

## Lesson 9

## READ THIS STORY #1, Advanced

## The Depression

The Depression hit when I was growing up. Times were tough. When the factory closed its doors, Dad was out of a job. Dad was a proud man. He thought the world was in an awful mess, and he denounced the government.

Grandma said we shouldn't worry. She said, "The Lord will provide." Dad said it was true that God gives every bird its food, but the Lord doesn't exactly throw it into its nest.

Dad bounced around from job to job, but it was clear that if things didn't improve soon, we'd be joining the rest of the crowd in the soup line.

I dropped out of school to help pay the rent and put food on the table. I was willing to do any kind of work that would bring in some money. But as the Depression grew worse, no jobs could be found in our town.

Uncle Dan had a small house in the South. Dad thought we could manage better if we pooled everything we had and moved in with Uncle Dan. In those days, families stuck together and helped one another.

After a new president was elected, people began to have hope, and things slowly changed for the better.