

FOREMOTHER SUSANNA

L/O: For our young daughters to learn about how faithful Susanna was to her husband and The Most High, her faith, wisdom, and holiness. To also learn how Abigail loved her husband as the scriptures tell wives to do.

TEACH:

There dwelt a rich Israelite man in Babylon named Joacim who had a wife named Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias. She was very beautiful, she feared the LORD because her parents taught her how to fear the LORD.

‘There dwelt a man in Babylon, called Joacim. And he took a wife, whose name was Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias, a very faire woman, and one that feared the Lord.

Her parents also were righteous, and taught their daughter according to the Law of Moses.’ ~ **HOS 1 - 3**

To fear the LORD is to fear his judgements and keep his laws.

‘The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding has all they that doe his

Sarah

commandments: his praise endureth forever. '~ Psalm 111:10

Question:

Can you name a time where you showed fear of the LORD?

Unfortunately there were two wicked ancient men that desired to have Susanna, Joacim's wife. When she was in her husband's garden, they watched her hoping to have her.

'Now when the people departed away at no one, Susanna went into her husbands' garden to walk. And the two Elders saw her going in every day and walking: so that their lust was inflamed toward her. And they perverted their own mind, and turned away their eyes, that they might not look unto heaven, nor remember just judgements.' ~ **HOS 7 - 9**

Question:

Can you see that when we sin, we turn our eyes from heaven?

'And albeit they both were wounded with her love: yet durst not one shews another his grief.

Sarah

For they were ashamed to declare their lust, that they desired to have to do with her.

Yet they watched diligently from day to day to see her. And the one said to the other, Let us now go home: for it is dinner time.

So when they were gone out, they parted the one from the other, and turning back again they came to the same place, and after that they had asked one another the cause, they acknowledged their lust: then appointed they a time both together, when they might find her alone.

And it fell out as they watched a fit time, she went in as before, with two maids only, and she was desirous to wash herself in the garden: for it was hot.

And there was no body there save the two Elders, that had hid themselves, and watched her.

Then she said to her maids, Bring me oil and washing balls, and shut the garden doors, that I may wash me. And they did as she bad them, and shut the garden doors, and went out themselves at the doors to fetch the things that she had commanded them: but they saw not the Elders, because they were hid.

Sarah

Now when the maids were gone forth, the two Elders rose up, and ran unto her, saying,

Behold, the garden doors are shut, that no man can see us, and we are in love with thee: therefore consent unto us, and lie with us.

If thou wilt not, we will bear witness against thee, that a young man was with thee: and therefore thou didst send away thy maids from thee.

Then Susanna sighed and said, I am straited on every side: for if I does this thing, it is death unto me: and if I does it not, I cannot escape your hands.

It is better for me to fall into your hands, and not does it: then to sin in the sight of the Lord.

With that Susanna cried with a loud voice: and the two Elders cried out against her.' ~ **HOS 10 - 24**

Question:

Why do you think she cried out?

'But if a man finds a betrothed damsel in the field, and the man force her, and lie with her: then the man only that lay with her, shall die.

But unto the damsel thou shalt done nothing, there is in the damsel no sin worthy of death: for as when a man rises against his neighbor, and slayeth him, even so is this matter.

For he found her in the field, and the betrothed damsel cried, and there was none to save her.'

~ **Deuteronomy 22:25 - 27**

Susanna knew the law, she knew to cry out and not say silent otherwise she would be guilty according to the law of Moses.

Let's see what else happened in this history

'So when the servants of the house heard the cry in the garden, they rushed in at a door to see what was done unto her.

But when the Elders had declared their matter, the servants were ashamed: for there was never such a report made of Susanna.

And it came to passe the next day, when the people were assembled to her husband Joacim, the two Elders came also full of mischievous imagination against Susanna to put her to death,

And said before the people, Send for Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias, Joacims wife. And so they sent. So she came with her father and mother, her children and all her kindred.

Now Susanna was a very delicate woman and beauteous to behold.

And these wicked men commanded to uncover her face (for she was covered) that they might be filled with her beauty.

Therefore her friends, and all that saw her, wept. Then the two Elders stood up in the minds of the people, and laid their hands upon her head. And she is weeping looked up towards heaven: for her heart trusted in the Lord.' ~ **HOS 25 - 34**

Question:

1. What would you do if you were in Susanna's shoes?
2. Why did she look up towards Heaven? (because she trusted in God)

She trusted in the LORD and stayed faithful to the LORD and her husband. She looked up to receive her salvation from the LORD.

Sarah

As the story continues the elder bare false witness against Susanna, and she prayed out to the LORD and sought him. Read **History of Susanna 36 - 43.**

Forefather Daniel came out to save her and to examine the matter.

And the Lord heard her voice.

‘Therefore when she was led to be put to death: the Lord raised up the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name was Daniel, Who cried with a loud voice: I am cleared from the blood of this woman.’ ~ **HOS 45 - 46**

‘Then said Daniel unto him, Well: thou hast also lied against thine own head: for the Angel of God wait with the sword to cut thee in two, that he may destroy you. With that all the assembly cried out with a low voice, and praised God who saveth them that trust in him. And they arose against the two Elders, (for Daniel had convicted them of false witness by their own mouth) And according to the Law of Moses, they did unto them in such sort as they maliciously intended to do to their neighbor: And they put them to death. Thus the innocent blood was saved the same day. ~ **HOS 59 - 62**

Sarah

Forefather Daniel and Susanna's faith saved the day!!
What a beautiful story of faith and courage, how to
protect oneself from danger!

(Remember to reinforce and stress **Deuteronomy**
22:25 - 27 for our YDOS to know)

Be sure to teach them about being street smart as
well as online safety.

End of Class.