to wife.”*

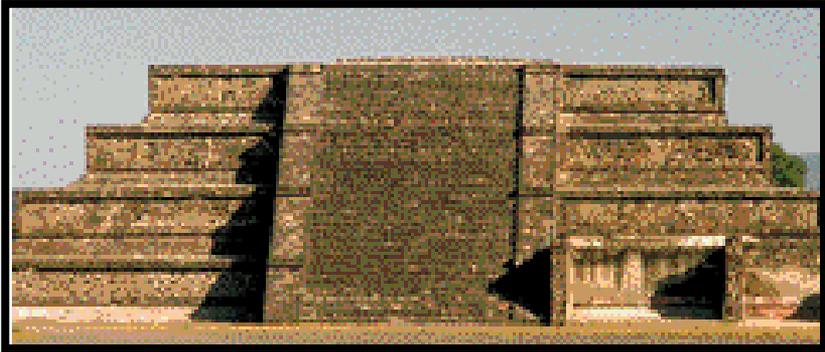
What was this boy thinking? He casually rapes a pure young virgin girl and thinks her father, the king of Israel, will say, Oh, OK, sure, let's have a wedding? Remember that Jacob had left his homeland so he would not have to marry a heathen Hittite woman like his brother Esau had done. He was a man of prayer, so why now was his daughter Leah defiled and being held by the Hittites?

*Genesis 34:5-12 “And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter: now his sons were with his cattle in the field: and Jacob held his peace until they were come .... <sup>7</sup>And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth, because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done. <sup>8</sup>And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray you give her him to wife. <sup>9</sup>And make ye marriages with us ...”*

Jacob told his sons the sad news when they came in from the fields, but they already knew, and they were enraged. How should God's people respond to such a grave offense?

Endulging our own rage brings shame to the name of Jesus which we bear, and jeopardizes any inheritance in His kingdom. Jacob followed the way of God's Commandments, that is always fair. God's way will always give honor to everyone concerned.

## 11. ZIGGURAT FROM A HIVITE CITY LIKE SHECHEM, WHERE DINAH WAS AWAITING HER WEDDING.



### WITHIN A WALLED HIVITE CITY OF MESOPOTAMIA

*“Hivites were descendants of Canaan, the son of Ham, one of the original tribes spreading out from Babel (Sumer or Sumeria Genesis 10), settling in all directions and up through the land of Canaan. Hivites interpreted is ‘midlanders’ or ‘villagers’. Hivite cities like Shechem, were built in a rectangular shape surrounded by high broad walls built of clay bricks as there were not many rocks near the Mediterranean coastline. Inside the walled city most people lived in tiny houses packed closely together along small streets and alleys, with merchants such as weavers and carpenters living and working on the same street, the forerunner to our shopping malls.*

*Rulers like Hamor and Shechem lived in magnificent palaces with spacious courtyards. The largest buildings were the ziggurats with steps leading up sloped walls to a shrine for the god or goddess of the city at the top. Inanna, the Queen of Heaven, also called Nina, Ashtart or Ishtar was the principle goddess in Canaan though they worshipped many gods. The Hivite people of 1759 BC had long ago left the ways of the Eternal God to worship the idols of Babylon and no longer practiced circumcision. When Simeon and Levi plundered the Hivite city of Shechem, it was later re-inhabited by other Hivite tribes. Hivite cities existed until the time of David and Solomon.”*  
*Wikipedia Encyclopedia*

## **12. GOD ALLOWS ANGER BUT NOT REVENGE.**

How will Jacob's sons get their sister Dinah back? They lie!

**Genesis 34:13-24** *“And **the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully**, because he had defiled Dinah their sister: <sup>14</sup> and they said unto them...If ye will be as we be, that every male of you be circumcised; <sup>16</sup> then will we give our daughters unto you, and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people. <sup>17</sup> But if ye will not hearken unto us, to be circumcised; then will we take our daughter, and we will be gone. <sup>18</sup> And their words pleased Hamor, and Shechem Hamor's son ...and communed with the men of their city, saying... only let us consent unto them, and they will dwell with us. <sup>24</sup> ... **and every male was circumcised....**”*

Jacob's sons plotted their revenge, they tricked the men to disable themselves, then rushed in to kill them! God will not bless evil. What does God say to do when there is no way to right a wrong?

**Colossians 3:8** *“But now ye also **put off all these**; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.”*

**Romans 12:21** *“Be not overcome of evil, but **overcome evil with good.**”*

Jacob's sons Simeon and Levi became so enraged that they would not listen to their dad or their God, and let evil overcome them!

**Genesis 34:25-26** *“And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brethren, **took each man his sword, and came upon the city boldly, and slew all the males.** <sup>26</sup> They slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went out.”*

God tells us to put off anger before it consumes you! Naturally we feel angry when wronged, but whether by words or a gun, rage always brings death to both our victims and to ourselves. But if you take the anger off first, then you can see as God sees, and trust Him to show you how to overcome evil with good.

### **13. UNRESTRAINED ANGER DESTROYS OUR GOOD WITNESS AND THE INHERITANCE WE HAVE IN GOD.**

Simeon and Levi were consumed by their rage, and on the third day when they knew the men would be disabled, they stormed in to kill all the men, stealing their women, children and livestock, and brought Dinah back home. Jacob was sick, for they had made the name of their God a stench to everyone in the land!



**Genesis 34:27-31** *“The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and spoiled the city, because they had defiled their sister.<sup>28</sup> They took,,, that which was in the city, and that which was in the field,<sup>29</sup> and all their wealth, and all their little ones, and their wives took they captive, and spoiled even all that was in the house.<sup>30</sup> And **Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, Ye have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites: and I being few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me, and slay me; and **I shall be destroyed, I and my house**...***

Jacob’s sons could so easily have saved Dinah with no bloodshed that day, but they made God and His people appear to be evil.

**Genesis 49:5-7** *“Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations. **Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.**”*

**Matthew 6:15** *“But **if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**”*

**Romans:12:19** *“Dearly beloved, **avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**”*

Simeon and Levi refused to honor their father who was willing to forgive, and they suffered God’s judgment the massacre at Shechem. If we do not forgive others God does not forgive us. Acts of revenge are never justified; God always shows us the way of life when we lay aside our foolish pride to trust in Him.

## **14. GOD'S PURPOSE & PLAN FOR MY LIFE**

1. When you face unfairness, Jesus wants you to rest safely in the protection of His peace, and trust Him to take care of you.
2. God wants you to find healing by finding your healing Gilead place for meeting with Him, to release every burden there, and find refreshing from the presence of His Holy Spirit.
3. God wants you to leave unfairness and strife behind you, and move on healed and refreshed in Him, to the land of promise!
4. God forgives us by His grace and desires that we freely extend our forgiveness to others.
5. Endulging anger always brings shame to the name of Jesus.
6. Revenge brings death to both our victims and to ourselves.
7. If we do not forgive others, then God will not forgive us.
8. Jesus expects me to behave in His ways of loving kindness that will always bring honor to His name and to mine.
9. Jesus wants us to gain strength by remembering the memorials He has given, where we build living altars of praise to Him.
10. God rebuilds us when we are broken, building His beauty into all our broken pieces, and then He shines His light through us!



**Hebrews 10:24-25** “*And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*”

**Romans 15:13-14** “*Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. <sup>14</sup> And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.*”

***Dearest Father, Thank you for loving me and forgiving all my sins. Thank you for showing me that I can take off anger, so I will see as you see. I surrender all myself to You Jesus. I choose to trust You like Jacob; help me to work out Your purpose in my life as I follow where You lead me in the way of peace, in Jesus name, Amen.***

## 15. CHILDREN’S STORY – Beauty from Broken Pieces

Lizzy was very excited because they were going to the glass factory today to buy pretty glass vases to put in the window! Mom said that they would buy one of every color, so when the sun shines in they could see beautiful colors in the room like a rainbow! Lizzy couldn’t wait and today was the day!



Mom let Lizzy pick out colors for her room and she put them in her own bag so carefully. Mom told her to walk out very carefully, but Lizzy was so happy she disobeyed her mother and started skipping,

and the bag of glass slammed right into the door on the way out! Mom looked a little angry and embarrassed at the same time, and whispered firmly to Lizzy to just keep walking. Lizzy was afraid and sad, and really sorry, and it was very quiet on the drive home.

When they took their bags inside, mom arranged her beautiful vases in the kitchen window, and then she saw Lizzy’s sad face. Mom said, “Lizzy, we all make mistakes. Sometimes even when we don’t mean to disobey God, we do, and whole lives can get broken. But when you are young and still learning, thankfully it is just a toy or a pretty glass that is broken. Lizzy, I know you are sorry. I’m sorry you disobeyed and broke your pretty glass vases, but I am going to show you how Jesus can make something beautiful out of even our mistakes! Look at this plain old jar Lizzy, let’s make it into a beautiful candle holder!” So mom helped Lizzy glue the broken pieces on the plain old jar and put a candle inside. When mom lit the candle the whole room was filled with a beautiful light! Mom smiled, that’s how Jesus makes us beautiful, He comes to live in our hearts when we are broken, He puts together all the broken pieces of the mess we made, and then He shines His light to make you beautiful!”



**Gospel Craft:** Mosaic Plastic Glass, Jar, Glue & Votive Candle

## 16. TIMELINE COLORING PAGE

Jacob prayed for Esau, and God healed his heart. 1739 BC



Jacob received forgiveness from God in the mountain of Gilead, and Jacob received forgiveness from Esau.

Jesus forgives me because He loves me.

*2 Corinthians 5:18*

*“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.”*

**GOD’S PURPOSE & PLAN FOR ME**

JESUS FORGIVES ME AND MAKES ME WHOLE  
I WANT TO TELL OTHERS SO THEY CAN KNOW