

## Experiencing God's Power

"Knowing God Deeper" part 5, from Genesis 37-49

Pastor Bob Johnson, May 16th, 2021

*For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power.*

*1 Corinthians 4:20 (NLT)*

### ***El Shaddai* = "I am your all-powerful God"**

*God is awesome ... He gives power and strength to his people.*

*Psalm 68:35 (NLT)*

*Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.*

*Psalm 91:1 (NLT)*

*Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea— the Lord on high is mighty.*

*Psalm 93:4 (NIV)*

*Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. <sup>23</sup>With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. <sup>24</sup>But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd ... <sup>25</sup>who helps you, because of the Almighty, who blesses you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings of the deep that lies below ... <sup>26</sup>Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Genesis 49:22–26 (NIV)*

### **When can I count on God's Power?**

- **When I'm T ...**

*So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the richly ornamented robe he was wearing— <sup>24</sup>and they took him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it.*

*Genesis 37:23–24 (NIV)*

- **When I'm T ...**

*Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, <sup>7</sup>and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"*

*Genesis 39:6–7 (NIV)*

- **When I'm T ...**

*When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. <sup>20</sup>Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined.*

*Genesis 39:19–20 (NIV)*

## **What is my part to receive God's Power?**

### **A ...**

*Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "Today I am reminded of my shortcomings. ..."*

*Genesis 41:9 (NIV)*

*"I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires."*

*Genesis 41:16 (NIV)*

### **B ...**

*The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. <sup>38</sup>So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"*

*Genesis 41:37–38 (NIV)*

### **C ...**

*As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he pretended to be a stranger and spoke harshly to them. "Where do you come from?" he asked. "From the land of Canaan," they replied, "to buy food."*

*Genesis 42:7 (NIV)*

*And he put them all in custody for three days. <sup>18</sup>On the third day, Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God."*

*Genesis 42:17–18 (NIV)*

*Deeply moved at the sight of his brother, Joseph hurried out and looked for a place to weep. He went into his private room and wept there. <sup>31</sup>After he had washed his face, he came out and, controlling himself, said, "Serve the food."*

*Genesis 43:30–31 (NIV)*

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## **This Week's GPC Discussion Guide:**

Welcome to the fifth week our 10 week study and discussion based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Knowing God Deeper".

Each week we will reflect on one of the names of God found in the Old Testament. Each of these names are windows into an aspect of God's character.

The more we understand God's character, the deeper we can know God personally, increase our trust in Him and experience His peace.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships in the coming weeks.

Each week, we will be using the same set of questions as we focus in on the ten different names of God that will be the focus of this series.

### **Getting Started ...**

In the last seven days or so, what has encouraged you (big or small) that we can rejoice with you over? ... and / or ...

What has challenged you, stretched you, possibly brought some discouragement your way (big or small) ... that we can offer our support and prayers for each other?

### **Quick Review ...**

Let's reflect on this week's name of God, "El Shaddai" which means "I am your all-powerful God"

From the story of Joseph found in Genesis 37-49 related to God's power, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged you, encouraged you, or stretched your thinking?

## **Digging Deeper:**

What does the name “El Shaddai” mean to you personally?

Have you experienced the meaning of this name before?

If so, when? How did it impact you?

What thoughts came out of that experience?

What are some feelings, thoughts, questions or possible struggles that surface in you as you reflect on the meaning of this name?

What do you think God wants you to remember and live in light of about this particular name of God?

What are the needs and desires this name of God might meet in your life if you were fully able to embrace its truth in your heart?

## **Praying Together:**

Let's be sure to spend some time sharing prayer requests and praying for each other.