

# WORD LIVING

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## OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to offer help to families with budgeting and planning. We assist families in obtaining knowledge and awareness of all human resources/ services available to them. We sponsor FREE seminars that coordinate various services to meet changing needs. For more information on events we sponsor visit us on FACEBOOK or our website: [www.stewardsinaction.com](http://www.stewardsinaction.com).



WELCOME TO  
WORD LIVING 2015

Welcome and thank you for sharing the journey of Joseph with us.

This month we celebrate the reminder of our only hope and that is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. What an opportunity we have to live in a time where we know that Jesus fulfilled his mission on earth. Because he lives, we have the opportunity to live in eternity with him. (Ref: Holy Bible - Life of Jesus)

We should be on fire such that Satan is on the run every moment. Our walk and talk should be Jesus directed. Our study of the word gives us examples that when we wait on the Lord he prepares us for the victory. History supports the fact that we need to wait patiently for Jesus' direction and obey without question. WHY?

- Because he knows the plans, he has for us.
- Because his plans prosper us.
- Because his plans give us hope and a future.
- Because his plans draw us closer to him.
- Because his plans do not harm us.
- Because his plans show his love for us.
- Because his plans cannot fail.
- Because his plan provides the gift of eternal life.

WAITING patiently on God has proven to be a struggle for individuals from Adam and Eve to us today.

Our review of Joseph's family noted that in each generation, someone was impatient and failed to wait on God's direction to bring about blessing without unnecessary harm. The journey continues...

## **FROM THE PIT TO THE THRONE - EVERYDAY LIFE IN 2015 AND BEYOND**

When we began the journey of Joseph, we started in Genesis chapter 37 and walked with Joseph from age 17, when he was casted into the pit, through Genesis chapter 41 when he stood before Pharaoh at age 30.

In March, we looked at the generations from Abraham to Jacob and noted their inability to wait on God. We saw how those decisions shaped their families and their future.

We saw favoritism (bias, preference, injustice) Abraham-Isaac, Isaac-Esau, Rebekkah to Jacob and Jacob to Joseph which resulted in disunity in the families.

Through it all, the **Sovereignty of God**, worked not just some things but all things according to the counsel of His own will.

This month, we continue the journey for there is yet another part that requires our consideration. From the pit to the throne is not just a physical journey but a mental journey also.

Many actions from the prior generations can influence the thinking process of future generations and produce behaviors that diminish the maximization of an individual's potential.

Remember Joseph's brothers stripped him of his coat and cast (throw) him into the pit. In the solitude of the darkness, God begins the process of preparing Joseph to be an instrument by which he will save his people. God would raise him up from the pit and use others as a sander, to remove layers of sheltered/pampered living so God could smooth and polish his thinking for his service. The mind must be prepared to leave the past in order to function for God in the future.

Joseph was the eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) and the most loved son of his father Jacob. With that, we have a 16-17 year old placed in a position of snitch over his older brothers. He reports their actions to his father thus building a wall of hatred between him and his brothers. For Joseph to be a good leader God would need to prepare his mind to understand and teach others the need for cooperation in order to accomplish the plan that God had for him. God would undo the negative childish thinking of his past and fill him with a mind to serve and obey him.

➤ **Joseph is in leadership training. God is preparing his mind for service.**

When Joseph arrived as a slave in Potiphar's house, he learned to work and take orders, which was a different experience. When Joseph was ready, God reveals his ability to Potiphar who puts him in charge of all that he had.

Perhaps Joseph was feeling good, after all, he is somewhat in authority, yet he knows that he is a slave and that has not changed.

Just as things seem to be going well, Potiphar's wife has a different agenda. Her lustful eyes desire Joseph but the mind of Joseph is growing stronger. He knew his position and his achievements, but more so, he could not sin against his God. He refused her advances and chose to flee rather than submit. (Note - I Corinthians 10:13 when you face 2015 temptations)

A leader must have the mind to obey God in all matters. Temptations will come but if we seek to please God, he will provide a way of escape. Joseph is falsely accused and sent to prison where the king's prisoners were bound.

➤ **Joseph is in leadership training. God is preparing his mind for service.**

A leader must have the mind to serve others no matter the location. Joseph continues to focus on his calling and God made everything he did to prosper.

Joseph is becoming sensitive to others while in prison. That sensitive spirit was not expressed to his brothers while he was at home but now we see the hand of God. Joseph finds favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Genesis 40:6-7 the Godly change in the mind of Joseph who takes notice of two prisoners whose countenance was sad.

The journey will continue next month, should the Lord delay his coming.

We pause to remind you that God wants his leaders to care about others enough to take action on their behalf. As Jesus gave his life that we might live, so we should yield our all to Jesus by serving others, (Matthew 25:31-46) There is more than enough to do. As God chose Joseph, so are we chosen to fulfill the purpose that he has called us to do from the beginning of time. Today, ask Jesus, what would you have me to do and then take action.

The harvest is ripe but labourers are few. (Matthew 9:37)

GOD IS CALLING YOU TO SERVE

Should the Lord delay his coming, we will continue the journey. His steward Karen



## HE IS RISEN!!!!

**BY SENDING JESUS TO EARTH, GOD FULFILLED HIS PROMISE OF A SAVIOR FROM SIN. UNLIKE US, JESUS NEVER SINNED. THUS, *GOD SACRIFICED JESUS AS OUR PERFECT SUBSTITUTE.***

**HE TOOK THE PUNISHMENT WE DESERVE FOR SIN: DEATH. "GOD MADE HIM [JESUS], WHO KNEW NO SIN, TO BE SIN FOR US THAT WE MIGHT BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM" (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21). THUS, JESUS WAS MORE THAN A PROPHET. GOD MADE HIM SAVIOR AND LORD! (SEE PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11.)**

**DURING HIS LIFE, CROWDS THROGGED HIM FOR HEALING AND TEACHING, BUT THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS SCORNEH HIM. AT GOD'S APPOINTED TIME, HE DELIVERED JESUS TO BE SACRIFICED FOR SIN. MOBS CRIED OUT, "CRUCIFY HIM!" SOLDIERS BEAT, MOCKED, AND CRUCIFIED HIM. AS ISAIAH FORETOLD, JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED IN BETWEEN TWO CRIMINALS AND WAS BURIED IN A RICH MAN'S TOMB.**

**\*\*\*\*\* BUT HE DIDN'T REMAIN IN THE GRAVE. BECAUSE GOD ACCEPTED HIS SACRIFICE, HE FULFILLED ANOTHER PROPHECY BY RAISING JESUS FROM THE DEAD (PSALM 16:10; ISAIAH 26:19).**

### **REFLECT ON THE HISTORY**

**WHEN GOD CREATED THE WORLD, IT WAS PERFECT. EVERYTHING WAS GOOD. THEN HE MADE ADAM AND EVE, AND GAVE THEM THEIR OWN FREE WILL, SO THEY WOULD HAVE A CHOICE WHETHER TO FOLLOW AND OBEY GOD OR NOT.**

**ADAM AND EVE, THE VERY FIRST PEOPLE GOD MADE, WERE TEMPTED BY SATAN TO DISOBEY GOD, AND THEY SINNED. THIS SEPARATED THEM (AND EVERYONE THAT CAME AFTER THEM, INCLUDING US) FROM BEING ABLE TO HAVE A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.**

**AS SINNERS, WE COULDN'T MAKE IT THERE ON OUR OWN. SO, GOD MADE A WAY THAT WE COULD BE UNITED WITH HIM IN HEAVEN. "FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE" (JOHN 3:16). "FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE FREE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD" (ROMANS 6:23). AFTER HIS DEATH, HE ROSE FROM THE GRAVE (ROMANS 4:25), PROVING HIMSELF VICTORIOUS OVER DEATH. HE BRIDGED THE GAP BETWEEN GOD AND MAN SO THAT WE MAY HAVE A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM IF WE WOULD ONLY BELIEVE. ROMANS 10:9**