

***“So be strong and courageous!
Do not be afraid and do not panic before them.
For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you.
He will neither fail you nor abandon you.”***

Deuteronomy 31:6

Hello CYM

How are you all doing? How was half term? I hope that you all managed to get out and about a bit as the weather was so glorious.

This week sees the easing of some of our lockdown rules. Some schools, shops and work places are re-opening, shielded groups can go out with a carer and groups of 6 can meet up outside, all adhering to the social distancing rules of course! But why does there seem so much uncertainty around these new decisions? Maybe, it's because we don't really know what these new decisions really look like and how safe we will be.

So this week our encouragement newsletter is centred around the theme of uncertainty.

Activity

Colouring In



Game

Build a really high tower out of items from your recycling bin and see if you can balance a plastic cup on the top of your tower for 1 minute!

The David Banks-Broome Challenge

Challenge No. 10

Story

Joseph's Colourful Robe (Old Testament – Genesis 37)

Joseph was one of Jacob's twelve sons. Jacob loved him more than all of his other sons. Jacob made Joseph a colourful robe. His brothers were jealous. They wanted nice robes, too. And they wanted to be loved as much as Joseph was loved. Joseph had a dream. He told his family, "We were bundling grain from the field. Your bundles of grain bowed down to mine." Then Joseph had another dream. He said, "This time, the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." His father asked, "Does this mean our family will bow down to you someday?" The brothers were even more angry. They threw Joseph into a dry well. Along came some traders. The brothers sold Joseph to them as a slave. They lied to their father and said Joseph had been killed by a wild animal. But God was with Joseph.

Pharaoh's Dreams (Old Testament – Genesis 39-41)

The traders took Joseph to Egypt. He was thrown into jail. But he had done nothing wrong. Joseph trusted God to help him. He made friends with some of the prisoners. One of them had been a wine taster for Pharaoh. Pharaoh was the leader of Egypt. The wine taster said, "Last night, I had a dream. I was picking grapes and squeezing them into Pharaoh's cup. Then I put the cup into his hand. What does this mean, Joseph?" Joseph answered, "You will be Pharaoh's wine taster again. Once you are free, please don't forget about me. Help me get out of jail, too." A few days later, the wine taster's dream came true. He got out of jail and became Pharaoh's wine taster once again. But he forgot about Joseph. Later, Pharaoh had two strange dreams. In one dream, he saw seven heavy cows and seven skinny cows. The skinny cows ate up all the heavy cows. In another dream, Pharaoh saw seven healthy plants. Then he saw seven dried-up plants. The dried-up plants ate up all the healthy plants. Pharaoh was confused. Pharaoh's wise men were confused, too. Then the wine taster remembered Joseph. He told Pharaoh that Joseph could explain his dreams. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh what his dream meant. "For the next seven years, plenty of food will grow. For seven years after that, not enough food will grow because there will be no rain." Pharaoh said, "Joseph, you are a very wise man. I will make you a ruler over Egypt."

Joseph Saves His Family (Old Testament – Genesis 42-43)

For the first seven years, Joseph was in charge of gathering extra food for the people of Egypt. That way, when hardly any crops grew, there would still be plenty to eat. Then the seven bad years began, and people in other countries had no food at all. Even Joseph's family did not have enough to eat. So Joseph's father sent his sons to Egypt to buy some food. When the brothers arrived in Egypt, they went to Joseph and bowed down to him. They did not know he was their brother. But Joseph knew. Joseph sold them some food. Then the brothers left to go home. Sometime later, they returned to buy more food. Just as Joseph had dreamed, they bowed down to him – again. Finally, Joseph told them, "I am your brother!" His brothers were afraid! But Joseph told them not to be afraid. "God meant it for good. He had a special plan for me," he said. They all hugged. Joseph's brothers rushed home. They told their father what had happened. Jacob was so happy to hear that Joseph was alive. The whole family moved to Egypt.

Encouragement

When life feels uncertain, it's easy to doubt that God is really with us. But the same God who is with us during the good times is the same God who is with us during the uncertain times. All throughout the Bible, the Lord has shown that He doesn't abandon His children, you can be sure He won't start now.

In the uncertainty of what was to come for Joseph, he chose to trust God each day. He obeyed him, was patient and persevered.

God is able, He rescues and saves His people.

Prayer

Father God

Thank you that you are with us in the good times and the uncertain times.

May we learn to trust in you in all things one day at a time and may the gift of patience and perseverance become our strength.

In Jesus name

Amen

Worship Song

You Make Me Brave (Bethel Kids)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8F3I05ZXW0>

If you need any craft supplies, food and toiletries, or just a phone chat over coffee, please call me on 07969959442.

Every blessing

Denise

David Banks Broome Challenge

No.10

Using the code below, work out the questions and fill in the answers (but not in code).

The story is in Matthew 9 vs 9 - 13

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
L K J I H G F E D C B A

4 19 26 7 4 26 8 14 26 7 7 19 22 4?

Q1.

A1.

4 19 22 9 22 23 18 23 17 22 8 6 8 22 26 7?

Q2.

A2.

4 19 12 20 9 6 14 25 15 22 23?

Q3.

A3.

4 19 26 7 23 18 23 14 26 7 7 19 22 4 25 22 24 12 14

22?

Q4.

A4.

Answers

Q1. A tax collector.

Q2. Matthew's house.

Q3. The teachers of the law.

Q4. A disciple.