



WEEK FIVE

JOSEPH FORGIVES HIS BROTHERS • GENESIS 42-45



SAY THIS:
YOU CAN TRUST
GOD HAS A PLAN.



REMEMBER THIS:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding.”
PROVERBS 3:5, NIrV



DO THIS:



Sometimes when people go on long hikes, they choose trail names for themselves. Pick a trail name for each other based on your characteristics, things you like, etc.

TRUST:

PUTTING YOUR CONFIDENCE IN SOMEONE
YOU CAN DEPEND ON



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STRETCHING FAITH

By Gina McClain

One late Sunday evening, we were driving down the highway and my husband started slowing down. "Why are you stopping?" I'm clearly annoyed. "It's not me," the hubs says, "the car is dying." Our precious family car had sputtered to its final stop.

To say the car's death was untimely is an understatement. We weren't very far down the road of saving for its replacement. When we looked at our budget, you could say we were poised for a miracle. Little did we know we were on the cusp of a faith-stretching journey for our whole family. You see, we made two important decisions from the beginning.

First, we chose to only pay cash for a car. Not because of the amount of cash we had. Far from it. We decided to pay cash because of how we've seen God provide in the past and trust He'll do the same again. Second, we chose to involve our kids in the journey. Because we wanted our kids to see what trusting in God's provision looks like.

Over the course of seven weeks, our family gathered before bed. Sitting on the floor of our hallway, we prayed for a car that fit within the cash we had available to spend. We prayed for transportation to help get where we needed to go throughout the week. With every week

that passed, a car was made available for us to use. And nearly two months later we paid cash for our new-to-us car. That was a fun day.

As challenging and inconvenient as the process was, the outcome is remarkably rewarding. Over the course of time, our kids watched us make a choice each day—to trust for God's provision and not our own understanding. As a family, we fought to make a wise choice. As a family, our faith was stretched. And as a family, we celebrated what God did.

My husband and I have learned over the course of our lives that God will provide in ways we need but don't often predict. We want our kids to learn this same practice in their own lives of trusting in what you can't see because of what you can.

When we invite our kids to participate with us as we exercise our own faith, we allow them to take part in a story that helps them develop their own faith.



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