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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

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Aaron and Miriam Complain.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

The Jordan River flows into the northern end of the Sea of Galilee, and flows out again from the south end. It brings life to all the country around as it flows on, until it reaches the Dead Sea.

There are four other streams, as well, that feed into the Dead Sea, but no water at all, flows out. And because all the water in this Sea becomes very salty, nothing can live in it. No wonder its name is the Dead Sea!

This is a parable or picture of two different types of lives.

The one life receives and it gives out and it lives.

The other life receives but it keeps in and it dies.

Moses, the leader of the Israelites, received love and mercy from the Almighty God. And he gave the same sort of love and mercy to his people.

But Moses' brother Aaron, and his sister Miriam, became jealous of Moses. Why should Moses, with his foreign wife, have so much honour? Were not Aaron and Miriam themselves, just as good as Moses? He was only their younger brother. Jealousy is a combination of fear and anger. They may have been angry that God had chosen Moses and not them. They were not content with their own positions, so had allowed selfishness and jealousy to take over their thoughts. This was very serious; it must stop before their wrong thinking spread to everyone else.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

Moses was very disappointed! Why did Aaron and Miriam not come to talk with him, if they were unhappy with his leadership? It is hard when friends find fault with you, but it is even harder when your family turns against you.

Moses was a good and wise leader. He did not argue or try to justify himself. The Bible book Numbers, chapter 12, says this, "Moses was a humble man, more humble than anyone else on earth."

And the Almighty God defended his servant. He called Moses, Aaron and Miriam to the door of the Tabernacle, and spoke to them out of the cloudy pillar of His Presence. He said, "I speak with my servant Moses, face to face; I have put him in charge of all my people, Israel. How dare you speak against my servant, Moses." Then, as He left, and the cloud of His Presence moved away, suddenly they saw Miriam had become a leper. Aaron knew, straightaway, how wrong they both had been: He asked Moses to forgive their sin and to heal Miriam from this terrible disease. Their brother cried out to God for healing for her, and God answered Moses' prayer.

As soon as we know we have sinned, we, too, must confess our wrong ways to God, and turn from them. And if we have hurt others, we need to ask their forgiveness, as well.

The Bible book Matthew, chapter 5, says this, "If you are about to offer your gift to God at the altar, and you remember your brother has something against you, leave your gift in front of the altar, and make peace with your brother. Then, come back and offer your gift to God."

You see, the Living God knows when we act wrongly towards others, and when we hold bitterness in our hearts. He wants all His children to live in peace with each other. When we are willing to forgive, - and to be forgiven, - He gives us His peace. Then we can worship Him, and enjoy fellowship with Him and with His people.

When Moses cried out to God to heal Miriam, God did heal her. But she had to stay outside the camp for a whole week cut off from her people. She needed to understand how serious sin is; it brings suffering and separation. And we, too, need to understand our sin does the same; it cuts us off from our Father God, and it blocks our friendship with others. When we refuse to turn from our sin, we block the power of God's word. We stop His truth and His love flowing through us to others.

Aaron and Miriam had given in to jealousy, and this evil could have done great harm amongst the people. But Moses loved God with all his heart; he loved his people, and he loved his brother and sister. He only wanted the best for them, and in answer to Moses' prayer, God forgave their sin. Through Moses, they received healing and life.

Just as the Jordan River flows along and brings water for all life, so the Lord Jesus Christ gives Living Water spiritual life to all who trust in Him.

In the Bible book John, chapter 4, Jesus spoke to a woman who was drawing up water from a well. "Whoever drinks this water will be thirsty again," He said, "but whoever drinks the water that I will give him, will never be thirsty again. The water I give him will become in him a spring, which will provide him with life-giving water, and give him eternal life." This water is God's Holy Spirit and will teach us to understand His Holy Word. When we believe the Scriptures, and allow them to speak to us, they wash us spiritually. They clean our thoughts and get rid of the dirt and stains of sin in our lives.

Perhaps there are things in your life that stop God's truth reaching to others. Perhaps these things have dried up your own spiritual life. Ask the Lord Jesus to show you where you have gone wrong; confess your wrongdoing to Him, and let His words rule your life. He will make you clean from all your wrong ways, and He will bless others through you.

MUSIC - <u>Integrity Music</u>.

That was Chris Rodriguez and the song was "Hate Evil."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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