

TRUSTING GOD'S PLAN

January 10, 2021

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18



Memory Verse

11 I will bless you with a future filled with hope—a future of success, not of suffering.

Jeremiah 29:11

CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron VandenBurg illustrated by Chad Thompson



Have you ever had something happen to you that you don't understand? Sometimes a broken leg or the closing of school due to a pandemic can feel like the end of the world as you know it. You can't see friends, play on a sports team, or even visit your grandpa or grandma.

It's okay to admit something is scary. Think about what Joseph may have thought when his brothers dropped him into the dry well and then sold him into slavery. I think at first he must've felt *very* scared. But with each scary thing that happened to him, he trusted God and did what was right. Eventually he saved many people from famine and became a hero.

Esther too trusted God through many scary times in her life. Her parents died when she was young—after that, her cousin Mordecai took care of her. Through a series of unbelievable events, she became the queen of Persia! As queen, she used her influence with her husband the king to stop a law that would have led to the death of all the Jewish people in her country. Esther trusted God through all these scary events and

became a hero of her people.

In Jeremiah 29:11, God promised his people a future filled with hope. We can trust God to be true to his word. But how do we trust him when we're scared? Sometimes it's as simple as saying the name "Jesus" over and over to yourself. Sometimes it means asking a loved one for a long hug or a cuddle while they read a book to you. Sometimes it means a walk in the woods where God can remind you of the constant beauty in creation. Spending time with a pet or doing something you enjoy, like playing an instrument, can also remind you God loves you. He knows you and you can trust he wants the best for you.

Prayer

Heavenly father, thank you for being true to your word and loving me. Thank you for being with me when scary things happen. Help me to trust you and to do what is right. Amen.

written by Gwen Veltema Klemm

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