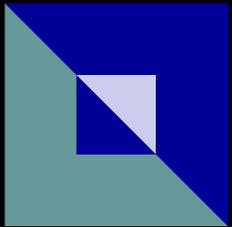


# The Road to Egypt

**You Have Power for  
Living**

**Lesson Thirteen**



# The Road to Success in Christian Living

The Road to Egypt...You have Power for Living Page 2 of 5

## COMMITMENT

I believe:

- that God the eternal Father, creator of all things, loved me so much that Jesus came to earth to be my Savior.
- that Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died to pay for my sins, was buried, rose from the dead on the third day, appeared to many people, ascended to Heaven where He sits at the right hand of God, and will one day return to earth taking all believers of all the ages to be with Him in Heaven forever.
- that when I made declaration of this, my belief, to God, I became His adopted child and His Holy Spirit came to be with my spirit forever.
- that my relationship with God is in His hands, and He will never let me go.

## The Road to Egypt...You have Power for Living

**Lesson Goal:** To encourage believers to depend on God for strength in living.

**Scriptures:** Genesis 46:1-4; Isaiah 40:28-31; Philippians 4:4-9; Ephesians 3:16-21

**Memory Verse:** "...If anyone serves he should do it with the strength God provides so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." I Peter 4:11b

Jacob, also called Israel, was dealing with a famine in the land where his father, Isaac and his grandfather Abraham had lived. He had twelve sons, the youngest was Joseph. Joseph, through evil acts of his brothers, had been sold into slavery in Egypt. While there, he did very well, with God's help, and became the right hand man to the Egyptian Pharaoh. When the famine came in the land of his birth, Joseph offered his family a place in Egypt.

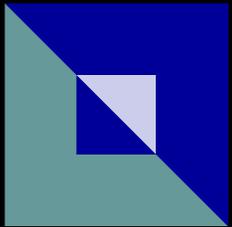
Jacob, Joseph's father, was thrilled at the prospect of seeing his son, Joseph, and agreed to go to Egypt. All he needed was confirmation from God that this was the right thing to do.

He started out on the road to Egypt. He stopped along the way to offer sacrifices of gratitude to God. While he was doing this, God spoke to him and confirmed that he was doing the right thing. God said, "go down to Egypt, for I will make you a great nation there." God was repeating the promise that He had made to Jacob's grandfather Abraham. God was going to bless Jacob, if he would continue on that road to Egypt. \*

For all of us there is a road to Egypt. For some, it could be going a long way to serve God, like it was for Jacob. It may, or may not, be going to a strange place, where you really don't know what will happen to you when you get there. For some, it may not be travelling at all. For all Christians, it will be dealing with everyday life as God leads and gives us strength.

When it comes to living every day, resisting temptation, representing God in all we do, telling others about our relationship with God, participating in fellowship with other Christians, demonstrating the fruit of the spirit, using our spiritual gifts well, and helping all those who are in need, we will need more power than we possess within ourselves.

We all need God-power. Now, if you are thinking about super-powers, you are not understanding how God empowers most humans. Yes, there were those who received super powers. We think of Samson, the judge, and his story recorded in the sixteenth chapter of Judges. He could grab the jawbone of a donkey and kill 1,000



# *The Road to Success in Christian Living*

The Road to Canaan...You are Going Home Page 3 of 5

armed soldiers with it. Now, that's power. However, God isn't into encouraging us to enter a phone booth, change our street clothes for a cape and a skin-tight suit with a giant "S" on the chest. God didn't create Superman. He does create and empower, strong Christians.

When we keep our minds focused on His will for our lives...when we ask Him for guidance...when we look to him for encouragement...when we live each day for Him, strength for living is ours.

All of us must face the fact that life is going to threaten us. There will be strong temptation...Satan does that. There will be pain and suffering. There will be sorrow. There will be loneliness. There will be challenges in our families and in our jobs. There will even be difficulties in our churches. These and many other things make up that for which we may need additional strength.

Just remember, God is there to give strength. Our memory verse for today tells us that when we serve God, we do so in His strength. Taking our imagination, ability and strength to the limit, opens the door for God to add His strength.

Now, some of us never open that door. We want to do it all ourselves. We want to be able to say, "I don't need anyone or anything. That is a demonstration of a lack of faith and an unwillingness to depend on God for supplemental power.

Just think of it this way: Remember, when you are a child and you aren't tall enough to see over the crowd, when you aren't quite strong enough to lift heavy loads, you need your dad, or mom, or someone taller and stronger to supplement your own abilities. You could always use a hand to lift you up higher so that you could see the parade. You could always use a hand to help lift the other end of the load. That is where God comes in...where He wants to be with you and to aid you.

You don't always have to bear the sorrow alone. You don't have to give your witness alone. You don't have to depend on your strength alone to resist temptation. As a matter of fact, you don't have to do anything alone...God is always there...with you.

\*Underlined sentences in the Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.

# The Road to Success in Christian Living

## The Road to Egypt... You have Power for Living

### COMMITMENT

I believe:

- that God the eternal Father, creator of all things, loved me so much that Jesus came to earth to be my Savior.
- that Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died to pay for my sins, was buried, rose from the dead on the third day, appeared to many people, ascended to Heaven where He sits at the right hand of God, and will one day return to earth taking all believers of all the ages to be with Him in Heaven forever.
- that when I made declaration of this, my belief, to God, I became His adopted child and His Holy Spirit came to be with my spirit forever.
- that my relationship with God is in His hands, and He will never let me go.

### Memory Verse:

"..."If anyone serves he should do it with the strength God provides so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." I Peter 4:11b

### You have Power for Living:

>God was going to bless Jacob, if he would \_\_\_\_\_ on that road to \_\_\_\_\_.

>When it comes to living every day, \_\_\_\_\_ temptation, representing God in \_\_\_\_\_ we do, telling others about our relationship with God, participating in \_\_\_\_\_ with other Christians, demonstrating the fruit of the spirit, using our \_\_\_\_\_ gifts well, and helping all those who are in need, we will need more \_\_\_\_\_ than we possess within ourselves.

>God didn't create \_\_\_\_\_. He does create and \_\_\_\_\_, strong Christians.

>When we keep our minds focused on \_\_\_\_\_ for our lives...when we ask Him for \_\_\_\_\_..when we look to him for encouragement...when we live each day for Him, \_\_\_\_\_ is ours.

>All of us must face the fact that life is going to \_\_\_\_\_ us. Just remember, God is there to give \_\_\_\_\_.

>When we say, "I don't need anyone or anything," that is a demonstration of a \_\_\_\_\_ of faith and an unwillingness to \_\_\_\_\_ on God for supplemental power.

>Remember, when you are a child and you aren't \_\_\_\_\_ enough to see over the Crowd, when you aren't quite \_\_\_\_\_ enough to lift heavy loads, you need your dad, or mom, or someone \_\_\_\_\_ and stronger to supplement your own abilities.

## God's Power Is Available to You

### **God Granted Power To:**

**Abraham** was given special power from God. He wasn't all that special to begin with. He wasn't born in a palace. He didn't seem to have any special talents. He followed his father's footsteps and became a good herdsman and, after a while, he was wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold. (Genesis 13:2) Along the way, He grew in his relationship with God. He had a lot of problems in his life. He had to deal with difficult relatives, famine, travel away from home, to avoid famine, to avoid enemies, to find the best places to feed his flocks and for other reasons. However, he never doubted God, even when God told him to take his son and offer him as a burnt offering. God was with him through it all. God gave him special strength to become the father of the nation of Israel.

**Noah** was given special power from God. Noah was already an old man when God chose him for a very special task. We have no indication that Noah had any experience building boats. The Bible tells us that Noah was a man of the soil...a farmer. God comes to him and says that he should build a boat on dry land. Build it really big. Make it so that you can house two of every animal or bird that lives on earth. The Bible says that Noah did all that the Lord commanded him. (Genesis 7:5) God empowered an humble farmer...one who was a righteous man, according to Genesis 6:9...to become not only a ship builder, but father of many nations.

**Deborah** was a wife and prophetess. As a judge, she held court under a Palm tree. People came to her for advice and for settling disputes. Meanwhile, the people of Israel had been victims of oppression by a king called Jabin. Deborah was told by the Lord to attack the army of Jabin. It seemed an impossible task, but Deborah took God at his word and went with Barak, commander of Israel's army, to do battle. Deborah was the strategist and Israel was victorious. After they won the battle, Deborah and Barak sang a song of victory that begins "When the princes in Israel take the lead, when the people willingly offer themselves—praise the Lord!" God empowered Deborah, not only as a righteous judge, but as a military strategist.

**Josiah** was eight years old when he became king of Judah. That's pretty young to rule over a nation. But, this young man depended on God for strength. He destroyed all the altars to the false gods. He repaired the Temple of Jehovah God. He reinstated the celebrations related to the worship of Jehovah. He read the rediscovered Law of Moses to the people. Though he was young, Josiah was empowered by God to rule the nation with justice and honor and to bring back the right kind of worship for the people.

**Amos** was a shepherd. He also took care of fig trees. He said of himself, "I was neither a prophet nor a prophet's son..." (Amos 7:14) He had no formal education and no background to be a preacher. However, he became one of the most powerful preachers of his day. He called the people of Israel back to God's righteousness. He informed them that simply following a ritual of worship was not enough. The heart had to be right with God. Though Amos was not a trained prophet, God empowered him to be one of the greatest.

**Luke** was a physician. He somehow got connected to Paul the Apostle. He went with Paul all over the western world, involved in mission work. He carefully recorded the life of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke. He followed that with the story of the geographical expansion of the early church...especially the missionary journeys of Paul. God empowered him to contribute more pages to the New Testament than any other writer.

**God will grant power to YOU.** There are many things that you can do for others...many things you can do for God's Kingdom. God, who empowered these mentioned above and millions more, is not out of power.

**God grants power to humans who are surrendered to Him for His work!**