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Bridging the Gap



Lean on Me is a 1989 dramatized biographical film starring Morgan Freeman. *Lean on Me* is loosely based on the story of Joe Louis Clark, a real life inner city high school principal in Paterson, New Jersey, whose school is at risk of being taken over by the New Jersey state government unless students improve their test scores. This film's title refers to the 1972 Bill Withers song of the same name. In 1987, Eastside High School in Paterson, New Jersey, is plagued with numerous problems, especially drugs and gang violence. Furthermore, the students scored poorly on the state's test of minimum basic skills.



Over the school year, the students bond with Mr. Clark, not just as a principal, but as a father figure. Clark highly values school pride, and several times throughout the film insists that all students learn the

school song and be able to perform it on demand. Clark is arrested for putting chains on the doors to keep out expelled students and criminals. Eventually, Clark is freed from custody, and to good news: enough students passed the basic skills exam, which means the current school administration will retain control over the school.

Conclusion



Bridge the Gap is an idiom that means to make a **connection (bridge)** where there is a **great difference (gap)**. I have been blessed to see glimpses of The Creator's Original Plan for Mankind and Creation in Genesis Chapters 1-3. At the conclusion of writing these lessons, I realized how little even the most educated of Mankind understands of the Original Way. **It seems that This Way which is simple and in plain view has been hidden from Mankind for ages.** We simply have **Creation Amnesia**. And given that we don't comprehend the knowledge of the Creator's Plan, we surely have not been Living by This Original Plan. I realize that there is a **HUGE GAP** between **"The Way Things Should Be"** and **"The Way That They Are"**. Thinking of this HUGE GAP caused me great sorrow and great compassion. I prayed to The Creator to forgive Mankind for our lack of understanding. With each moment of time, we have gotten further and further away from the Original Plan.



One day while driving down the street I was so overwhelmed by the **HUGE GAP** that I started to pray. I asked the Creator ‘with such a **HUGE GAP** how do we bridge the Gap’. I asked him for answers. To my surprise and amazement, I received my answer immediately. He said to me, **‘YOU ARE THE ANSWER’**. He said that *I have given You and Mankind everything needed to be successful. I have created the Beautiful World with All Its Resources for You....I have given You Life....I have given You Instructions on How to Live.....I have given YOU My Son who showed Mankind the Way and Died for Your Sins....I have given You My Spirit to Live Inside of You and Guide You with Power. He told me that Mankind has All that We Need.* If Change is going to come and Gaps are to be Bridged that it is up to me and others who want to make a difference. We have to understand the Original Way, Live the Way, and Teach Others the Original Way.



Just as Joe Clark made a difference in the lives of students and parents at Eastside High in Patterson, New Jersey, we also can make a difference in our world. We can start by reading and understanding the Original Plan that the Creator of All Things in Universe instructed to

Mankind. This Original Way is **simple and fair** to ALL Humans and Living Things. And although we have changed the way we live, **the Original Way never changed**. For it is **Truth**. We can Lean on Each Other and make Ourselves and Our World a Better Place. We have **EVERYTHING** that we need.

We Are the Answer!!!!