

## GOD'S FAVOUR ACROSS YOUR LIFETIME

I want to talk about something that is close to my heart and which I have often experienced firsthand :THE FAVOUR OF GOD

**Meaning of Favour** :approval, support, or liking for someone

Genesis 6 talks about the depraved state of man after creation :

**SLIDE 1** <sup>5</sup>The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. <sup>6</sup>The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled.<sup>7</sup> So the LORD said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them."<sup>8</sup> But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

**SLIDE 2** How do we find favour with God in the midst of great wickedness and evil on earth as we experience in this present generation ? Just like Noah Did!

<sup>9</sup>This is the **account** of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.

I believe Our father always wants the best for us and when we receive **that he also wants the best from us**

**I believe Gods favour is across your lifetime .** Some assurances of Favour :  
**SLIDE 3**

**Psalms 30:5** The Passion I've learned that his anger lasts for a moment, but his loving favor lasts a lifetime! We may weep through the night, but at daybreak it will turn into shouts of ecstatic joy.

**Jeremiah :29:11 ERV ...** "I have good plans for you. I don't plan to hurt you. I plan to give you hope and a good future. In him we live and move and have our being

**John 10:10** The Passion : A thief has only one thing in mind—he wants to steal, slaughter, and destroy. But I have come to *give you everything in abundance, more than you expect*—life in its fullness until you overflow!

**Acts 17: 28 NIV** :‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’

### **STORY In Gen 41 :**

Yes God gave Joseph a dream of prominence ,  
What Joseph didn't know was that because God was with him he will be a statesmen in a foreign country ,over people who didn't look like him ,and the survival of the then world will be entirely on his shoulders.

If Joseph kept a journal like me I am sure Joseph reminisces over his journal

- Yes serves me right for punching above my weight ,dreaming farfetched dreams

- Mum died when I was young boy ,
- Dad upset when I told him my dream `
- Brothers mad at me for me getting a coat of many colours from dad
- I just took lunch for the bros and that's the thanks I got – pushed me in a dark pit
- Favourite coat taken and blood washed –just got hit for 6 because of my fashion statement
- I thought they were having a joke on me but they weren't joking when they sold me as a slave to some odd looking traders
- Worked for a good boss what what's cutting with his missus , she got her googly eye on and because I said no gets me in me in trouble by using s my coat as false evidence that I am a perv .Again let don by my fashion statement
- blimey , first the pit , now the prison and I still can't stop interpreting reams – this time I better be careful ,last time I had some dreams ,see where that brought me .....
- I met two dudes when a butler and one a baker and told them their dreams and I understand things turned out exactly as I interpreted it to them I told the butler please don't forget to put a word in for me ....
- 13 years ,what a waste of my life ... when I am in the prime of it , missed out hanging out with my mates ,I didn't have any in the first place , couldn't get a girlfriend ,couldn't get a BMW ( like Daniel )

But a man that is righteous ,blameless and ho walks faithfully with God will know one thing : I am not sure why I am going through all this , but one thing I know :

**SLIDE 4 : Psalms 37 :23** NKJV The steps of a righteous man is ordered of the Lord and he takes care of all the details

NLT :The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.

Unlike us Joseph couldn't see the outcome of his life He waited for 13 years but in one hour Joseph Pharaoh endorses Joseph prime minister a vision he had carried for 13 yrs

Can you imagine the **journal entry** then : Woke up to another ordinary day looking after tar prisoners as I have been doing,Boring!I was summoned to Pharaohs court and was and told that the butler remembered me

(BTW Don't worry the favours you did for others maybe forgotten by the receiver but there will come a day they will pay it forward )

Can I believe it .Within an hour I have been anointed from being the captain of the prison :

- to being in charge of the whole land of Egypt
- Pharaoh put his signet ring on my finger as a sign of endorsement
- He dressed me in fine linen robes
- He gave me a gold chain around my neck
- He gave me a BMW –not quite – a chariot

- People are shouting and applauding me like they do when the queen comes to Australia
- He has empowered me to give ultimate commands to the people
- He gave me a beautiful girl as my wife
- I have been given authority to travel throughout Egypt
- although this took one hour to come and it was so suddenly ,so unpredictable , it was his favour on me across my lifetime

One moment of Gods favour is better than a lifetime of striving

### **Examples from my own life : I have seen the favour of God across a lifetime**

- In our marriage ;We were kids only .I was suffering a lack of confidence ,could hardly talk to anyone leave alone a girl
- In my career :I didn't have a clue what I wanted to be even if you paid me to make up my mind
- In coming to Australia the land of opportunity
- First class flight to Australia
- In coming to Tweed :Caboolture to tweed is like changing seats from a hard chair to a comfortable lazy boy recliner
- In joining Hutchinson :Have you ever read the paper only to find someone cut out an article
- In coming to Pottsville :Rainy day
- In been give the lease to this house : paying a ridiculous rental and on top of it getting a donation

In almost all these examples I wasn't looking for it ,it was looking for me :? **SLIDE 5**

**Matthew 6:33 nkjv** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**Psalms 23:6** The Passion Translation : So why would I fear the future? For your goodness and love pursue me all the days of my life. Then afterward, when my life is through, I'll return to your glorious presence to be forever with you!

### **CLOSING /CHALLENGE**

6 years ago Paul hart ,the manager of Hutchinson Builders in the Gold Coast Tweed endorsed me to be the chaplain of his company

When I resigned as CM to be pastor here on my exit interview ,for which Vanie had asked some people to pray for on that morning his words were :you carry a presence with you and we don't want to miss out that .Please come and be our pastoral carer and chaplain

As chaplaincy isn't a common profession in the secular workplace me ,no body was exactly sure as tow hat to expect .Some received me warmly ,some lukewarmly and some coldly ,but one thing made a difference was his endorsement of my role . he sent a n email to all the staff and let him know of my appointment

No matter what reception I got ,it gave me confidence ,no matter what the other staff thought about chaplaincy , I had received **HIS endorsement** about my role and that gave me favour ,I walked to the sites with my chest out ,chin up .....

Just last week I got a call from him and he wanted my role to feature on a short film clip and wanted people to know what effort is being made in Hutchies about our social involvement

He endorsed me again so I had free access with a professional cameraman to do a film shoot which took almost a day for a 2 minute feature film ...

Normally I would freak out with this publicity .. but again because he endorsed me ,I had free access to a few venues in home , men's shed , office and site

**God Endorses you** : declares ones public approval and public support :You can do it

You get free access to things or people you might not ordinarily get access to

### **SALVATION PRAYER.**

Jesus came to give you a life of abundance

He came to forgive all your sins so you don't have to live with guilt and shame

He wants to now fill your life with love, joy, peace & goodness and much more

He wants to give you the opportunity to live forever

But there is one thing you have to understand is that sin, will destroy your life .You cannot play with sin, neither can you get rid of your sins on your own .You must repent of your sins

All of us have sinned and fallen short of Gods expectation and there is only one person who can save us and make us right again. His name is Jesus and you can ask him right now to come in and be the Lord in your life

If you invite him into your life everything in your life turns from death to life, sin to salvation, hopelessness into everlasting joy

I can guarantee that if you do, your life will be so more meaningful and filled with purpose and a sense of destiny!

Would you like to ask him into your life right now?

Alan Pillay 260519