

*“and he drew near”*

God has sent me ahead of you to ensure a remnant in the land, and to save your lives in an extraordinary deliverance. Genesis 45:7



After revealing his identity to them, the first thing Joseph asks his brothers is if his father is still alive. Later in the parsha Jacob finds out from them that Joseph is still alive (Gen. 45:3, 25-28). Each is asking of the other not only about their physical life, but their “spiritual” life. It seems inconceivable to Jacob that Joseph can still be “alive”, even after he hears Joseph is “ruler”, as he has been living in Egypt, a land so far from Torah. Yet, he finds out —YES, Joseph is alive!! Likewise Joseph is concerned about his father’s despair, and yet Jacob too is given life through knowing that Joseph is indeed alive!!

We see the word “life” (in Hebrew, “chai”, see illustration in Parsha Vayechi!) many times in this parsha, including the climactic verse of the Joseph story. Joseph tells his brothers God’s purposes were to send him ahead to save the lives of his family in an extraordinary deliverance. How much we can see our deliverer Yeshua here. Our redeemer is alive and He is coming to reveal Himself as the Savior of Israel and the world!. Sometimes we cannot see God’s plan for our lives, or have to struggle through at times, but we know as Joseph tells his brothers— God planned it all for the good! May we lift our praises to our God. Give thanks for His sending us Yeshua. He is the Light of the World, and commands us to be the light! He gives us Life! He is Life!

### Praise

For with You is the source of life; by Your light do we see light.

Psalms 36:9

You championed my cause, O Lord, You have redeemed my life.

Lamentations 3:58

Bless God in the congregations— ADONAI from the fountain of Israel.

There Benjamin, the youngest, is leading them, there the throng of Judah’s princes, there the princes of Zebulun, there the princes of Naphtali.

Psalms 68:27~28

Yeshua said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life! No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

John 14:6

### Confession

Therefore, openly acknowledge your sins to one another, and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16

Just as the Lord pardoned you, so also you must pardon others. But above all these things put on **love**\* which is the bond of perfect harmony.

Colossians 3:13~14

\***Love** = AHAVA

### Thanksgiving

Let the *shalom* of Messiah rule in your hearts—to this *shalom* you were surely called in one body.

Also be thankful. Colossians 3:15

## Intercession

The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I have come that .....might have life, and have it abundantly!  
John 10:10

The LORD is .....’s shepherd, he/she shall not want.  
Psalm 23:1

May ..... cast all his/her anxiety on Him because He cares for ....., and He will sustain ..... May ..... be on guard, so that his/her heart will not be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life.

1Peter 5:7, Luke 21:34a, Psalm 55:23

..... rejoice in the Lord always—again I will say, rejoice! May .....’s gentleness be known to all people. The Lord is near. May ..... not be anxious about anything—but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let .....’s requests be known to God. And the shalom of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard .....’s heart and .....’s mind in Messiah Yeshua. Finally, ....., whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable —if there is any virtue and if there is anything worthy of praise —-dwell on these things.  
Philippians 4:4~8

May ..... let his/her light shine before men so they may see his/her good works and glorify his/her Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16



## Teachers

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.  
John 3:16

## Schools

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.  
John 3:17

## Congregation

You have been born anew—not from perishable seed but imperishable—through the living and enduring word of God.  
1Peter 1:23

Holy Father, keep them in Your name that You have given Me, so that they may be one just as We are.  
John 17:11b

## Israel

I will cut a covenant of shalom with them—it will be an everlasting covenant with them. I will give to them and multiply them. I will set up My Sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling place will be over them. I will be their God and they will be My people. Then the nations will know that I am ADONAI who sanctifies Israel, when My Sanctuary is in their midst forever.  
Ezekiel 37:26~28

Elohei-Tzva’ot, restore us, and make your face shine, and we will be saved.  
Psalm 80:8

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem— May those who love you be at peace!  
Psalm 122:6

## Blessing to go

Happy is the one who endures testing, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life, which the LORD promised to those who love Him.  
James 1:12