蒙福的人必成为他人的祝福

神能将各样的恩惠,多多的加给你们,使你们凡事常常充足,能多行各样善事。——哥林多后书 9:8

嗨,孩子们!你长大后想做什么?你可以做很多不同的事情,可以成为面包师、舞蹈家、工程师 或医生;你可以成为深海潜水的潜水员,也可以成为太空中的宇航员;也许你们中的一些男孩梦 想成为武打英雄,有些女孩梦想成为公主。不管你长大后想做什么,继续保持你的大梦想,因为 我们属于一个伟大的上帝!



今天的圣经故事是关于一个犹太女孩长大后,不只是一个公主的故事。她长大后成为了王后,是 波斯王后,她的名字叫以斯帖。当以斯帖还是个小女孩的时候,我敢肯定她从没想过有一天她会 成为波斯王后。你看,以斯帖不是波斯人,她是犹太人。她也是个孤儿,由她的堂兄末底改抚养 长大,末底改也是犹太人。 以斯帖的故事开始于波斯国王,亚哈随鲁国王想要一个新王后。为了挑选新王后,王国里所有美丽的女子都被带进王宫里。因为以斯帖很漂亮,所以她也被选中了。在以斯帖离开家时,末底改对她说:"不要把你的家世和你是犹太人的事告诉任何人。"于是以斯帖对谁都不说这事,即使是选她作王后的亚哈随鲁国王,她也没有告诉他。这是正确的做法!



亚哈随鲁王在众女子中拣选了以斯帖作王后。是什么让以斯帖成为赢家的呢?是她很漂亮吗?是 的。但其他女孩子也一样这么漂亮。真正的答案是:以斯帖得到了上帝的恩惠。当你得到上帝的 恩惠时,上帝会使你得到他人的青睐。得到他人的青睐意味着他们喜欢你,不是因为你为他们做 了什么,而是因为你身上有让他们乐意帮助你和善待你的东西。甚至在她被选为王后之前,以斯 帖就得到了所有她遇到的人的青睐。宫廷官员希该给予她特殊的待遇,仆人们也很好地服侍她, 甚至其他与她竞争的女孩子们也喜欢她。以斯帖却不因自己所受到的青睐而骄傲。我们之所以知 道这事,是因为到了她该去见王的时候,她就听从希该所说的,照他的话去行。她见国王的那一 刻,事情是这样记载的,以斯帖记 2:17 告诉我们: "王爱以斯帖胜过爱别的女子,她在王眼前蒙 恩宠。王就把王后的冠冕戴在她头上,立她为王后。"



一般情况下,以斯帖只是一个犹太孤儿,不太可能成为王后。但是上帝的恩惠给了她所需要的一 切,提拔她成为波斯王国中最重要的女人。那么从此,以斯帖可以过着舒适的生活,享受她得到 的所有恩宠。但如果事情仅仅是这样,我们就不会知道以斯帖的故事了。圣经告诉我们,发生了 一件事,让以斯帖有机会去做一件大事。这一切都始于一个骄傲邪恶的人,他的名字叫哈曼。他 对末底改非常生气,这都是因为末底改不愿向他跪拜。哈曼如此骄傲自大以至非常痛恨末底改。 当哈曼发现末底改是犹太人时,他想要消灭王国里所有的犹太人。于是哈曼哄骗国王签署了一项 律法,允许波斯人杀害犹太人,并夺取属于他们的所有东西。



噢,我的天啊!于是,末底改打发人去见王后以斯帖,叫她想想办法,去找王。以斯帖听见这话就害怕。因为没有国王的允许,任何人都不能直接去见国王。任何不请自来见国王的人,都会被杀,甚至王后也一视同仁。以斯帖心里很清楚:如果我去,我会被杀死的,而唯一能躲过被杀的方式是——如果国王愿意为我伸出他的金杖。末底改说:"此时你若闭口不言,犹太人必从别处蒙拯救,你和你父家必至灭亡。焉知你得了王后的位分,不就是为了现今的时机吗?"



于是, 王后以斯帖去见王, 此时她迫切希望能蒙恩惠。看看接下来发生了什么, 以斯帖 5:2-3 告 诉我们, 当王见以斯帖站在院内时, 她在他眼前蒙恩惠, 王向以斯帖伸出手里的金杖…王对她说: "王后以斯帖, 你要什么?你求什么?就是国的一半也必赐给你。"王后以斯帖在王眼前蒙恩惠。 她是如此的蒙恩宠, 她可以要求任何她想要的, 甚至是半个王国。哇!于是, 王后以斯帖邀请王 和哈曼赴她的筵席。当王在筵席上再问她要甚麽时, 以斯帖说: "我若在王眼前蒙恩惠, 请再一 次赴我的筵席。"在第二次筵席上, 以斯帖将哈曼要杀犹大人和自己的邪恶计谋告诉王。哦, 王 非常生气, 他立即下令将哈曼绞死。



因为以斯帖敢于开口,使得哈曼和他的邪恶计谋被制止。于是,有一条新的法律被制定并颁发, 使犹太人可以反击来保护他们自己。上帝的子民得救了!上帝的恩惠帮助以斯帖成为王后,作为 王后,她利用国王的恩宠来帮助和祝福她的人民。



反观我们,因为我们是属耶稣的,所以我们也是蒙神恩惠的。就像以斯帖一样,我们可以去见国 王——万王之王,告诉祂我们的请求,不仅为自己,也为别人。我们可以利用神对我们的恩惠有 所作为,成为我们所遇见的人的祝福。

接下来,让我告诉你一位主日学老师的见证,她是如何成为一个她不认识的人的祝福。每天早上, 在她上班的路上,她都会看到一位老妇人在火车站旁边卖小包纸巾。大多数行人匆匆而过,甚至 没有注意到这位老妇人。但只要有机会,这位老师就会试着对这位老妇人微微笑或点点头。



有一天,她注意到,老妇人看上去很痛苦的样子。于是她停下来,问她还好吗?"我胃疼,"老 妇人回答说。"我能请耶稣来帮助你吗?"老师问。老妇人看起来很惊讶的说,"但我并没有向 你的上帝祈祷过,祂真的会帮我吗?""会的,"老师回答说,"让我为你祷告吧。亲爱的主耶 稣,请你帮助这位女士,让她快点好起来。奉耶稣的名,阿门。"老妇人刚说完一声"阿门", 就惊讶地睁开了眼睛,"哇,"她说,"一听到你在祈祷,我就感觉到疼痛消失了。谢谢你,请 求你的上帝来帮助我!"多么好的消息啊!我们可以用神的恩惠来帮助和祝福别人。 现在我希望你们把圣经翻到哥林多后书 9:8,你可能也需要标记强调一下,经文是这样说的:神 能将各样的恩惠,多多的加给你们,使你们凡事常常充足,能多行各样善事。恩典是不配得的上 帝的恩惠。这意味着,不在乎你必须有多好,而是在于上帝对你有多好。这节经文的意思是神能 给你很多恩惠和祝福,使你能做每一件善事,你可以成为别人的祝福,因为上帝是如此赐福于你!

也许你会想,"但我只是个孩子。我能做得了什么呢?"虽然如此,但是有很多事情你是可以做 的,例如,通过给予分享东西,帮助和关心别人,即使是一个简单的微笑也能给那些感到悲伤或 沮丧的人带来很大的改变。以斯帖的故事告诉我们,我们还能做更多,我们可以和国王谈谈,我 们可以和上帝对话。因为我们得到了神的恩惠,我们知道当我们祷告的时候,我们的祷告可以改 变事情,使事情变得更好,因为我们的神倾听我们,并且乐意答应我们的请求。



所以今天,请记住这个宝贵的想法——**你是蒙福的,因为你可以和神对话。因为你能和神对话,** 你就能改变世界。因为神在你祷告的时候,听你的祷告,所以你可以做你自己的力量做不到的事 情。当你看到有人受伤时,比如在意外事故中,不要只是无助地叹息,"噢,我的天啊!"你可 以祷告说:"亲爱的主耶稣,救救他,让他痊愈。"这似乎是一个很短很简单的祷告,但是你要 知道,主已经听见了,祂也会听从你的请求。当你的朋友争吵和打架时,你可以祈祷,而不是无 助地看着他们,告诉上帝:"主啊,帮助我的朋友们,使他们和睦相处,阿门!"

你是神的孩子,你得到了国王般的宠爱。当你与神交谈时,你的祷告是满带能力的,可以改变事情的现状。用神给予的这个恩惠来改变你周围的世界,为什么?因为你是——蒙福的人必成为他 人的祝福!

孩子们,如果你正在听这个故事,你从来没有邀请耶稣进入你的生命,成为你的主和救 主,你现在可以这样做,跟着我重复这个祷告: "亲爱的主耶稣,感谢你为我死在十字 架上。你是神的儿子,你死了,也被埋葬,第三天又复活了。你宝血洗去了我所有的罪, 使我得以永远与阿爸天父在一起。我请求你现在进入我的生命里,成为我的主和救主, 我永远是个义人,永远是有福的,永远是神的孩子。奉耶稣的名,阿门!

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. --2 Corinthians 9:8 NKJV

Hey, Rock kidz! What do you want to be when you grow up? There are so many different things you can do! You can be a baker, a dancer, an engineer or a doctor. You can be a diver deep dive in the ocean, or you can be an astronaut way up in space. Maybe some of you boys dream of being an action hero. And some of you girls dream of being a princess. What do you want to be when you grow up? Well, whatever it is, keep dreaming big because we belong to a big, big God.

Today's Bible story is about a Jewish girl Who grew up to be more than just a princess. She grew up to be a queen, The queen of Persia. Her name was Esther. And when Esther was a little girl, I'm sure she never imagined that she would one day be the Queen of Persia. You see, Esther was not Persian. She was a Jew. She was also an orphan, who up brought up by her cousin Mordecai, who was also a Jew.

Esther's story starts, when the Persian king, As king Ahasuerus wanted a new queen. To choose the new queen, all the beautiful women in the kingdom were brought to the palace. Since Esther was beautiful, she was picked as well. Before she left, Mordecai said, "Don't tell anyone about your family, or that you are a Jew." So, Esther did not tell anyone, not even the king when he chose her to be his queen. That's right.

Of all the women, King Ahasuerus chose Esther. What made Esther the winner? She was beautiful, yes. So were the other women. The answer is, Esther had favour with God. When you have favour with God, he gives you favour with other people. Have favour with other people means that they like you, not because of what you have done for them, but simply because there is something about you that makes them happy to help you and be good to you. Even before she was picked to be queen, Esther had favour with everyone she met. With Hegai the palace officer who give her special treatment. With the servants, who served her well. Even the other women competing against her liked her. Esther did not let all the favour she enjoy make her proud. We know this because when it was time for her to go to the king ,Esther listened to Hegai and did as he advised. And she met the king, this happened. Esther 2:17 tells us, the king love Esther more than other women and she obtained grace and favour in his sight. So, he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen.

In the natural, Esther was just an orphaned Jewish girl, an unlikely candidate to be queen. But the favour of God gave her everything she needed and promoted her to be the most important woman in the whole Persian kingdom. Now, Esther could have lived a comfortable life, enjoying all the favour she received. But if that was all that she did, none of us would have heard about Esther at all. The bible tells us that something happened that gave Esther the chance to make a difference and do something great. It all started when a proud and evil man called Haman got very angry with Mordecai. All because Mordecai did not want to bow to him. Haman was so proud and conceited that he hated Mordecai for this. And when Haman discovered that Mordecai was a Jew, ooh, he wanted to destroy all the Jews in the kingdom. So Haman tricked the king into signing a law that allowed the Persians to kill the Jews and take what belonged to them.

Oh no! Mordecai sent a message to Queen Esther. "Do something, go to the king!" When Esther heard this, she was afraid. No one was allowed to go to the king without his permission. Anyone who went to the king uninvited, would be killed. Even the queen. "If I go, I will be killed." The only way for me to escape death is if the king holds out his golden sceptre." Mordecai replied, "If you don't say anything, help will come from somewhere else. But you and your family will die. Who knows? Maybe you were chosen to be queen for such a time as this!"

So queen Esther went to the king, hopping for the favour she desperately needed. And look what happened. Esther 5: 2-3 tells us so it was when the king saw Esther standing in the court, that she found favour in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand... And the king said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you – up to half the kingdom!"

Queen Esther found favour in the king's sight. She had so much favour that she could ask for anything she wished, even up to half the kingdom. Wow! So, queen Esther invited the king and Haman to a banquet. When the king asked her once more what she wanted, Esther said, "If I have found favour with the king, come back for another banquet." During the second banquet, Esther told the king of Haman's evil plan to kill all the Jews, including herself. Oh, the king was so angry, he immediately ordered Haman to be hanged.

Because Esther dared to speak up, Haman and his evil plan were stopped. A new law was written to let the Jews fight back to protect themselves. God's people were saved. The favour of God helped Esther to become queen. As a queen, she used the favour with the king to be a help and blessing to her people.

What about us? Because we belong to Jesus, we also have favour with our God. Just like Esther, we can go to the king, the King of Kings Himself, and tell Him our request. Not just for ourselves, but for others as well. We can use our favour with God to make a difference and be a blessing to the people we meet.

Let me tell you about a Rock Kids teacher who was a blessing to someone she did not know. Every morning, on her way to work, she would see an old woman selling packs of tissues by the train station. Most people rushed by without even noticing her. But whenever she could, the Rock kids' teacher tried to smile to or just nod at the old woman.

One day, she noticed that the old woman was looking miserable. So, she stopped to ask if she was okay. "My stomach hurts," the old woman replied. "Can I ask Jesus to help you?" the teacher ask. The old woman looked surprised. "But I don't pray to your God. Will He really help me?" "Yes," the teacher replied, "Let me pray for you now. Dear Lord Jesus, please help this lady and make her feel better again. In Jesus's name, amen." As soon as she said "amen", the old woman opened her eyes in surprised. "Oh," she said, "as soon as you pray, I felt the pain go away! Wow, thank you for asking your God to help me."

What a good news that we can use the favour with God to be a help and blessing to others. Now I want you to flip your Bibles to 2 Corinthians 9: 8. You might want to highlight this as well. It says, **"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work."** Grace is the unmerited favour of God. This means, it is not

about how good you have to be, but all about how good God is to you. What this verse means is that God is able to give you so much favour and blessing that you can do every good work. You can be a blessing to others. Because God has blessed you so much.

Maybe you are thinking, "but I am just a kid. What can I do?" Well, lots of things! By giving by sharing by helping by caring. By being kind. Even a simple smile can make a big difference to someone who may be feeling sad or discouraged. But the story of Esther tells us something else that we can do. We can talk to the King! We can talk to God himself. And because we have favour with God, we know that when we pray, our prayers can change things and make things better, because our God listens to us, and is happy to grant our request.

So for today, hang on to this precious thought. You are blessed because you can talk to God. And because you can talk to God, you can make a real difference. Because God listens to you when you pray, you can do things that your own strength cannot do. Instead of saying, "Oh no!" when you see someone getting hurt, like in an accident, you can pray! Say, "Dear Lord Jesus, rescue him and make him well." It may seem like a very short and simple prayer, but you can be sure that the Lord heard you and will listen to your request. Instead of watching helplessly as your friends argue and fight, you can pray. Just tell the Lord, "Lord, help my friends get along with each other. Amen."

You are child of God. You have favour with the King. When you talk to God, our prayers are powerful and can change things. Use this favour to make a difference to the world around you. why? Because you are blessed to be a blessing.

Hey Rock Kidz, if you are listening to this story and you've never asked Jesus to come into your life to be your Lord and Saviour, you can do so now. Just repeat this prayer after me, "Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for me. You are the Son of God, who died, was buried and on the third day, you rose again. Your precious blood washed away all my sins making me forever right with Daddy God. I ask You now to come into my life to be my Lord and Saviour. I am forever righteous, forever blessed, forever a child of God. In Jesus'name," and everyone say, "Amen."