



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIS POINT IN GOD'S STORY?

All last week we read stories that showed God's love for us and His promise to send Jesus to us. Yesterday, we read about Joseph, and how he was treated by his brothers. And yet, he was able to forgive them, just like God is able to forgive us! Joseph could see that God was doing good work through all the bad things that happened in his life. Because of God, Joseph was able to become an important man in Egypt. In that job, he was able to help a LOT or people, including his own family.

Today, we're talking about what happened to Joseph's family many years after Joseph and his brothers had died. They lived for a long time in Egypt. Then, God told them that it was time to return to the land that He had promised to Abraham and to Jacob. He chose a man named Moses to lead them out of Egypt and to that land, which was called Canaan.

During the trip to Canaan, they came to a place, called Mount Sinai. Moses, their leader, went up onto the mountain and met with God there. The Bible says that God came down in a cloud that he wrote rules on two stone tablets that Moses took up the mountain with him.

BIBLE READING

Exodus 20:1-17

WHAT DO THOSE VERSES TELL US ABOUT GOD?

God gave the people these rules because He loved them. The same way parents create rules for children. Parents want their children to love God, to be kind to other people, and to be safe. The rules God gave the people were just like that.

After God gave the people these rules, they weren't always able to obey them. Sometimes they did things that were wrong, just like sometimes we do things that are wrong. That is why they needed Jesus to come and so did we. We ALL needed forgiveness. So God sent Jesus! Before Jesus came and sacrificed Himself for our sins, God's people had to travel to the temple and sacrifice animals in order to be forgiven. Jesus coming changed things SO much. Now we can talk directly to God and ask for His forgiveness.

PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for loving your people enough to create rules to keep them safe. Please forgive us when we don't act the way you want us to. And thank you for forgiving our sins when we ask you to. In Jesus name, Amen.



