

4Ws A NEW EL SHADDAI

Starting Right
by Knowing God

JANUARY 3, 2021

WORSHIP

The Same Jesus,
You Are, Unbroken
Praise

WELCOME

Do you have a new
year's resolution?
Whether YES or NO,
share which areas
of your life need
improvement or
resolution in 2021

WORD

READ IT!

GENESIS 28:1-4

1 So Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and commanded him, saying to him, "You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. **2** Arise, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother's father; and from there take to yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother. **3** May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, so that you may become a multitude of peoples. **4** May He also give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your descendants with you, so that you may possess the land where you live as a stranger, which God gave to Abraham."

READ Genesis 17:1-14 and 35:9-15 for context

PARAPHRASE IT!

Restate the verses in your own words.

TALK ABOUT IT!

- What did you like about these verses?
- What did you learn about God?
- What did you learn about people?
- What did you learn about following God?
- What impossible thing are you trusting God Almighty (El Shaddai) for this year?

POINT IT OUT!

1. GOD IS ALL-SUFFICIENT TO FULFILL HIS PLAN FOR OUR LIVES

In **Genesis 17:1**, we find the first occurrence of the name EL SHADDAI. The root word of SHADDAI is SADAD which means "powerful".

- It also means to "deal with mightily and sometimes with force or strength". Thus, it is translated as GOD ALMIGHTY in our Bibles today.
- Also means GOD IS ABLE TO NOURISH. He is able to pour out provisions and take care of whatever needs may arise. He is truly ALL-SUFFICIENT! (**Eph 3:20; 2 Cor 12:9**).
- God first gave Abraham an assurance that He will fulfill His plan for Abraham's life. God then commands Abraham to "walk" with Him (**Heb. Halak, Gk. Eurasteo**) (cf: Romans 12:1).
- El Shaddai equips and empowers us to pursue His plan for our lives. The covenant of circumcision shows that while God gives promises and commitments, we have a part to play –our obedience to Him and ultimately the "circumcision" of our hearts (**Genesis 17: 10-12; Deuteronomy 30:6, Jeremiah 4:4**).
- God proved to Abraham that He is able to fulfill His promises. Do not limit God with your own concept of physical limitations because **GOD is ALMIGHTY**. With God, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

2. GOD IS ALL-SUFFICIENT TO PROSPER US

The name EL SHADDAI appears again in **Genesis 28:1-3** when Isaac called his son, Jacob, to introduce him to God Almighty. Isaac experienced first-hand God Almighty work in his life. Our faith must be **real** and **personal**. Faith cannot be inherited or passed on. We can teach our children and

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WORD

disciples about God, but they must have a real and personal encounter with the living God.

- Isaac experienced how God was able to prosper him amidst marrying a barren wife (**Genesis 25:20-21**).
- While experiencing famine (**Genesis 26:1-3**).
- Being bullied by people who wanted to drive Isaac away while God commands him to stay and sow in that land (**Genesis 26:12-13**). Isaac learned to trust God and make steps of faith. God was able to meet his needs and prospered him (**cf: Philippians 4:19**).

3. GOD IS ALL-SUFFICIENT TO TRANSFORM US

EL SHADDAI also dealt with Jacob directly in **Genesis 35:10-12**. The change in Jacob's name was symbolic of God's ability to transform his character.

- God allowed him to go through trials—cheated by his uncle Laban 10 times.
- To transform somebody takes time, but God does not get tired or gives up on us. He had begun His work on Jacob's life, and He was "able to complete (Gk. TELEO) it" (**cf: Philippians 1:6**).
- The "wrestling match" in **Genesis 32:24-29** was the pinnacle of Jacob's transformation. Prior to this, he believed he can get blessings through scheming and cheating. He realized then that it was GOD who can truly bless him, and so Jacob clung on to Him.
- God is Almighty; He will do everything necessary to transform our character including a dislocated hip in Jacob's case, which caused him to limp for life.
- When we recognize our weakness and surrender to God Almighty, we will experience His power (**cf: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10**).
- Jacob was a stronger man despite limping for the rest of his life. Our lives should not be defined by the physical comforts of this world because: **GOD IS ALL-SUFFICIENT TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSE FOR OUR LIVES**

WORKS

APPLY IT!

Based on this lesson on God's name: EL SHADDAI, write down your action point to apply what you learned. Make this your "I will..." statement and follow the S.M.A.R.T guideline to come up with a do-able action point

- Simple
- Measurable
- Appropriate
- Realistic
- Time-bound

"I will _____

SHARE IT!

Who will you share these truths to this week?

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray that your loved ones will personally know and experience El Shaddai. Take time to know how you can pray for and serve them. Share the good news that God is all-sufficient to save us, transform us, and fulfill His plans in our lives through the Jesus Christ.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

Upright and moral governance of Public Servants
A God-centered Philippines
Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

Worship and Training Center
Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

Deeper intimate relationship with God
Righteous living
Salvation of family and friends