

2020
GENERATION OF
LIGHT YOUTH
DEVOTIONAL
WEEK 16

DAY 106: LAME MAN AT THE GATE BEAUTIFUL

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

ACTS 3:1-8, 16, NEW LIVING TRANSLATION (NLT): 3 PETER AND JOHN WENT TO THE TEMPLE ONE AFTERNOON TO TAKE PART IN THE THREE O'CLOCK PRAYER SERVICE. 2 AS THEY APPROACHED THE TEMPLE, A MAN LAME FROM BIRTH WAS BEING CARRIED IN. EACH DAY HE WAS PUT BESIDE THE TEMPLE GATE, THE ONE CALLED THE BEAUTIFUL GATE, SO HE COULD BEG FROM THE PEOPLE GOING INTO THE TEMPLE. 3 WHEN HE SAW PETER AND JOHN ABOUT TO ENTER, HE ASKED THEM FOR SOME MONEY. 4 PETER AND JOHN LOOKED AT HIM INTENTLY, AND PETER SAID, "LOOK AT US!" 5 THE LAME MAN LOOKED AT THEM EAGERLY, EXPECTING SOME MONEY. 6 BUT PETER SAID, "I DON'T HAVE ANY SILVER OR GOLD FOR YOU. BUT I'LL GIVE YOU WHAT I HAVE. IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST THE NAZARENE, GET UP AND WALK!" 7 THEN PETER TOOK THE LAME MAN BY THE RIGHT HAND AND HELPED HIM UP. AND AS HE DID, THE MAN'S FEET AND ANKLES WERE INSTANTLY HEALED AND STRENGTHENED. 8 HE JUMPED UP, STOOD ON HIS FEET, AND BEGAN TO WALK! THEN, WALKING, LEAPING, AND PRAISING GOD, HE WENT INTO THE TEMPLE WITH THEM. 16 "THROUGH FAITH IN THE NAME OF JESUS, THIS MAN WAS HEALED—AND YOU KNOW HOW CRIPPLED HE WAS BEFORE. FAITH IN JESUS' NAME HAS HEALED HIM BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT JESUS CAN STILL HEAL TODAY LIKE HE HEALED THE LAME MAN IN THIS STORY? WHY OR WHY NOT? _____

DO YOU THINK THAT GOD CAN USE YOU TO PRAY FOR PEOPLE TO BE HEALED? WHY OR WHY NOT? _____

HAVE YOU EVER PRAYED FOR YOUR OWN HEALING? DO YOU THINK THAT CHRISTIANS CAN PRAY FOR THEIR OWN HEALING? PLEASE SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT PRAYING FOR YOUR OWN HEALING. _____

DAY 107: GOD'S GREAT MERCY

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

NEHEMIAH 9:13-21, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 13 YOU CAME DOWN TO MOUNT SINAI AND SPOKE FROM HEAVEN TO OUR ANCESTORS. YOU GAVE THEM FAIR RULES AND TRUE TEACHINGS, GOOD ORDERS AND COMMANDS. 14 YOU TOLD THEM ABOUT YOUR HOLY SABBATH AND GAVE THEM COMMANDS, ORDERS, AND TEACHINGS THROUGH YOUR SERVANT MOSES. 15 WHEN THEY WERE HUNGRY, YOU GAVE THEM BREAD FROM HEAVEN. WHEN THEY WERE THIRSTY, YOU BROUGHT THEM WATER FROM THE ROCK. YOU TOLD THEM TO ENTER AND TAKE OVER THE LAND YOU HAD PROMISED TO GIVE THEM. 16 "BUT OUR ANCESTORS WERE PROUD AND STUBBORN AND DID NOT OBEY YOUR COMMANDS. 17 THEY REFUSED TO LISTEN; THEY FORGOT THE MIRACLES YOU DID FOR THEM. SO THEY BECAME STUBBORN AND TURNED AGAINST YOU, CHOOSING A LEADER TO TAKE THEM BACK TO SLAVERY. BUT YOU ARE A FORGIVING GOD. YOU ARE KIND AND FULL OF MERCY. YOU DO NOT BECOME ANGRY QUICKLY, AND YOU HAVE GREAT LOVE. SO YOU DID NOT LEAVE THEM. 18 OUR ANCESTORS EVEN MADE AN IDOL OF A CALF FOR THEMSELVES. THEY SAID, 'THIS IS YOUR GOD, ISRAEL, WHO BROUGHT YOU UP OUT OF EGYPT.' THEY SPOKE AGAINST YOU. 19 "YOU HAVE GREAT MERCY, SO YOU DID NOT LEAVE THEM IN THE DESERT. THE PILLAR OF CLOUD GUIDED THEM BY DAY, AND THE PILLAR OF FIRE LED THEM AT NIGHT, LIGHTING THE WAY THEY WERE TO GO. 20 YOU GAVE YOUR GOOD SPIRIT TO TEACH THEM. YOU GAVE THEM MANNA TO EAT AND WATER WHEN THEY WERE THIRSTY. 21 YOU TOOK CARE OF THEM FOR FORTY YEARS IN THE DESERT; THEY NEEDED NOTHING. THEIR CLOTHES DID NOT WEAR OUT, AND THEIR FEET DID NOT SWELL.

PSALM 25:7, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): DO NOT REMEMBER THE SINS AND WRONG THINGS I DID WHEN I WAS YOUNG. BUT REMEMBER TO LOVE ME ALWAYS BECAUSE YOU ARE GOOD, LORD.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

PLEASE WRITE IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHAT YOU THINK MERCY IS. _____

CAN YOU SHARE ABOUT A TIME WHEN YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW DID SOMETHING WRONG, BUT RECEIVED MERCY INSTEAD OF BEING PUNISHED? _____

GOD CAN USE US TO SHOW HIS MERCY TO OTHERS. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT YOU HAVE SHOWN MERCY TO SOMEONE ELSE? _____

DAY 108: ABRAHAM'S FAMILY RESCUED FROM SUFFERING

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

ACTS 7:2-10 NEW CENTURY VERSION: 2 STEPHEN ANSWERED, "BROTHERS AND FATHERS, LISTEN TO ME. OUR GLORIOUS GOD APPEARED TO ABRAHAM, OUR ANCESTOR, IN MESOPOTAMIA BEFORE HE LIVED IN HARAN. 3 GOD SAID TO ABRAHAM, 'LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR RELATIVES, AND GO TO THE LAND I WILL SHOW YOU.' 4 SO ABRAHAM LEFT THE COUNTRY OF CHALDEA AND WENT TO LIVE IN HARAN. AFTER ABRAHAM'S FATHER DIED, GOD SENT HIM TO THIS PLACE WHERE YOU NOW LIVE. 5 GOD DID NOT GIVE ABRAHAM ANY OF THIS LAND, NOT EVEN A FOOT OF IT. BUT GOD PROMISED THAT HE WOULD GIVE THIS LAND TO HIM AND HIS DESCENDANTS, EVEN BEFORE ABRAHAM HAD A CHILD. 6 THIS IS WHAT GOD SAID TO HIM: 'YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE STRANGERS IN A LAND THEY DON'T OWN. THE PEOPLE THERE WILL MAKE THEM SLAVES AND WILL MISTREAT THEM FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS. 7 BUT I WILL PUNISH THE NATION WHERE THEY ARE SLAVES. THEN YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL LEAVE THAT LAND AND WILL WORSHIP ME IN THIS PLACE.' 8 GOD MADE AN AGREEMENT WITH ABRAHAM, THE SIGN OF WHICH WAS CIRCUMCISION. AND SO WHEN ABRAHAM HAD HIS SON ISAAC, ABRAHAM CIRCUMCISED HIM WHEN HE WAS EIGHT DAYS OLD. ISAAC ALSO CIRCUMCISED HIS SON JACOB, AND JACOB DID THE SAME FOR HIS SONS, THE TWELVE ANCESTORS OF OUR PEOPLE. 9 "JACOB'S SONS BECAME JEALOUS OF JOSEPH AND SOLD HIM TO BE A SLAVE IN EGYPT. BUT GOD WAS WITH HIM 10 AND SAVED HIM FROM ALL HIS TROUBLES. THE KING OF EGYPT LIKED JOSEPH AND RESPECTED HIM BECAUSE OF THE WISDOM GOD GAVE HIM. THE KING MADE HIM GOVERNOR OF EGYPT AND PUT HIM IN CHARGE OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN HIS PALACE.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

HAS GOD EVER TOLD YOU TO DO SOMETHING THAT YOU WERE AFRAID TO DO? WHAT DID GOD TELL YOU TO DO? _____

HAS GOD EVER FIXED A PROBLEM IN YOUR LIFE? WHAT WAS THE PROBLEM AND HOW DID GOD FIX IT?

JOSEPH WAS A YOUTH AND GOD GAVE HIM WISDOM TO BE IN CHARGE OF EVERYONE IN A KING'S PALACE. THAT WAS A BIG JOB. CAN GOD USE YOU TO DO BIG THINGS FOR HIM? WHY OR WHY NOT?

DAY 109: JONAH THE REBEL

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

JONAH 2, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): WHILE JONAH WAS INSIDE THE FISH, HE PRAYED TO THE LORD HIS GOD AND SAID, 2 "WHEN I WAS IN DANGER, I CALLED TO THE LORD, AND HE ANSWERED ME. I WAS ABOUT TO DIE, SO I CRIED TO YOU, AND YOU HEARD MY VOICE. 3 YOU THREW ME INTO THE SEA, DOWN, DOWN INTO THE DEEP SEA. THE WATER WAS ALL AROUND ME, AND YOUR POWERFUL WAVES FLOWED OVER ME. 4 I SAID, 'I WAS DRIVEN OUT OF YOUR PRESENCE, BUT I HOPE TO SEE YOUR HOLY TEMPLE AGAIN.' 5 THE WATERS OF THE SEA CLOSED AROUND MY THROAT. THE DEEP SEA WAS ALL AROUND ME; SEAWEED WAS WRAPPED AROUND MY HEAD. 6 WHEN I WENT DOWN TO WHERE THE MOUNTAINS OF THE SEA START TO RISE, I THOUGHT I WAS LOCKED IN THIS PRISON FOREVER, BUT YOU SAVED ME FROM THE PIT OF DEATH, LORD MY GOD. 7 "WHEN MY LIFE HAD ALMOST GONE, I REMEMBERED THE LORD. I PRAYED TO YOU, AND YOU HEARD MY PRAYERS IN YOUR HOLY TEMPLE. 8 "PEOPLE WHO WORSHIP USELESS IDOLS GIVE UP THEIR LOYALTY TO YOU. 9 BUT I WILL PRAISE AND THANK YOU WHILE I GIVE SACRIFICES TO YOU, AND I WILL KEEP MY PROMISES TO YOU. SALVATION COMES FROM THE LORD!" 10 THEN THE LORD SPOKE TO THE FISH, AND THE FISH THREW UP JONAH ONTO THE DRY LAND.

1 JOHN 1:9, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): BUT IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE WILL FORGIVE OUR SINS, BECAUSE WE CAN TRUST GOD TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT. HE WILL CLEANSE US FROM ALL THE WRONGS WE HAVE DONE.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

JONAH WAS A PROPHET WHO DISOBEYED GOD AND WAS SWALLOWED BY A BIG FISH. BUT GOD FORGAVE JONAH, RESCUED HIM AND GAVE HIM ANOTHER CHANCE. CAN YOU SHARE ABOUT A TIME WHEN GOD GAVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE AFTER YOU MADE A MISTAKE? _____

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU PRAYED AND ASKED GOD TO HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING? WHAT DID YOU NEED GOD TO HELP YOU WITH? _____

GOD PROMISES TO FORGIVE US ANYTIME WE ASK FOR HIS FORGIVENESS. HAVE YOU EVER FELT LIKE GOD WOULDN'T FORGIVE YOU FOR SOMETHING YOU DID? WHY DID YOU FEEL THAT WAY? _____

DAY 110: THE WAGES OF SIN & GOD'S GIFT

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

ROMANS 6:18-23, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 18 YOU WERE MADE FREE FROM SIN, AND NOW YOU ARE SLAVES TO GOODNESS. 19 I USE THIS EXAMPLE BECAUSE THIS IS HARD FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND. IN THE PAST YOU OFFERED THE PARTS OF YOUR BODY TO BE SLAVES TO SIN AND EVIL; YOU LIVED ONLY FOR EVIL. IN THE SAME WAY NOW YOU MUST GIVE YOURSELVES TO BE SLAVES OF GOODNESS. THEN YOU WILL LIVE ONLY FOR GOD. 20 IN THE PAST YOU WERE SLAVES TO SIN, AND GOODNESS DID NOT CONTROL YOU. 21 YOU DID EVIL THINGS, AND NOW YOU ARE ASHAMED OF THEM. THOSE THINGS ONLY BRING DEATH. 22 BUT NOW YOU ARE FREE FROM SIN AND HAVE BECOME SLAVES OF GOD. THIS BRINGS YOU A LIFE THAT IS ONLY FOR GOD, AND THIS GIVES YOU LIFE FOREVER. 23 THE PAYMENT FOR SIN IS DEATH. BUT GOD GIVES US THE FREE GIFT OF LIFE FOREVER IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.

NOW ANSWER THIS QUESTION ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

BEFORE SOMEONE IS SAVED AND BECOMES A CHRISTIAN, THEY ARE A SLAVE TO SIN. WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS TO BE A SLAVE TO SIN? _____

WHEN SOMEONE IS A CHRISTIAN, THEY ARE A SLAVE TO RIGHTEOUSNESS OR A SLAVE TO GOODNESS. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A SLAVE TO RIGHTEOUSNESS OR GOODNESS? _____

GOD'S FREE GIFT TO US IS ETERNAL LIFE BY BELIEVING IN JESUS. WHAT IS ETERNAL LIFE? HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN ETERNAL LIFE TO SOMEONE WHO IS NOT A CHRISTIAN? _____

DAY 111: THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

2 CHRONICLES 20:13-17, NEW LIVING TRANSLATION (NLT): 13 AS ALL THE MEN OF JUDAH STOOD BEFORE THE LORD WITH THEIR LITTLE ONES, WIVES, AND CHILDREN, 14 THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD CAME UPON ONE OF THE MEN STANDING THERE. HIS NAME WAS JAHAZIEL SON OF ZECHARIAH, SON OF BENAIAH, SON OF JEIEL, SON OF MATTANIAH, A LEVITE WHO WAS A DESCENDANT OF ASAPH. 15 HE SAID, "LISTEN, ALL YOU PEOPLE OF JUDAH AND JERUSALEM! LISTEN, KING JEHOSEPHAT! THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS: DO NOT BE AFRAID! DON'T BE DISCOURAGED BY THIS MIGHTY ARMY, FOR THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS, BUT GOD'S. 16 TOMORROW, MARCH OUT AGAINST THEM. YOU WILL FIND THEM COMING UP THROUGH THE ASCENT OF ZIZ AT THE END OF THE VALLEY THAT OPENS INTO THE WILDERNESS OF JERUEL. 17 BUT YOU WILL NOT EVEN NEED TO FIGHT. TAKE YOUR POSITIONS; THEN STAND STILL AND WATCH THE LORD'S VICTORY. HE IS WITH YOU, O PEOPLE OF JUDAH AND JERUSALEM. DO NOT BE AFRAID OR DISCOURAGED. GO OUT AGAINST THEM TOMORROW, FOR THE LORD IS WITH YOU!"

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD ANYONE SAY, "FIGHT YOUR OWN BATTLES?" WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FIGHT YOUR OWN BATTLES? _____

DO YOU THINK GOD WANTS US TO FIGHT OUR OWN BATTLES? WHY OR WHY NOT? HOW DO WE LET GOD FIGHT OUR BATTLES FOR US? _____

WHAT "BATTLES" ARE YOU FACING IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW? DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU CAN FIGHT YOUR OWN BATTLES? OR DO YOU ALLOW GOD TO FIGHT YOUR BATTLES? _____

DAY 112: GOD'S LOVE FOR US WHEN OTHERS ATTACK US

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

PSALM 86:13-17, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 13 YOU HAVE GREAT LOVE FOR ME. YOU HAVE SAVED ME FROM DEATH. 14 GOD, PROUD PEOPLE ARE ATTACKING ME; A GANG OF CRUEL PEOPLE IS TRYING TO KILL ME. THEY DO NOT RESPECT YOU. 15 BUT, LORD, YOU ARE A GOD WHO SHOWS MERCY AND IS KIND. YOU DON'T BECOME ANGRY QUICKLY. YOU HAVE GREAT LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS. 16 TURN TO ME AND HAVE MERCY. GIVE ME, YOUR SERVANT, STRENGTH. SAVE ME, THE SON OF YOUR FEMALE SERVANT. 17 SHOW ME A SIGN OF YOUR GOODNESS. WHEN MY ENEMIES LOOK, THEY WILL BE ASHAMED. YOU, LORD, HAVE HELPED ME AND COMFORTED ME.

NOW ANSWERS SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT GOD HAS BEEN KIND TO YOU? _____

GOD IS FAITHFUL TO US. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FAITHFUL TO SOMEONE? _____

CAN WE STILL SEE GOD'S GOODNESS EVEN WHEN LIFE IS NOT GOING OUR WAY? NAME ONE GOOD THING IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW. _____

