



Stories, Puzzles, Jokes, Serial and more...

### Hi There!

We all have hopes and expectations, but can you keep hoping in the middle of tough times? Do you put your trust in God even when you think there is no reason to hope?





info@biblediscovery.org.nz www.biblediscovery.org.nz Discovery is a publication of the PSSM Bible Discovery Trust (formerly the Postal Sunday School Movement of NZ Inc.) This is an evangelical, non-denominational, Christian trust. We depend on God to supply our financial needs through the donations of interested individuals and groups All donations are receipted and tax-deductible.

As well as *Discovery* we produce 5 different levels of FREE Bible lessons. These are posted monthly to all who would like them. If you would like to join please ask your parent or guardian for permission, then send your name, address and age to:

PSSM Bible Discovery, 888 New North Road, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 Ph: 09 846 1776 Issue 12 Volume 72 August 2010 Director & Treasurer: Mr A.Simpson Discovery Editor: Wendy Reid Permission must be sought before reproducing anything.

MAIL

#### By Annaliese Smith



THE PULL AWAY FROM HOPE

> Jessie's cup shook slightly as she moved it slowly to her lips. It

wavered there for about 30 seconds before she took a slow sip. After another 30 seconds it slowly made its way back to the coaster on the edge of the couch. The whole time Jessie's eyes never left the page. The rest of her milo sat forgotten and grew cold. A good book meant that a lot of other things ended up being neglected for a while

... had everything they

the story  $\sqrt{\phantom{a}}$ 

wanted, but God wasn't

mentioned anywhere in

Later on in the day, when she had finally managed to put the book down, she found herself wondering why the book

made her feel sad. It was odd, because the story didn't have any sad bits in it; it was actually quite funny. She began humming as she tried to figure it out, tapping her nail in time to the rhythm of the song. 'My hope is in You, show me Your way.... Her finger suddenly stopped tapping and she repeated the line again. 'My hope is in You'. That was it! Hope!! The book was meant to be a funny, carefree story, but what was missing was hope. The main characters had heaps of friends, went out every weekend, and had everything they wanted, but God wasn't mentioned anywhere in the story; none of the characters where Christians. Actually, the book reminded her of some of her friends at school. Living for the moment and only focused on having fun. For them, being a Christian wasn't 'cool', because, they thought it was just a whole bunch of rules that made life boring. What a crazy thing to think! Having God forgive your sins and knowing that He is there to always guide and help you was the most amazing feeling ever.

Jessie's finger began tapping again. But even now, after thinking it through, she wanted to go, pick up the book and read more. There was something about the story, something about the girl's lives that pulled at her. There wasn't anything particularly

wrong in the book, yet nothing meaningful either.

It was good to realise and good to be remember how easy it is to think that the world's way of

living is more fun than God's way. She narrowed her eyes and looked at the blank wall at the end of her bed.

10 minutes later an A4 sheet of paper was stuck to her wall. Printed on it in a funky font were the words from **Psalm** 39 v 7: "My hope is in You"

Just in case she was tempted to forget.

Alison opened the curtains to let the morning light into the kitchen, and noticed the sun glinting on the blue plant pot. A close friend had given Alison the pot before she moved to another city, so Alison treasured it. Today she was going to replant it with basil seedlings, so she took it down from the windowsill and put it on the table.

Alison prepared toast and porridge and set the table. Her children, Sarah and John, came in to have their breakfast, and Sarah noticed the pot sitting on the table.

"Is that the pot Rosa gave you, Mum?"

"Yes dear, and I think of Rosa every time I look at it." Alison replied.

"Yeah, I know you miss her," said Sarah. "She must have known that blue is your favourite colour."

The children finished their breakfast and Alison started to clear the table. She reached across the pot to collect the bowls and spoons, brushing a few toast crumbs from the tablecloth. CRASH! The pot fell onto the floor and smashed into pieces.

"Oh no!" Alison cried out, as she knelt beside the broken pot. Sarah went to her side and helped her pick up the pieces. Alison held the pieces in her hands and tears came to her eyes.

"Oh Mum, don't worry, Dad can glue it back together."

"I don't think so, dear, there are too many pieces, it would be hard to get them all back in the right place. No, it's ruined, I'll have to throw it away."

Alison swept all the pieces up and wrapped them in a piece of newspaper. She was angry with herself for being careless, and upset that she had lost her precious pot. She put the bundle out of sight behind the laundry door, thinking she would deal with it later, when she

had calmed down.

A week went by and Alison tried to forget about the broken pot. On Sunday morning she lay in bed reading, while the others had breakfast. When she eventually went into the kitchen she found the family still sitting at the table.

"Why haven't you opened the curtains?" Alison asked.
"Oh, no reason really, just lazy I guess,"
mumbled Sarah. John giggled and their father
looked down at his newspaper, hiding a grin.

Alison drew back the curtains and gasped. The blue pot was back on the windowsill. "Oh look....!" Alison was amazed. "I can't believe it? Who did...? How....?"

"It was me, Mum." Sarah said. "I know how much the pot meant to you, so I worked out how the pieces went back together. Dad showed me which glue to use, and I just kept sticking the pieces together until the pot was in one piece again."

Alison hugged her daughter, and told her how much she appreciated Sarah's thoughtfulness and hard work.

Later in the day, as Alison turned the pot over in her hands, she could see the crack lines where it had been glued, and there were chips around the rim. Some people would think it was now spoiled and worthless, but Alison treasured it more than ever. The pot still reminded Alison of her friend's love in giving her the gift, but now it also showed her daughter's love in repairing that gift.

God gives us the gift of life, but sad things sometimes happen to us. When we are broken by hurt, or sickness, or tragedy, God wants to repair us. We can trust God to be with us in every situation, and to know which glue will put us together again.



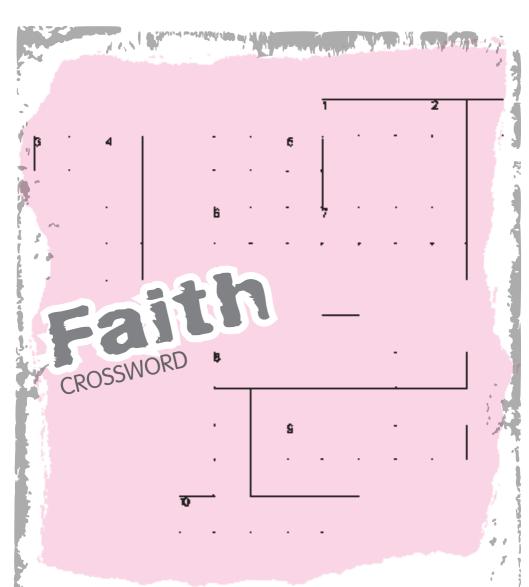
The Plant

God will never, ever lie,
If we have trusted Jesus
Then we'll meet Him when we die.

ne day we'll be with Him in Heaven
And see Him face to face,
How wonderful it is to know
We'll-share that special place.

erhaps today we'll join Him there
Or in a future day,
It's not for any good we've done,
But Jesus is the way.

ternal life God promises
To all He has forgiven,
Free from all sickness, pain and death,
With Jesus there in Heaven.



#### **ACROSS**

- 1 What this puzzle is about
- 3 God always keeps the ones He makes
- 6 This means to admit something wrong
- 8 What God wants us to do
- **9** God wants us to give this to Him
- 10 Who God wants us to believe

#### **DOWN**

- 2 This goes with faith
- 4 We have to do this as well as believe
- **5** God hates this
- 7 God will do this if we tell Him we have sinned
- 8 We read about God in this book

## SEE YOU IN

Lauren and Jason were so sad. Grandpa was very sick and the doctor didn't think he would get better. Now they were going to see him in hospital.

"What can we say to him?" Lauren asked.

"I don't know," replied Jason.

"Maybe you could just tell him that you love him," responded Mum.

At that moment they pulled into the car park, climbed out of the car and walked towards the hospital.

Shortly afterwards they approached Grandpa's bed and reached out to give him a hug.

"Have a look at the card I got from Uncle Raymond," Grandpa said, in a quiet voice, handing it to Mum. Slowly she read, "Christ in you the hope of glory. Dad it won't be long and I'll see you again in heaven."

"That's a great verse, isn't it?" said Grandpa.

"Yes," replied Mum.

The verse says about

and I don't end up

aettina it

hoping, and sometimes

I hope to get something

"But what if you don't reach heaven?"
asked Jason. "The verse says about
hoping, and sometimes I hope to get
something and I don't end up
aetting it."

"Yeah," responded Lauren,
"like last Christmas
when you hoped to get
a motorbike and you
didn't."

"This is a different kind of hope," answered Grandpa. "This hope is for sure. Jesus died for my sin and rose again and because I have asked

His forgiveness I know that soon I will be with Jesus. In John 10:28 Jesus promised 'I give them eternal life and they shall never perish, no one can snatch them out of my hand.' Children are you going to join me in heaven one day?"

"I hope so," replied Jason and Lauren together.

"Well, if you have trusted Jesus you can know that one day you will be with Him in heaven," whispered Grandpa, with a smile on his face, "and that's real hope."





## CONGRATULATIONS

For years completed

1 Jill Balchin Lucy Balchin Nathan Ball Philip Brand Morgan Cryer Margaret Fowlie Natalie Fox Jay Frampton **Erin Frampton** Theckla Gunga Juedi Janssen Becky Kowalewski Kristoffer Lavasii Mitchell Leaf Kate Moffat Chidiebere Moses Ashley Russell Jake Russell Marieta Tiuhea **Cameron Whiting** 

- 2 Mikayla-Jo Beets Naomi Chin Lusia Gasaucalayawa Austin Rao Maegan Shivas
- 3 Regan Braun Victor Daynes Ashleigh Ferguson Seth Fitness Sarah Hannah Tiffany Henry Mathilda John Lanah Jones

Abiella Round Teisha Sowry Meli Tuni Elijah Turbucz Talitha Turbucz

- 4 Maria Henderson Renia Roberts Merewalesi Tuwawa
- **5** Bethany Ferguson Madeline Francis Brenda Smith Timon Warren
- 6 Rachel Baptista Dan Hince Bronwyn Holtslag Miriam Lauridsen Wendor Sakou Daniella Shivas Laura Stewart
- **7** Toby Jaunay Isaac Symington Emily Symington Savanah Tohu
- 8 Mayli Yew
- 10 Tigvah Round
- 11 Rhonda Gavera
- **12** Beth Emmett
- **36** Fairleen Alexander



"We can remember to read these."

#### BIBLE READINGS

#### AUGUST

DATE	воок	REFERENCE
1 Sun	John	9:24-34
2 Mon	John	9:35-41
3 Tue	John	10:1-10
4 Wed	John	10:11-15
5 Thu	John	10:16-21
6 Fri	John	10:22-30
7 Sat	John	10:31-42
8 Sun	John	11:1-16
9 Mon	John	11:17-27
10 Tue	John	11:28-37
11 Wed	John	11:38-44
12 Thu	John	11:45-54
13 Fri	John	12:1-11
14 Sat	John	12:12-19
15 Sun	John	13:2-11
16 Mon	John	13:12-20
17 Tue	John	14:1-7
18 Wed	John	15:1-17
19 Thu	John	18:1- 11
20 Fri	John	18:28-32
21 Sat	John	18:33-40
22 Sun	John	19:1-11
23 Mon	John	19:12-16
24 Tue	John	19:17-22
25 Wed	John	19:23-30
26 Thu	John	19:31-37
27 Fri	John	19:38-42
28 Sat	John	20:1-10
29 Sun	John	20:11-18
30 Mon	John	20:19-23
31 Tue	John	20:24-29







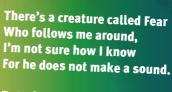












But when I start to tremble I know that he is there He's a cold, prickly creature - Is the one called fear.

Fear can come out
For small things, you see:
The darkness, the water,
The sting of a bee.

Fear isn't so bad For things trivial and small But when it gets bigger Fear seems to conquer all.

Fear has an iron grip He holds me back with ease. I won't do things I want to do Instead it's Fear I please.

What brings out the Fear in you? What will hold you back From doing what God wants you to, From treading down His track?

When Jesus conquered sin, He also conquered fear. And the prickly creature runs away When I have Jesus near.

So when I feel Fear's grip now, I can simply break free. I know God will help Because He loves me.



#### By Gwenyth Frear



Joseph woke up with a start. As he sat up, he said "Thankyou" to God as he did every morning. He knew that even though he was in jail wrongfully, God was still looking after him. He remembered the butler who had been in jail with him, and how he had hoped that he would remember to put in a good word for him to the king. He was relying on the butler to get him out of jail, but time went by with nothing happening, and his hopes faded. But in spite of this, his hope in God remained firm.

Suddenly he heard dream, and I saw seven fat cows coming up out of it, with seven thin cows after them. The thin cows ate the fat cows up and still stayed skinny. Then I had a second dream with seven well grown ears of corn on one stalk, and another stalk with seven thin looking ears of corn on it. The same thing happened again, with the thin ears eating the fat ears, and still staying skinny".

MOPE



the prison gate clang. This was unusual. What was going on? Heavy footsteps came down the corridor, stopping outside his door. The key turned in the lock, and the guard came in.

"Come on", he said gruffly, "His Highness has commanded that you go before him right now!"

Joseph could hardly believe his ears! He wasted no time going with the guard. He was marched out the prison gates, and into the king's palace, where he was taken to a bathroom to clean up, shave and change his clothes. "Be as quick as you can," he was told, "His Highness wants to see you urgently".

Joseph quickly got ready and then hurried to his guide who was waiting for him. As they went to the king, he wondered again why the king wanted him.

"I hear you can interpret dreams Joseph", the king said. "My butler said you interpreted dreams for him while he was in prison with you. I had two very vivid dreams last night and no-one can tell me what they mean".

"Your Majesty", Joseph said with a quick bow, "I cannot interpret the dreams, but the God of Heaven who I trust in will give you an answer of peace."

The king said, "I was by the river in my

Joseph was silent for a moment, with no-one saying a word. Then he said, "God has shown me what the dreams mean. Both of them mean the same thing. There are going to be seven years of plenty with great crops. Then after that will be seven drought years with no food. Someone should be put in charge that can gather the surplus food in the good years and then distribute it wisely during the poor years".

"Wonderful!" cried the king, "You have the very answer. You can be in charge of the grain portfolio and see that these things are done". Joseph could hardly believe his ears. "Yes, Your Majesty, I will do that immediately Your Majesty" he said as he left the king's presence.

How great God was who he had confidently hoped in all these years! How quickly things were happening now! The king put him in charge of the crops straight away, and he saved the extra grain for the poor years to come.

Joseph kept marvelling at how God had changed things for him. Truly, it proved that it wasn't having ordinary hope that counted; it was putting your hope in God that mattered!

See our July edition for three earlier dramatised stories about Joseph.

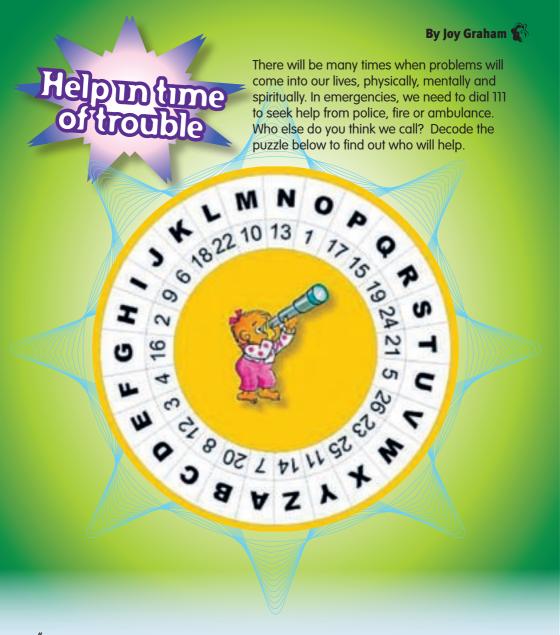


Start with the first letter then take every second letter to fill the spaces below. You can find this verse in

Titus 1:2.

Titus

# ABFGABIJTUHIABNODEKLNOOPWXLMEFDEGHEFRSE FSTTUIJNOGHOPNOTUHIEFHIOPPQEFOPFGEFTUEFRSN OABLMLMIJFGEFWXHIIJCDHIGHOPDEWXHIOPDEOPE FSTNOOPTULMIJEFPQRSOPMNIJSTEFDEBCEFFGOPRSE FTUHIEFBCEFGHIJNONOIJNOGHOPFGTUIJMNEF.

3 26 3 19 11 1 13 3 23 2 1 8 7 22 22 24 1 5 21 21 1 21 2 3

22 1 19 12 4 1 19 2 3 22 17 23 9 22 22 20 3 24 7 26 3 12



#### "The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him."

Characters: Steve, Peter, Mrs Wilson( Peter's mother).

**S:** ( enters the Wilson's kitchen) Hi Peter. What are you doing?

**P:** I'm reading the newspaper.

**S:** What do you want to do that for?

**P:** I just want to see what's going on in the world.

**S:** Fair enough. So what is happening?

**P:** Well, so far it all seems to be doom and gloom. A man robbed a city bank yesterday and a couple were killed last night by a drunk driver.

Here's a report about a bad earthquake that's killed heaps of people and left hundreds homeless. On this page there's a picture of people starving because there's a drought in their country.

S: Hm... sounds like a sad old world.

**P:** (flicking through the pages) There's articles here about wars, disease, economic recession, climate change, and all kinds of problems everywhere.

**5:** No good news then? It makes you wonder if there's any hope for the world doesn't it? What do you think Mrs Wilson? Do you think there's any hope for us in the future?

**W:** (ironing) I guess it depends what you put your hope in. If you're trusting in the achievements of men and women or in wealth, science, politics or the like, then you're bound to be disappointed.

P: Then who can we trust?

**W:** As a Christian, I've put my hope and trust in God. He created everything and

it's His world and nothing can happen beyond His control.

**P:** So tell me Mum - if God's in control, then why does He allow all this bad stuff to happen?

**W:** That's a hard question to answer Peter. God created a perfect universe but when sin entered the world, everything was spoiled. Most of the suffering in the world is caused by greed and selfishness and that's the result of sin. But one day God is going to put all things right.

**S:** So what do we do in the meantime?

**W:** We must put our faith and trust in the Lord. When we believe in Him, he gives us eternal life and that gives us hope for this life and the next. Let me quote from the Bible what the prophet Isaiah wrote about young guys like you. "Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40: 30-31.

**P:** Hey Mum, that's great.

**S:** That's the best news we can ever have!



## Writing challenge

Using the letters of your name or the word HOPE, write an acronym poem about HOPE.

Or else,
Write a poem or
short story about having
HOPE.

When you have completed this challenge, why not email or post your poem or short story to us? We may even publish the best one in Discovery!

D	E	G	I	V	E	Н	R	Х	N	A
E	V	E	R	Y	0	N	E	0	Α	L
R	A	Z	0	Р	T	Т	A	Н	T	W
A	Н	U	Е	0	Н	Н	S	W	0	A
P	G	I	V	Е	Е	R	0	U	Α	Y
Е	F	I	F	Т	Е	Е	N	0	S	S
R	J	0	R	E	T	E	P	Y	K	E
P	T	0	R	E	W	S	N	Α	S	В

## WORD FIND

You can find the words to fill the spaces below in the wordfinder above. See how you get on.

A		b p		t_	9	a	
a	-4	t e		w	a	у	t
g	t	r	_ f	_ t	_ h	t	
у	h	Part of O	P		. t	verse	
f							

