



Grace Assembly Of God

Chapter-By-Chapter Bible Reading Devotional

Scripture:	Genesis 36	Title:	"Despite"
Author:	Ps Alvin Lim		
Summary of Chapter:	Isaac had just passed away. This chapter records the wealth and descendants of Esau. Esau had to move away from Jacob to Seir because the land could not support both of their livestock and possessions.		
Key Verses (NLT):	How does it speak to me?		
<i>⁶Esau took his wives, his children, and his entire household, along with his livestock and cattle—all the wealth he had acquired in the land of Canaan—and moved away from his brother, Jacob. ⁷There was not enough land to support them both because of all the livestock and possessions they had acquired.</i>	<p>Wait. Isn't Esau the guy who sold his birthright to Jacob over a bowl of stew? Isn't he the one who missed the prayer of blessing from his father Isaac? Isn't he the one who tried to murder Jacob? Isn't he the one who married Canaanite women even though he knew that that was wrong and displeasing to God? Why was he described as being so prosperous and blessed in this chapter?</p> <p>Despite the sinful person that Esau was, God still prospered and protected Esau. What grace!</p> <p>But I can identify with Esau. I am always amazed at God's blessings upon my life despite who I am with my many failures and weaknesses. Many times, I have asked God why he called me to be a pastor even though there are many others more qualified and gifted. After twenty years in the ministry and looking at how God has used me despite who I am and what God has blessed me with, I am always filled with gratitude at God's grace.</p> <p>How about you? Can you recognize and give thanks for God's blessings in spite of who you are?</p>		
APPLICATION QUESTIONS:			
Adult:	What are some responses or action steps you would like to take after recognizing how God has used and blessed you despite who you are?		
Youth:	Write a short letter to God expressing your gratitude to God for blessing and using you despite your failures and sins.		
Child:	List three things and three persons (other than your family) that you are most grateful to God for. Give thanks to God.		
PRAYER:			
Praying Scripture:	Dear heavenly Father, I am always amazed at how you have used me for the work of the ministry despite my many weaknesses. I am amazed at how you have blessed and prospered me despite my many failures and sins. I don't deserve any of this, but it is by your grace alone. I worship you and will serve you with all my life.		
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food they ate, places they went, prayer that is answered, etc)		
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)		
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (can add one name per day). In Jesus Name I/we pray. Amen.		