The Story of You and God

How Far Would Someone Go to Rescue the One They Loved?

Chapters 1-3: God wants to "tabernacle" (dwell) with me.

Chapters 4-5: God accepts, cleanses and forgives me.

CHAPTER 6: LIGHT IN A DARK PLACE

Exodus 25:31-40 The Golden Lampstand

The Lampstand represented <u>Jesus Christ</u>.

"Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer..."

Isaiah 53:10a (NIV)

The **church** is also seen in the Lampstand.

"'Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me as I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.'" John 15:4-5 (NIV)

"For in Him we live and move and have our being."

Acts 17:28a (NIV)

The Lampstand could only give light when it was full of oil.

Just as Jesus was the <u>light</u> so I, too, must <u>shine</u>.

"While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

John 9:5 (NIV)

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

"So that you may become blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.' Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life."

Philippians 2:15-16a (NIV)

The more a wick burns, the more it needs to be trimmed.

"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them."

Hebrews 6:10 (NIV)

CHAPTER SEVEN: BREAD FROM HEAVEN

Exodus 25:23-30 The Table of Showbread

The twelve loaves represented the 12 tribes of Israel.

The showbread was provided for **food** and **fellowship**.

Wood/bronze: Jesus as our suffering Savior

Wood/gold: Jesus as the glorified King.

The showbread is <u>Jesus</u>, who was the <u>Bread of Life</u>.

"Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty."

John 6:35 (NIV)

"Jesus said to them, 'Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 6:32-33 (NIV)

"And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.'" Matthew 3:17 (NIV)

How do I feed on the Living Bread? Through the <u>written</u> Word.

The showbread also represented the church.

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28 (NIV)

CHAPTER 8: LIFE IS A PRAYER

Exodus 30:1-10 The Golden Altar

The altar represents prayer.

The value of the altar was in the incense that was burned on it.

"I call to You, Lord, come quickly to me; hear me when I call to You. May my prayer be set before You like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice."

Psalm 141:1-22 (NIV)

"Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all

God's people on the golden altar in front of the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand."

Revelation 8:3-4 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit gives guidance to us as we <u>pray</u>.

"And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words."

Romans 8:26 (NLT)

Prayer should become a way of life.

"In the morning, Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before You and wait expectantly." Psalm 5:3 (NIV)

"On my bed I remember You; I think of You through the watches of the night." Psalm 63:6 (NIV)

"Pray without ceasing." I Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV)

It is always too soon to stop praying.

"Then Jesus used this story to teach His followers that they should always pray and never lose hope." Luke 18:1 (NCV)

Who is "on your heart" today?

Truth to Believe: God Uses Me!