



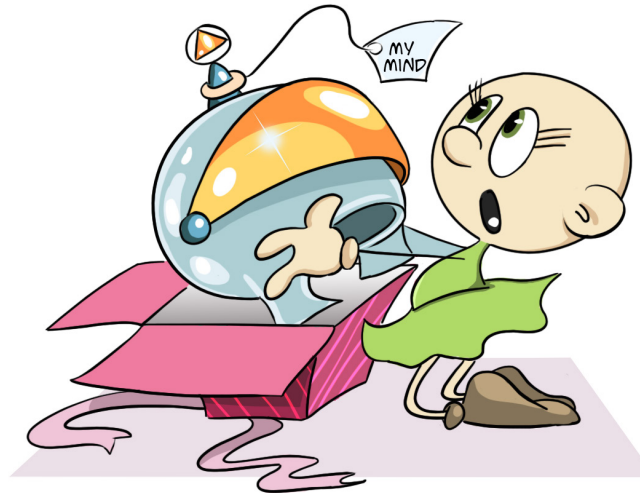
WHAT ABOUT PERSPECTIVE?

EVERYONE HAS TIMES WHEN THEY FEEL DOWN OR DISCOURAGED ABOUT THEMSELVES. YOU MAY HAVE FELT NEGATIVE ABOUT YOUR APPEARANCE, YOUR HAIRSTYLE, OR THE CLOTHES YOU WEAR. IT'S NATURAL TO HAVE MOMENTS LIKE THAT, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE THINGS THIS WAY! THE ANSWER TO OVERCOMING NEGATIVE THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ABOUT YOURSELF OR YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE LIES IN YOUR PERSPECTIVE AND YOUR OUTLOOK.

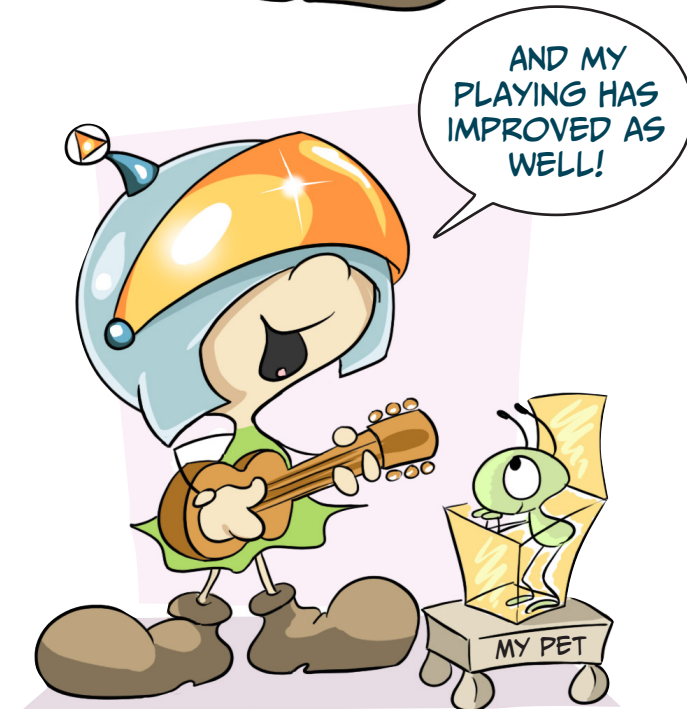
GOD'S PERSPECTIVE IS WIDER AND MORE FAR-REACHING. HE SEES BEYOND THE SMALLER ISSUES THAT BLOCK YOUR VISION. THERE ARE SO MANY POSITIVE THINGS ABOUT YOU AND YOUR LIFE THAT HE GIVES TO YOU. HE LIKES IT WHEN YOU LOOK AT YOUR LIFE THROUGH HIS EYES AND SEE THE GOOD YOU HAVE.



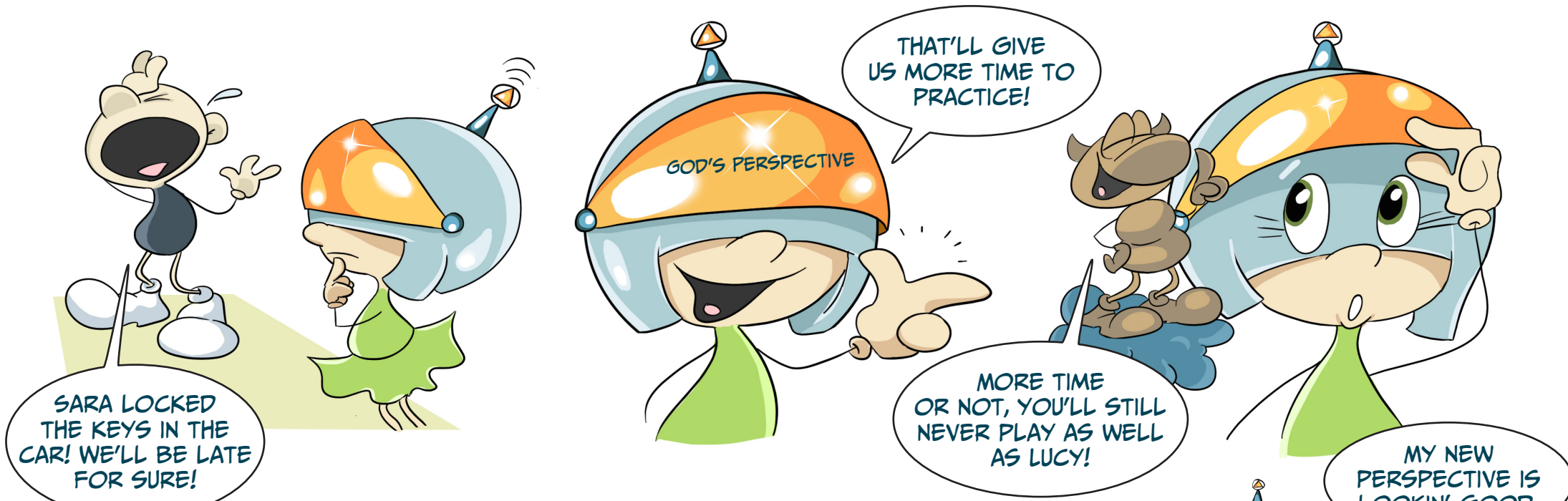
IT'S GOOD TO REMIND YOURSELF THAT YOU MAY NOT GET EVERYTHING THE WAY YOU WANT, OR YOU MAY NOT GET TO DO EVERYTHING YOU THINK YOU NEED TO IN ORDER TO BE HAPPY. YOU MAY NOT HAVE THE EXACT SAME SKILLS OR TALENTS AS YOUR FRIENDS OR YOUR SIBLINGS. BUT GOD CREATED YOU THE WAY YOU ARE, WITH THE LOOKS AND THE PERSONALITY YOU HAVE.



GOD GAVE YOU THE MAJESTY OF CHOICE, SO THAT YOU CAN CHOOSE HOW TO LOOK AT YOURSELF AND YOUR LIFE. YOU CAN CHOOSE TO LOOK AT IT IN A POSITIVE WAY WITH AN ATTITUDE OF FAITH, HOPE, AND JOY. AS YOU TAKE THE TIME TO PRAISE AND THANK GOD FOR THE PERSON YOU ARE AND ALL THE BLESSINGS YOU DO HAVE, YOUR PERSPECTIVE WILL MATURE, AND YOU WILL LEARN THE WISDOM OF FOCUSING ON THE GOOD RATHER THAN THE BAD!

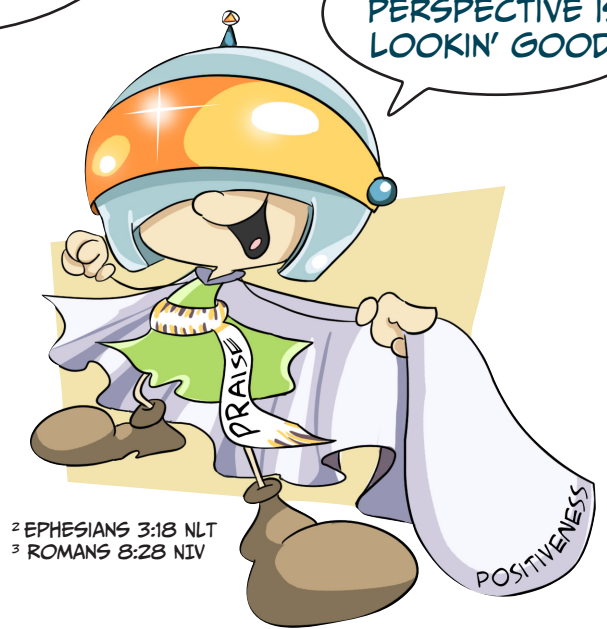


THE APOSTLE PAUL ONCE PRAYED, "MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS."² WHEN YOU TAKE ON GOD'S PERSPECTIVE, IT HELPS YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE LOVE GOD HAS FOR YOU, AND IT MAKES IT EASIER FOR YOU TO LOVE YOURSELF MORE.



GOD'S PERSPECTIVE HELPS YOU TO NOT GET SO CAUGHT UP IN WHETHER SOMEONE ELSE IS MORE TALENTED OR GIFTED WITH SOMETHING THAN YOU. IT TEACHES YOU TO SEE THE TALENTS AND GIFTS YOU DO OWN.

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE ALSO TEACHES HOW TO DEAL WITH DISCOURAGEMENT AND OVERCOME NEGATIVITY, MAKING IT EASIER FOR YOU TO HAVE FAITH THAT "IN ALL THINGS GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."³



² EPHESIANS 3:18 NLT
³ ROMANS 8:28 NIV