引言 INTRODUCTION

Surprises add colors to our lives. One example is to discover some built-in functions of your gadgets. You are amazed: "I never know it can do that." I remember a funny experience about twenty years ago. My wife and I traveled to Texas over Christmas to visit her two sisters. We rented a car for the ten-hour drive. We listened to music on CD along the way by hooking up a portable CD player to the car. Unfortunately, the connection was not that good. Once in a while, it would lose power when we hit a bump on the road. Finally, my wife decided to hold the player on her palm to give it some cushioning. A few hours into our journey, the sun gradually appeared. Then we had a surprising discovery. We saw a crack in the area where the radio control buttons were. The car actually had a built-in CD player. We never knew it was always there. God often gives us surprises like that. In our study two weeks ago, the Philistines returned the ark to the Israelites. God's people put the ark away for twenty years. The Bible does not tell us what happened during that long period of time. Very likely, the Philistines kept oppressing the Israelites. Eventually, God's people realized that they had to return to Him. They made a public confession. Subsequently, God defeated their enemies. God did not abandon His people even though they were rebellious. He is always by our side even when He seems faraway.

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 向神認罪 Repent of Sins

Spiritual revival begins when people repent of their sins. God used the threat of the Philistines as a means to discipline His people. The Israelites finally understood that they could not overcome their enemies without God's help. Samuel advised them in verse 3: ... "If you are returning to the Lord with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you and direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines." Samuel was now a full-grown man and a spiritual leader for his people. Samuel encouraged them to devote themselves fully to God. They must return to the Lord with ALL their hearts, and from now on they should serve Jehovah ONLY. The word "serve" can mean both labor and worship. Both words complement each other. The same spiritual principle applies to us. All that we do in daily life is a means to worship God. In big or small thing, we do it for God's glory. Samuel urged his people to get rid of all their idols. The Philistines worshipped Baal and Ashtaroth because they thought those false gods could ensure them harvest and fertility. By ditching those idols, the Israelites acknowledged that God was the source of all their blessings. True God and false gods cannot coexist. Jesus said the biggest commandment is to love God with all our hearts, souls, minds and strength. He also said we cannot worship God and money at the same time. Money is a huge idol for many people, even Christians. Money is a form of God's blessing. However, if your heart always craves for more money, then it will become a bondage for your life. Brothers and sisters: do you use money or used by money? Only God can set you free from the love of money. Ask Him to take away your worries about not having enough and the urge to catch up with your friends and relatives. Instead, ask God to give you contentment to enjoy the amount He gives you. God demands our complete loyalty to Him.

There is no part-time Christian. Either you are all-in or all-out. The Bible describes the Lord as a jealous God. You know how it feels when your boyfriend, girlfriend or spouse gets too close to a person of an opposite gender. Likewise, God cannot tolerate it if we spare our love for idols. Samuel asked his people to make up their mind and return to God. If they did so then God would protect them from their enemies. This time they listened. Subsequently, Samuel called for a public meeting. Verse 6 says: So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the Lord and fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah. The Israelites did a few things. First, they poured water before God. It might be a symbolic gesture to show their repentance to God and an affirmation of their trust in Him. Second, they fasted. In the Bible, fasting is not only about stop eating. It is also a time to reflect on our relationship with God. Therefore, fasting always comes with prayer. That was the third thing they did. They made a public confession to God. That underscores the importance of church life. Although there are tons of resources on the internet, God never tells us to become a self-study Christian. When we meet face to face, we can share our burdens, and encourage and pray for each other. The Israelites repented of their sins. True repentance must come with actions. Suppose your doctor tells you that your cholesterol and blood pressure are a little high. Then you should adjust your diet and do some exercises. Likewise, we have to remove the sources of temptation that hinder our walk with the Lord. Some shopaholics cut their credit cards in halves. If you cannot find time to read the Bible or come to Bible study because you watch too much TV or stream too much dramas, then you may have to cancel your subscriptions. If your friends keep luring you into sinful practices, then you may have to reconsider your friendship with them. God gives us freedom from sins when we repent to Him. We will be free from the bondage of sins and free to obey God when we rely on Him.

2. 蒙神幫助 Relieve from Foes

Samuel told his people that if they turned back to God, the Lord would relieve them from their foes. They did not have to wait very long before God fulfilled that promise. Verse 7-8 tells us what happened next: 7 Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. 8 And the people of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the Lord our God for us, that he may save us from the hand of the Philistines." The enemies might think that the Hebrews gathered to plan a military campaign. Therefore, the Philistines launched an attack right away. Seeing that their foes were approaching, the Israelites reacted with fear. They begged Samuel to keep praying for them. In the previous battle, the Israelites put their trust in the ark. Now they put their hope in God. The Israelites were still at their prayer meeting. Now their enemies were coming. Satan often attacks us when we are most zealous for God. It may happen after we rededicate ourselves to read the Bible daily, come to church meetings and participate in various ministries. Perhaps someone vandalizes your car, a tree falls down in your backyard or your company lays you off. Satan can use similar incidents to shaken our faith. He does not need to attack lukewarm Christians, because they have a so-so relationship with God anyway. Satan will concentrate his firepower on those believers who are fired up for the Lord. Do not panic. Run to God for help. Put your trust in Him. God can use problems to verify and strengthen our faith. The Israelites had to learn the same spiritual lessons. We see Samuel's reactions to the enemies in verse 9-10: 9 So Samuel took a nursing lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. And Samuel cried out to the Lord for Israel, and

the Lord answered him. 10 As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. But the Lord thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were defeated before Israel. Burnt offering is for the atonement of sins. A whole animal would be consumed by fire. It symbolizes people's full commitment to God. The Lord showed His favor to the Israelites when they relied on Him. The Philistines were getting closer when the meat was still burning. If I were on the scene, I would ask Samuel: "Sir, are you done with the sacrifice yet? The enemies can almost hit us with their arrows from where they are. What should we do? There are a lot of older folks, women and kids with us. How can we protect them?" God is mindful of our lack of faith. But His power is never limited by our little faith. In this case, God would fight for His people. He caused a chaos with supernatural power. The passage says God's people then seized the opportunity and pursued the Philistines. The Israelites had a victory. The Bible tells us that we are in a constant spiritual warfare. We can only win by putting our trust in God. The apostle Peter writes in his first letter 5:7-10 that: 7 Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith... 10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. A recurring theme in this book is suffering for our faith. Notice the progression of thoughts here. Peter encourages us to commit our concerns to God because He is mindful of our situations. But doing so does not mean we will live a trouble-free life. Satan always looks for loopholes to attack us. We must stay close to God and stay alert to temptation. God is faithful to protect us when we draw near to Him. When we overcome a test of faith, we will become stronger.

3. 與神和好 Return to Peace

God saved His people from a crisis. After the war was over, the Israelites returned to their peace. Verse 12-13 tell us: 12 Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, "Till now the Lord has helped us." 13 So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel. And the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. Samuel erected a stone and called it Ebenezer to remember God's deliverance. This was not the same Ebenezer where the Israelites were defeated earlier. At the first Ebenezer, many soldiers lost in battles when God's people put their trust in the ark. At the second Ebenezer, people recommitted themselves to God and He saved them. God continued to give them peace throughout Samuel's lifetime. They could enjoy victory when they depended on the Lord. Many years ago, God divided the Jordan river as His people marched into Canaan. After they walked out from the river, Joshua asked them to pile up twelve stones on the river bank to represent the twelve tribes. He said in the future children would ask what those rocks were for. The answer is in Joshua 4:7 - "Then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever." The arrangement of rocks was a reminder of God's work. It would be a good teachable moment for parents to pass on faith to their children. Just like stones will remain for thousands of years, God's faithfulness will never change. He promises to be there whenever we go to Him. What is our Ebenezer today? Do you notice that Christianity does not have many religious symbols? A church can be a simple warehouse, a home or a classroom without any decoration

inside and out. God assures us of His presence when we gather in Jesus' name. God understands that we can easily idolize a picture or an artifact. Sometimes people believe they can derive mysterious power from a painting of Jesus or a cross. They touch those objects for healing grace or even good luck. Christian churches only have two ceremonies: baptism and communion. The water, bread and cup cannot save anyone. We can only be saved by the grace of Jesus Christ. People must be clear about their faith in the Lord before going into the water. Baptism confirms rather than confers their salvation. Besides, we observe the communion to remember Jesus' sacrificial death. It reminds us that God loves us, although we do not deserve His forgiveness. Those two rituals are testimonies of God's grace like the Ebenezer stone. Only Jesus can save us from sins. In Acts 4, Peter and John were interrogated by some Jewish religious leaders for healing a crippled man in Jesus' name. In his witness, Peter quotes the Old Testament in verse 11-12: 11 "This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Jesus was the stone abandoned by the Jews. But He was the chosen as the cornerstone by God. In ancient times, an architect used a cornerstone as a reference point for building a house. It determines whether the building is leveled and straight. Jesus is the foundation for our faith and the rock of our redemption. Those who reject Him will be rejected by God. People throughout history look for other paths. They turn to idols, meditation or good work. Their efforts will eventually fail. Jesus is the only way, the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Him. Apart from Jesus there is no eternal peace.

結論 CONCLUSION

God is always by our side even when He seems faraway. He will be with us when we go to Him. Israel had a spiritual revival when people dumped their idols and returned to God. The Lord knows that our faith will waver by our feelings and circumstances. He uses hardships to humble us so that we will turn back to Him. Christian singing artist Tasha Layton has that experience. She grew up in a Christian family. Her faith was challenged as a teenager when she witnessed some bad things in her church. She wondered if Jesus was real. She studied music in college because she had planned to use her talent to serve God. But later she changed her major to religion. She then set off a journey to look for truth. She tried Buddhism, Muslim and Judaism but she could not find the answer. She felt empty and hopeless. One day she was about to commit suicide. A friend walked into Layton's dorm room and saw her holding a gun. God sent a messenger to stop Layton. She realized that all the religions are human efforts to try to reach God. Only Jesus came into our world to draw near to us. He is always there for us. Layton felt that God's truth moved from her head to her heart. Later, she went back to study music. Today, she and her husband use music to encourage people. Layton wrote a recent song "How Far" to share her testimony. The lyrics in the chorus read: "A million miles of my mistakes, still couldn't keep Your love away. However far away I am from home, that's how far Your love will go." God is always there whenever we go to Him.

引言 INTRODUCTION

撒母耳記上1 Samuel 7

意外的驚喜為我們的生活增添了色彩。一個例子就是發現電子產品的一些功能。你 很驚訝地說:「我從來不知道它有這項功能。」我記得大約二十年前的一次有趣的 經歷。我和太太在聖誕節期間去德州探望她的兩個姐姐。我們租了一輛車,開了十 個小時的車程。一路上,我們用手提的 CD 播放器連接到車上來聽音樂。可惜,電 路的連接不是那麼理想。偶爾,當碰到路面不平時便會斷電。最後,我的太太決定 將播放器放在她的手掌上,使它比較穩定。幾個小時之後,慢慢開始天亮了。然後 我們有一個驚人的發現。我們在收音機按鈕的附近看到了一條裂縫。車上原來有一 個內置的 CD 播放器。我們從來不知道它一直在那裡。神經常給我們類似的驚喜。 在兩週前的經文中,非利士人將約櫃還給以色列人。神的子民將約櫃擱置了二十 年。聖經沒有告訴我們在那段時間裡發生了什麼事。非利士人很可能一直在壓迫以 色列人。最終,神的子民明白他們必須回到神的身邊。於是他們公開認罪。然後, 神打敗了他們的敵人。神沒有因為子民叛逆而遺棄他們。雖然有時候神看起來很遙 遠,但其實祂一直都在我們的身邊。

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 向神認罪 Repent of Sins

靈命的復興是從向神認罪開始的。神使用非利士人的威脅作為管教祂子民的方式。 以色列人終於明白,沒有神的幫助,他們無法戰勝敵人。撒母耳在第3節勸勉他 們:...「你們若一心歸順耶和華,就要把外邦的神和亞斯她錄從你們中間除掉,專 心歸向耶和華,單單地事奉他。他必救你們脫離<u>非利士</u>人的手。」撒母耳現在已經 是一個成年人,也是百姓的屬靈領袖。撒母耳鼓勵他們要完全委身予神。他們必須 全心歸向主,從現在開始,他們應該只事奉耶和華。「事奉」這個字可以指工作, 也可以指敬拜。兩個用詞是互補的。同樣的屬靈原則也適用於我們。我們在日常生 活中所做的一切都是敬拜神的不同方式。無論是大事還是小事,我們都是為了神的 榮耀而行。撒母耳敦促子民要丟掉他們的偶像。非利士人敬拜巴力和亞斯她錄,因 為他們認為那些假神可以確保他們的豐收和生育。以色列人離棄偶像,承認神是他 們所有祝福的源泉。真神和假神不能共存。耶穌說最大的誡命是盡心、盡性、盡 意、盡力愛神。祂還說我們不能同時敬拜神和金錢。對於很多人,甚至是基督徒來 說,金錢是一個主要的偶像。金錢是神祝福的一種形式。但是,如果你的心總是想 著錢,那它就會成為你人生的束縛。弟兄姐妹:你是在使用金錢還是被金錢使用? 只有神才能讓你脫離金錢的綑綁。求神幫助你拿走對錢財的擔憂,和跟親戚朋友攀

比的慾望。反之,求神使你能滿足,享受祂賜給你的一切。神要求我們完全忠於 祂。沒有兼職基督徒這回事。在神的眼中只有信徒和非信徒。聖經形容神是嫉妒的 神。當你的配偶與異性太接近時,你便會明白那份感覺。同樣,神不會容忍我們把 心分給偶像。撒母耳要求子民下定決心歸向神。如果他們那樣做,神便會保護他們 免受敵人的傷害。這次他們聽話了。隨後,撒母耳召集了一次全民大會。第6節 說:他們就聚集在米斯巴,打水澆在耶和華面前,當日禁食,說:「我們得罪了耶 和華。」於是撒母耳在米斯巴審判以色列人。以色列人做了幾件事情。首先,他們 在神面前倒水。這可能是一個象徵性的行動,表明他們向神認罪,並確認他們對神 的信靠。其次,他們禁食。在聖經中,禁食不僅僅是不吃東西,也是反思我們與神 的關係的機會。因此,禁食總是伴隨著禱告。這就是他們做的第三件事情。他們公 開向神認罪。這強調了教會生活的重要性。雖然網路上有大量的資訊,但神從未告 訴我們要成為自學的基督徒。當我們與弟兄姐妹見面時,便可以互相分擔重擔,彼 此鼓勵和一起禱告。以色列人承認他們的罪。真正的悔改必須伴隨著行動。假設你 的醫生說你的膽固醇和血壓有點高,你便應該調整你的飲食並做一些運動。同樣, 我們必須除去妨礙我們與主同行的試探來源。一些購物狂將他們的信用卡一刀兩 斷。如果你因為看太多電視或連續劇而無法抽時間讀聖經或參加聚會,那麼你可能 要取消訂閱。如果你的朋友不斷引誘你犯罪,那麼你可能要重新考慮這份友誼。當 我們向神悔改時,祂就會賜給我們脫離罪的自由。當我們依靠神之時,我們便能遠 離罪的束缚並自由地順服神。

2. 蒙神幫助 Relieve from Foes

撒母耳告訴他的子民,如果他們轉向神,他們就會蒙神幫助。神馬上便實現這個應 許,把他們從敵人手中解救出來。第7-8節告訴我們接下來發生的事:7非利士人 聽見以色列人聚集在米斯巴,非利士的首領就上來要攻擊以色列人。以色列人聽 見,就懼怕非利士人。8以色列人對撒母耳說:「願你不住地為我們呼求耶和華一 我們的神,救我們脫離非利士人的手。」敵人可能以為希伯來人聚集在一起計劃軍 事行動。於是,非利士人立刻發動了進攻。以色列人看到他們的敵人正在逼近,就 害怕起來。他們懇求撒母耳繼續為他們禱告。在之前的戰事中,以色列人把信心放 在約櫃上面。現在他們把盼望寄託在神身上。以色列人仍在禱告聚會中,但是敵人 越來越近了。撒旦經常趁我們對神熱心時攻擊我們。例如你重新立志每天讀聖經、 經常參加聚會或參與各種事奉。然後有人惡意破壞你的車子,一棵樹在你的後院倒 下,或者你的公司解雇了你。撒但可以利用類似的事件動搖我們的信心。他不需要 攻擊不冷不熱的基督徒,因為他們本來就與神疏遠。撒但會將他的火力集中在那些 為主而火熱的信徒身上。不要害怕。只要趕緊向神求助,並信靠祂。神可以用問題 來驗證並加強我們的信心。以色列人必須學習同樣的屬靈功課。我們在第9-10節 看到撒母耳對敵人的回應:9撒母耳就把一隻吃奶的羊羔獻與耶和華作全牲的燔 祭,為以色列人呼求耶和華;耶和華就應允他。10 撒母耳正獻燔祭的時候,非利

士人前來要與以色列人爭戰。當日,耶和華大發雷聲,驚亂非利士人,他們就敗在 以色列人面前。燔祭是為了贖罪。同時整隻動物獻上,象徵著人對神的完全委身。 當以色列人倚靠神之時,主便向他們施恩。當肉還在燃燒時,非利士人越來越近 了。如果我在現場,我會問撒母耳:「老師,你獻完了祭物沒有?敵人幾乎可以從 他們所在的地方用箭射過來。我們應該怎樣做?這裡有很多老人、婦女和小孩。我 們如何保護他們?」神知到我們會缺乏信心。但祂的能力不會被我們的小信所限 制。在這一次,神為祂的子民爭戰。祂以超自然的力量製造混亂。經文說,神的子 民抓住機會,追趕非利士人。以色列人取得了勝利。聖經說我們一直都處於屬靈爭 戰之中,我們唯有信靠神才能得勝。使徒彼得在他的第一封書信 5:7-10 中寫道:7 你們要將一切的憂慮卸給神,因為他顧念你們。8務要謹守,警醒。因為你們的仇 敵魔鬼,如同吼叫的獅子,遍地游行,尋找可吞吃的人。9你們要用堅固的信心抵 擋他...。10 那賜諸般恩典的神曾在基督裏召你們,得享他永遠的榮耀,等你們暫 受苦難之後,必要親自成全你們,堅固你們,賜力量給你們。這卷書重複出現為信 仰受苦這個主題。注意這裡思路的進展。彼得鼓勵我們將憂慮交託給神,因為祂知 道我們的處境。但這樣做並不意味著我們會無憂無慮地生活。撒但總是尋找漏洞來 攻擊我們。我們必須親近神和提防試探。當我們親近神之時,祂會信實地保護我 們。當我們克服信心的考驗時,我們會變得更堅強。

3. 與神和好 Return to Peace

神將祂的子民從危機中拯救出來。戰爭結束後,以色列人恢復了與神和好的關係。 第12-13 節告訴我們:12 撒母耳將一塊石頭立在米斯巴和善的中間,給石頭起名 叫以便以謝,說:「到如今耶和華都幫助我們。」13 從此,非利士人就被制伏, 不敢再入以色列人的境内。撒母耳作士師的時候,耶和華的手攻擊非利士人。撒母 耳立了一塊石頭,稱它為以便以謝,意思是幫助的石頭,以紀念神的拯救。這不是 以色列人之前戰敗的那個以便以謝。在第一個以便以謝,神的子民把信心仰望約 櫃,結果許多士兵喪命。在第二個以便以謝,人們重新將自己交託予神,於是神便 拯救他們。在撒母耳的一生中,神繼續賜給他們平安。當他們依靠主,就能得勝。 許多年前,當神的子民進入迦南時,神將約旦河分開。他們從河裡出來後,約書亞 叫他們在河邊堆起十二塊石頭,代表以色列十二個支派。他說以後孩子們會問這些 石頭有何意義。答案在約書亞記 4:7— 「你們就對他們說: 『這是因為約旦河的 水在耶和華的約櫃前斷絕;約櫃過約旦河的時候,約旦河的水就斷絕了。這些石頭 要作以色列人永遠的紀念。』「石頭讓後人回憶神的作為。對於父母來說,這將是 一個很好的機會,將信仰傳遞給孩子。就像石頭會保留千萬年一樣,神的信實永不 改變。每當我們到神的面前時,祂都應許在那裡。今天我們的以便以謝是什麼?你 注意到基督信仰沒有很多宗教符號嗎?教會可以是一座簡單的倉庫、住宅或教室, 内外沒有任何裝飾。當我們奉耶穌的名聚集時,神向我們保證祂的同在。神明白人 很容易會崇拜圖片或擺設。有時人們以為可以從耶穌的畫或十字架中獲得神秘力

量。他們摸那些物品可能是為了尋求醫治,甚至是好運氣。基督教會只有兩項儀式:浸禮和聖餐。水、餅和杯都無法拯救任何人。我們只能靠耶穌基督的恩典得救。因此人們在下水之前必須清楚自己對主的信心。浸禮確認我們的救恩而不是賦予我們救恩。此外,我們守聖餐是紀念耶穌的犧牲。它提醒我們神愛我們,儘管我們不配得到祂的饒恕。這兩個儀式就像以便以謝的石頭一樣見證了神的恩典。只有耶穌能拯救我們脫離罪。在使徒行傳第4章中,彼得和約翰因為奉耶穌的名醫治一個瘸腿的人而被一些猶太宗教領袖審問。在彼得的見證中,他在第11-12節引用了舊約聖經:11 他是你們匠人所棄的石頭,已成了房角的頭塊石頭。12 除他以外,別無拯救;因為在天下人間,沒有賜下別的名,我們可以靠着得救。」耶穌是被猶太人遺棄的石頭,但祂是神所揀選的房角石。在古代,建築師使用房角石作為建造房屋的參考點。它決定了建築物是否方正。耶穌是我們信心的根基,也是救贖我們的磐石。拒絕祂的人將被神拒絕。歷史上許多人設法尋找其他得救的途徑。他們轉向偶像、冥想或善行。他們的努力最終都會失敗。耶穌是唯一的道路、真理和生命。若不藉著祂,沒有人能夠來到天父面前。除了耶穌,沒有永恆的平安。

結論 CONCLUSION

雖然有時候神看起來很遙遠,但其實祂一直都在我們的身邊。當我們回到主的面前時,祂會與我們同在。以色列有了靈命的復興,因為人們棄掉偶像並回歸神。主知道我們的信心會因著我們的感覺和環境而動搖。有時候祂會使用困難來謙卑我們,讓我們轉向祂。基督徒歌手塔莎·萊頓(Tasha Layton)有過這樣的經歷。她在一個基督徒家庭長大。她在青少年階段在教會裡看到了一些負面的見證,結果她的信心因而跌倒了。她懷疑耶穌是否是真實的。她在大學時學習音樂,因為她希望用她的才能來服事神。但後來她將專業改為宗教。於是,她開始了尋找真理的旅程。她嘗試過佛教、穆斯林和猶太教,但她都找不到答案。她感到空虛和絕望。有一天,她準備要自殺。一位朋友走進萊頓的宿舍,看到她拿著槍。神派那位使者阻止萊頓。她明白到所有宗教都是人努力嘗試接近神。唯有耶穌來到世上接近我們。祂總是在我們的身旁。萊頓感覺到神的真理從頭腦的知識轉移到了她的內心。後來,她回去學習音樂。今天,她和她的丈夫用音樂來鼓勵人們。萊頓以最近的作品「多遠」分享她的見證。部份的歌詞寫道:「錯誤把我帶到百萬英里之外,但仍然無法使我與祢的愛隔絕。無論我離開家有多遠,祢的愛就會走多遠。」每當我們來到神的面前時,祂總是在那裡。