



*When Jesus Makes A Path*

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***To Jesus,***

*My Lord and Savior. My rock. My best friend. My  
Light. Thank You for the strength and grace to  
bring this project to completion. I declare Your  
victory over this book and this reader's needs.*

**When Jesus Makes A Path:**  
*Discovering His Presence In The*  
*Midst Of The Hurdles*

**2 CORINTHIANS 10:5**

*We demolish arguments and every pretension  
that sets itself up against the knowledge of God,  
and we take captive every thought to make it  
obedient to Christ.*







# One

## *The Turning Point*

**ROMANS 5:8**

*But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Too many of us live with unnecessary suffering. Some of the most common problems we face— anxiety, financial burden, depression, stress, fear, and others—are also the hardest to fight. The problem isn't the trial we are facing—it is thinking the obstacle can't be overcome.

Too often do we just try to make it through another day instead of attacking the issues that surround us. But it shouldn't—and doesn't have to—be that way. Your highest hurdles that prevent

you from fulfilling your destiny can actually be overcome. It's time to bring it back to the basics: stop running from adversity and claim victory, not defeat. No gimmicks, no more regret, no more self-pity, and no more excuses. Regardless of your race, past, choices, or age, Jesus died to see you live a prosperous life full of victory. The turning point is now.

Your life is about to change just by realizing that you don't have to suffer anymore or carry the weight of your hurdles, and instead hand all of your problems to God and stand in tall faith that He will make a path of victory for you. He is the only true solution if you want a new life away from life's curveballs. Your new life starts with understanding who God created you to be, and by realizing that He took your place and suffered once for victory over life's stings. Get ready because your new life starts today. Can you see Jesus' victory?

Jesus didn't have to die for us, but His decision changed everything.

God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ,

not only to comfort His people, not only to strengthen their faith in Him, but primarily to die on the Cross of Calvary for our sins and to destroy the work of the devil. His sacrifice granted us the freedom to pray to God and be heard. We no longer walk in darkness. Jesus came into this world and declared He was and will always be our Light. We can pray knowing He hears us. We know there is nothing out of reach for Him.

He saved us from the burden and corruption of the world. He took the weight of sin and carried it on His shoulders, freeing us from the enemy's captivity. Jesus' death was vital for us to have eternal, everlasting life with God. Only Jesus could do all of this for us. The amazing part is He didn't have to do any of it. He didn't have to die for us. He didn't have to love us. But He sees something so special in each of His children that He insisted on taking the fall for our own sin with His life. We must give Him all the glory forever because of His sacrifice.

Even when our body dies physically, we can rest

assured that we will spend eternity with our Heavenly Father. God promises us living in His Kingdom is worth every obstacle, trial, and tribulation we face in this life. There is nothing on Earth that comes close to the joy and peace of Heaven. However, God often grants us wisdom beyond this world and a small glimpse into Heaven, especially when we are enduring difficult times, to remind us of the priceless life waiting for us.

On the Cross, Jesus overcame the whole world, and all its sin, corruption, brokenness and darkness. He restored life. Even though He has the duty of holding all of us in His hands and fixing all of our problems, He still went through with God's plan for Him to die. That sure does make our problems pale in comparison to the pressure on God's shoulders: finding solutions to everyone's problems somehow. Despite this hefty task, nothing is too hard for Him. He is perfect and always wins.

Can you imagine the pressure and temptation put on Jesus at His crucifixion? He could have said it wasn't fair for Him to die. He could have avoided

the horrific pain of the piercing nails puncturing His skin. But no, He stayed confident that this was the very reason His Father sent Him: to die for us and save us from sin. The very reason He avoided that temptation was love—His love for you. He died for each and every one of us—not just a certain race, skin color, gender, sexuality, age, or size. No, Jesus died for all of us because we are all sinners, but more importantly we are all loved children of God.

Everyone deals with certain struggles, and there is no such thing as a “perfect” day. But that’s okay. We weren’t made to live a perfect life. As I have matured in Christ, He has taught me that problems are actually a blessing. It sounds crazy at first, but imagine a perfect life, one where you never went through a hard time. The idea itself sounds great at first, but one of the best feelings is overcoming adversity—knowing you were victorious and that no trial could defeat God. That feeling wouldn’t exist in a perfect life. God gives us bumps in the road for a reason: every obstacle pulls us closer to

Him.

I thought that was untrue until I reached some of the lowest points in my life and then fully gave my life to Christ. I didn't just give Him half of my life, or just my weekends, but my entire being. My mind, body, and soul belong to The Lord—I couldn't be happier. Everything is different when you completely commit to Jesus. You feel happier, you have more energy, things seem to work out somehow, and you just feel like you are serving a true purpose in this world.

To name all of the things God has done for me is only possible for Him, but I know that He is blessing me and speaking through me right at this very second. And He is with you right now, too. He is watching you read this, and is accepting you with open arms, no matter what you have done in your past. He has drawn you to this book for a reason. He doesn't care about any of that. He accepts you for what you are inside: a masterpiece. You are wonderfully and fearfully made—The Lord said so in Psalm 139:14. So, it's one thing to hear that, but



its life-changing when you truly accept God made you just the way He wanted to. What do you think? Are you willing to give Him a chance? There will be no going back once you chose Him because nothing could compare to living in Him. Whenever you make a decision, just know God will be right there, already mapping out your new life with Him.

Some days just feel impossible, endless, and like nothing will improve. But those days do come to an end, unlike God. He will get you through those tough days. Spend those times in prayer, thanking God for getting you through this storm. There is no other feeling greater than praising and serving Him, The Father who created us all! He knew us inside and out even before we were born, and He still knows us better than we know ourselves—that's why there is no point in hiding from Him.

We should confess and share everything with Him because it shows we trust Him. Not only does He know everything about us, but He also knows every thought we think! At one particularly low point, I asked God to take my life as a living

sacrifice and use me for whatever He wanted. That's just the least we can do—Jesus paid the ultimate price when He died for all of our sins!

He let us know that we are children of God and that our prayers are in fact heard. God cares about us more than we could ever imagine, and all He wants us to do is live for Him. When life seems stressful, when you feel alone, when things aren't going as well as you hoped for—talk to God about it. He doesn't need for you to be a super-educated, rich, successful professor or lawyer to talk to Him—He just wants you, the masterpiece He created. All you have to do to start is ask God: “Lord, I've sinned. Please come into my heart. Change my life. I make You my Lord and my Savior.” Everybody has time to say those words, no matter how busy you are. You will be amazed at the power of that simple prayer.

God does so much for us on our behalf. He works behind the scenes for us, making sure we are safe and set on the right course. There is no stress, worry, anxiety, or depression with God—He takes

care of all those things for us. He supernaturally lifts all burdens that we are suffering through and carries them on His back because there is no possible way for us to do so. But that's the amazing thing about God: He is not limited to possibilities! Anything is possible through Christ.

Nobody but God can judge you, and even Jesus said He doesn't judge or condemn His people. Nobody has the right to judge another human being. Don't worry about what anyone else tells you because you are not seeking their approval—you are seeking, and will always have, God's approval! Every time someone judges you, makes fun of you, or gives you a hard time, God blesses you even more. God already has His plan for you lined up. All you have to do is follow Him and give everybody else something good to talk about. God has plans for them too, but you already have God's favor shining down on you, so you have an advantage. He truly is living inside of you. If you have God on your side, how can you ever be defeated?

One of the greatest things about God that I realize every single day is that when we sin, He always listens to our confessions. He hears us out. No, He will not turn His back away from you, but instead He takes you, cleanses you, and forgives you. He fills all voids in your life that you have tried to fill with temporary fixes. Only His blood and love can fill that emptiness guilt, shame, or whatever it may be, inside of you. God is everlasting. The Bible says He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and He will always love you, no matter what. When you think there is just too much sin for God to forgive you, think again. He is waiting on you right now. Just open your heart to Him and pour out what you're feeling—He will make everything okay.

Today is your day. God is already setting up amazing, larger-than-life blessings for you and your loved ones. He just wants us to know we can trust Him. One of the hardest obstacles in life is predicting the future. What will happen to me? Will I get hurt? There is no possible solution. I've sinned

too much. God has lost His love for me. Nobody wants anything to do with me. There is no purpose for me being here.

We have got to block those thoughts out. God loves you regardless of your past, mistakes, weaknesses, and He is here to make our paths straight. People may not understand you—but God does.

God really does work in mysterious ways. Don't try to predict His plan for you—just trust it will be good! He can take all our obstacles and use it for good. Sounds crazy. But God isn't limited to what we deem as possible— He sees the whole picture, and uses every obstacle to bring us closer to Him—the ultimate blessing—and strengthen everything that we are. Without God, we are nothing. With God; however, we are everything and will always have the required tools and preparation to walk through any obstacle. God knows what He is doing. Let Him work everything out for you.

Most of the time, we trust the people we love, those closest to us. Well, God loved you so much

He sent His only begotten Son—conceived by The Holy Spirit—to come to Earth in the flesh of man to not only perform miracles and provide comfort for us but primarily to die for us. He was sent to take the fall for us and give up His own life so we could have life. Now what do we do with that life He died for us to live? The least we could do is live for Him, and use our live to bring glory, honor, and thanks to His Name. That's all He asks of us. He isn't asking us to be perfect, always do the right thing, or feel bad for ourselves when we fail. All He wants us to do is live for Him.

I encourage you to take the time to grow in your relationship with Jesus, and grasp how much He loves you. This will strengthen your faith and trust in Him. You will find it much easier to hand over your problems to Him trust that He won't let you fall once you start building a solid relationship with Him through prayer and just talking to Him about your problems.

Many times people say they don't want to give God a chance because of their position in life. They

ask, “How could there be a God when He let me end up like this?” Well, God has a purpose behind every decision He makes for our life. That situation isn't permanent. God is leading you to Him, no matter what. He doesn't give you trials because He is mean or doesn't love you. He is using those obstacles in your life to bring you closer to Him, to let you know you can place your trust and confidence in Him, and that He will carve a path out for you.

He knows how long it will be before you just confess and say, “Lord, fine, I'll give you a chance. I have no other options.” Even though God wants to see us turning to Him out of our love for Him, if you feel like there is no other way but God and finally submit to His heart, that's all that matters. Have you given God a chance? I pray you do, because He loves you and has amazing plans for you! I pray you will find comfort in the words below and pray they have a blessed impact on your life. Regardless of how much you know God—maybe you don't know Him at all, or just want to

know Him more—He is living inside of you, blessing you, praying for your needs, and is giving you everything you need for this next, blessed chapter of your life.

This book is for all my brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering any kind of obstacle or stressful situation, for those enduring tough times, or feeling anxious about the future. Maybe the stress of life is causing you to lose hold of your faith and building a burden impossible to carry.

Don't get discouraged if life's obstacles have been more than you can bear. Also, don't feel like you are alone in your struggles. The obstacles included in this book are some of the most common ones we all suffer with. The good news is we don't have to suffer through them anymore. We can rest assured knowing God is still on the Throne and He will use all our trials for our good. Don't stop reminding yourself that God is perfect, meaning nothing challenges Him or surprises Him. With this book I pray for my brothers and sisters in Christ to take the limits off of God, and realize He



is still alive and inside each and every one of us.

There is so much more in your future. So many more blessings, opportunities, great people, amazing achievements, success, healing, power, and pure joy, and I know you are strong enough to keep fighting until the finish line. You may have had some bad breaks or feel as if things just have not worked out for you, but God is telling you otherwise. You are victorious. You are a child of God, and only He can define who you are. Only He knows the gems hidden within your heart, and only He can control your bright, prosperous future.

With this book I hope and pray you will realize—or be reminded that—God can do the impossible. You are a child of God, and you are loved and held by your loving Father in Heaven. Take note of all the things He has given you and the opportunities coming your way. He will open doors no man can shut. Inside your heart is the same power that raised Jesus from the grave. You were chosen to be here by the most important Person to ever exist—now it's time to act like it.

Relax, read at your own pace, and rest in the fact that God is in control and knows all your needs. I know from my own experience that God uses every obstacle for the good of those who love Him, just like He promised in His Word. Whether this is the first or thousandth time you've decided to really trust God that He will take care of all your obstacles, I pray you will find God in your heart and make Him the Lord of your life—you don't know what you're missing. Enjoy!

### *Faith Reminder*

*Anxiety has put up a good fight, but now is the time for change. Proclaim that you are leaving all forms of worry behind and all burdens were crucified. God is carrying you and your obstacles. He knows where this path is going to lead you—victory. Stay in faith and open your heart to Jesus to the point where there is no room for anxiety to creep in anymore. His perfect love casts out all nervousness and you no longer have to live as a prisoner. You were made for better. You were made a champion and child of God.*



## Two

### *The Ultimate Revival*

**PSALM 50:10**

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit  
within me.*

What is revival? A shower after a long day? Does it mean to go on vacation and relax? Resting on Friday night and sleeping in late? Maybe, but those are temporary feelings of renewal. Why do we need revival? We are hanging in there, so there is no need to change anything—right? And what does God have to do with it? Does He play a role in our personal revivals?

Revival only comes from God. There is no getting around that. You can believe you are made

whole and revived through other sources, but you are lying to yourself. Recognizing your need for God, along with confessing you might have stepped off of course, is the first step, and by prayer and confession you will see your focus shifting from worldly thoughts to God's way of thinking—you will see through His eyes. We die daily, with the world pulling us down and tugging at our faith, but prayer revives and refreshes us, as God pours His Spirit and Light into our hearts. This is how He makes us whole and new again—only God's fullness and love gives us revival.

Without practicing prayer regularly, we lose grip of God's love and strength. Through prayer we give God our weaknesses and He equips us with His supernatural, unstoppable strength. He feeds us His living water and truth. You will notice, not that you should or want to, a depletion in your strength, energy, inner light, and sense of purpose when you quit praying. And God does that on purpose. Not too hurt us, or cause us any pain, but He wants to remind us that He should be the central point in

our lives, including our thoughts throughout the day. He wants you to understand He is the only answer. Yes, it might seem hard at first to keep your mind on God all day everyday, because distractions will arise and it is a practice that needs to be exercised, but when you start believing Him more and walking further into your spiritual journey, you will find there is no other way but to thank and glorify Him every second of your life. Your goal is life should be not only just to love and serve God, but to reach a point where you realize you cannot live or breathe a second without God.

Never think you are bothering God or asking too much of Him. He created us to need Him, and it only hurts if you don't ask for His help. God died for you so you could spend the rest of eternity serving and being with Him. Not just for a little here and there, but for eternity.

That might seem like a stretch right now, but once you begin your spiritual revival and new journey with God through prayer alone, along with meditating on His word, promises, and keeping

your devotion to Him increasing, you will never want to look back on your old life.

The key to prayer is faith, and the key to faith is prayer. You must accept the importance of both faith and prayer, as they so closely intertwine and are vital for our spiritual—and general—wellbeing. We are lost without God, but with Him we can accomplish everything. There is nothing that can stop us with God's power in our heart because every obstacle and enemy flees with fear with the knowledge that we have God's unbeatable power in our hands. Revival means thinking like a champion of God. It means having a new perspective on how you live. It means you understand you need Jesus at every second. It means you take up your cross daily, pray, and are humble in your walk with God.

You must confess your sins to Him, acknowledging that you are weak and powerless without Him. 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." If you truly confess to God and tell Him you want to

change from your sinful ways, He will always forgive you.

Continue striving to build your wall of faith and develop a good relationship with Jesus. Concentrate on your prayers and what they include. Meditate on God's Word and practice hearing His voice. Focus on hearing answers through His whispers. He is talking to you all the time, and is closer than you could imagine. Try to feel more comfortable with talking to God about all of your problems, and build your confidence in Him to bring you answers. Confess your sins each night, asking God to cleanse you from the impurities and shame of your mistakes. Try thanking God for your problems, even if it seems awkward. Remember He is using all of them to make you stronger, and to bring you closer to Him. Without our issues, we wouldn't grow as close to God as He intended for us to.

Above all else is giving yourself to Jesus and being cleansed in His blood. His blood is the only way to be restored from sin.



If you don't honor your Creator, how do you expect any change or revival to take place within you? Revival literally means "life again," and trust me, if you don't accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, there will be no change in your life. I don't say that bluntly to insult or criticize, but those seeking to take the next step in their spiritual journey will understand this vital action.

All He cares is about you joining Him and accepting Him. It's not too late. Start now! You will see life so much clearer once you confess your sins and ask God to enter the depths of your heart and cleanse you with His precious blood.

You are a Christian. That's good. You know God well, and pray often. Great! You pray everyday—even better! Your goal in life is to serve Him and help others. You are doing everything right! Then why do we need to have more of God? Aren't we doing a pretty good job already? Even as Christians we are still victim to something that separates us from God: sin.

What is sin exactly? We as humans are not

perfect, meaning we make mistakes and disobey the principles God has set out for us to follow and abide. While we may strive for perfection, we will always be plagued by sin. Sin comes in many different forms—we can sin by falling into temptations, lying, stealing, or participating in anything that goes against God’s teachings. Everyday, we sin. There is no escaping that. We must accept ourselves as sinners and as imperfect beings, and humbly confess our sins to God. We sin without realizing it, sometimes, which is why it is vital to stay in continual communication with God. Sin clogs our thinking, blurs our ability to hear God, and brings false shame. It makes us think God has not forgiven us, and makes it difficult for us to forgive ourselves.

The main thing to realize about sin is that it not only distracts us, separates us from God, and makes us feel abandoned, but should make us more aware of our need for God and the cleansing and purity—only He can provide—that we so desperately need. The only way to wash away the

guilt and dirt of sin is telling God about it, and asking His hand of mercy. Just like skipping daily prayer, when we skip confessing our sins and asking God's forgiveness, the filth of sin begins to control our lives and fill our hearts, rather than the Light of The Holy Spirit. Soon after, you fall into a downward spiral, convincing yourself God has left you and doesn't care for anymore because of the things you have done.

But it is the complete opposite. When we sin, we feel distant from God. However, on His end, He is rushing to us and holding us by the hand, drawing us back into His presence. That's how much He cares about you. He won't let any sin or any mistake get in the way of His love for you. He wants you more than you could ever imagine, and the enemy tries to attack us with guilt resulting from our sins, and make us feel hopeless, and as if we ruined our chances with God.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:16-20. God tells us if we don't believe Jesus rose from the dead, our faith is worthless and we still live under the weight of sin.

Believing in Jesus' death is one thing, but don't disregard the resurrection—Jesus saves those who truly believe He conquered death and darkness, and that He took the bondage of sin with Him on the Cross.

The good news is Jesus still sits on the throne of Heaven, and all it takes is one prayer asking for forgiveness to feel a transformation occurring inside of you. That is God revealing Himself once more to you through the Holy Spirit coming into your heart, pouring His light upon your soul, and making you feel and become brand new, as you instantly leave behind old life habits and ways of living, and turn to Jesus and follow His new path for you life. The main point of all of this is for you to understand is we are all sinners in need of salvation—which can only be brought by the Son of God, Jesus Christ. In addition, I'm telling you today God does not care about how many mistakes or sins you've committed—your time for revival is now and God knows that, so join hands with Him today and accept your victory over your new life in

Him! Amen!

Revival calls for leaving our own ways and submitting to God's plans for us. However, that calls for some work on our part, and for us to truly feel God working on our lives, we have to pray. By praying, we shift our own limited understanding and vision over to God, and are transformed by His peace, grace, forgiveness, and Heavenly touch, as He supernaturally lifts the burdens off of our shoulders and gives us wisdom to understand everything will be okay. But prayer doesn't just mean saying "God, I'm praying and just please do all of this work so I don't have to."

Prayer should be sincere, from our hearts. When we pray, we must be in silence and turn our ears on to hear the stillness of God's voice. Now, what does that mean exactly? The stillness of God's voice is the priceless time when we are in prayer and we just feel Jesus coming into the room and filling our hearts with His Spirit of grace, and as we pray, God talks back to us through our hearts, giving us feelings of hope and prosperity.

Only prayer can make you feel like that. There is no medication, no funny television show, or conversation with your best friend that can cheer you up the way God does. Imagine it is like the world's problems pile upon us throughout the day, but when we pray and confess our issues to God, He lifts the burdens off of us and places a sealed envelope of Heavenly lightness and airiness on our shoulders instead.

The longer we go without prayer, the more burdens pile up, and the more pressure we feel. The hard thing is, when the world's problems stack on us more and more, we tend to feel so overwhelmed and hopeless that we think God can't help us at that point, and remembering to pray becomes much more difficult. That's why constant prayer is vital not only to our revivals but in our everyday lives.

Whether or not you are just trying to make it through the day, make a living with a job that doesn't pay that much, or feeling pressure from always trying to be perfect, prayer will lift all of the worry and dirt of the world off of us.

Our everyday problems pale in comparison to the pressure on God's shoulders—yet He is perfect and no competition for any obstacle. Can you imagine the pressure put on Jesus at His crucifixion? He could have—with a snap of His fingers—called upon God Almighty and easily avoided the gruesome and horrific pain from the nails piercing His skin on the cross. The very reason He avoided that temptation was love. His love for you! He died for each and every one of us—no matter what race, skin color, gender, sexuality, age, or size, Jesus died for all of our sins because we are loved and precious children of the most high God in Heaven, and He loved you so much He sent His only begotten Son—conceived by The Holy Spirit—to come to Earth in the flesh of man and not only be more relatable for us but die for us. The least we could do is live for Him. That's all He asks of us. Thank Him for reviving you pray something like this:

*Father,*

*Thank You for this revival occurring within me. Thank You for making me understand You more and see myself through Your eyes. Close the distance between us and hold my hand every step of this new life I've been given. Help me fathom how deep your love is for me and understand the power Your precious blood carries. Take me and do with my life what You want. Thank You, Jesus! Amen.*

### *Faith Reminder*

*You are not the way you used to be. You may not realize it, but just realizing you need revival is enough for God to begin working in your heart. He is already breaking old habits, reviving you, making you anew, and giving you the answers to your prayers sooner than you could imagine. You may not feel too much different, but understand*



*God is working on your behalf and from this point on proclaim you are new, your old self is dead, and because of the Cross, God is molding you into who you were called to be.*

## Three

### *Worry vs. His Word*

**HOSEA 10:12**

*Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of  
unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is  
time to seek the Lord, until He comes and showers  
righteousness on you.*

We all have that same problem: being anxious for the future. Worrying about the medical reports. The house payments. How to support and raise a family. Those debts. Finding a job. Figuring out how to pay—or get into—collage. The future is always blurry for us. But not for God.

He said there will always be things to worry

about, but that's because we can't see things through His eyes. He knows the plans He has for you are amazing, it's just a test of faith. Many people don't know how to deal with anxiety, or even worse don't realize it is something that needs to be taken care of. Have you stopped and thought about the idea of never having to worry? What about your past—have you ever fully, permanently convinced yourself that your past mistakes do not have to impact your future? Well, your past doesn't matter for God—so why should it matter to you?

A lot of us have accepted the nerves and anxious thoughts. We think anxiety is just something everyone has to live with. By doing that, we accept to wear that negative label and take ownership of anxiety—we choose to live with it because we think there is no real solution.

Being anxious doesn't mean you don't love God, but anxiety results from losing sight of the fact that God knows the plans ahead. It's okay to be dependent on God—in fact it's vital. Just because you think you can handle it on your own strength

doesn't make it true. Always strive to ask for God's help and recognize that you cannot do anything without Him. Otherwise, if you depend on your limited, humanly strength, you will find yourself piled under problems and drowning in fear.

Reading God's Word makes it easier to separate from anxiety and cling onto God instead. He is our refuge; we should take comfort in Him, not doubt Him or worry about our future. The power of Jesus is more than we could ever imagine.

We should speak with Him about all of our problems, no matter how small or big. He knows all of our problems and thoughts anyway, so why not talk about them with Him? God wants to hear about our problems, because He created them for us to be closer with Him. He already knows about our issues, and is seeing if we will share and trust them with Him.

Psalm 56:3 says, "When I am afraid, I will put my trust in Thee." The moment when we hand God our anxiety is unmatched. No words can describe the peace felt by just saying, "God, I can't

handle this on my own and I am living in anxiety right now. Take the nerves away from me and grant me Your wisdom, strength, and courage. Make me a fighter. Make me an overcomer.” If you truly believe in those words as you say them, God will know you are ready to let go and let Him handle it all.

We should never run anywhere but to God when we start to feel anxious or unsure. Many times we think we can handle things ourselves, yet later realize we do not have anywhere near the amount of strength our Lord possesses—but that’s okay. We were not made to be as strong as Him. When we are weak, God is strong. Even more important, when we feel strong, God is stronger. He can do what could take us years in the blink of an eye. Putting your trust in God means placing your heart in Him and inviting Him into the situation to help you—and He will always come through for you.

God asks in Matthew 6:27, "And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to his life's

span?” Even if you think you work better under pressure or when feeling nervous, the unchanging truth is that worrying or even putting yourself into that position of working with anxiety is sinful and will destroy you. Imagine all the things you have been nervous for in your life, no matter how small or big of a deal it was. Now imagine worrying about all those petty things for the rest of your life—is that how you want to live?

You may strive to do your best in every area of life, but many times those who suffer with anxiety also fear rejection or falling short of perfection. Always strive to do your best, but never try to outdo God or act perfect. You aren't bothering Him if you suddenly realize you aren't perfect and need His help. Let go of the anxiety, and let God lead the way for now on.

God wants to remind us He is in control, not us. Nothing is final until God says so. That means no grade, job interview, or health concern is worth worrying over. It's not even in our control. If you are meant to be in that position God will find some

way of bringing you to it, even if it takes longer than you might have hoped for. Even if it takes longer for your dreams to become reality just know God did you a favor, whether it be protect you from something or equip you.

Like Matthew 6:27 says, what good can worry give to us? If God, the Creator of everything, is the only One who can see and even change the outcome, isn't the easiest, and only, solution, just to trust Him? It's okay to have the struggle of anxiety, though. It only means you have one more victory story to tell your friends and family, another opportunity to be a testimony of God's power. Don't think you are alone in your struggle with worry. Many Christians, no matter how much time spent praying, find themselves struggling every day with anxiety.

Realize that worrying, even if we don't mean to, means doubting God and choosing to take our focus off of Him. Worrying is actually a form of self-idolatry. We are giving anxiety and ourselves all the attention and the power to control us, instead

of God. Next time you are anxious about anything, take three deep breaths and ask God to instill in you complete river-like peace, and send His angels of calmness and tranquility to surround you. Anxiety is not a giant we can overcome overnight necessarily; it is a practice in trusting God with every new problem or solution. But over time, through prayer and attentiveness to God's voice, you will find yourself trusting God more and more and letting go of those uneasy feelings, and all the weight lifting off of you, as focus shifts from your problems to how much God has done for you.

Like Proverbs 12:25 says, "An anxious heart weighs a man down, but an encouraging word cheers him up." This is God showing us the harm in worrying. Submitting to anxiety means living a life with a heavy heart and burdens too heavy to lift or handle. When we worry, we grieve God. That often slips our mind—we are saddening Him when we choose to worry about life instead of enjoy it and delight in Him for giving it to us. The Bible tells us God delights in the success of His servants.



He loves to watch us flourish, and it gives Him glory when we trust Him. Do you think He sits back and smiles when we get worried and fearful? Of course not.

The great thing about God is He already knows the outcome of each and every one of your problems. When you really think about it, what can worrying really do? It definitely won't change the outcome, and if it changes anything, it will simply prevent you from seeing God's hand of favor over you. God will reward you for trusting Him to answer your prayer for deliverance. He will free you from your nerves that seem to overcome you. Regardless of the time we spend trying to control the outcome or waiting for an answer, God is always faithful.

He continually comes through and takes care of us because His perfect love is more than we can comprehend. No amount of worrying or sin can change that. He can cheer you up in the blink of His eye, and we can stop living with heavy hearts and anxious thoughts by His grace alone. We don't

realize that we can't survive on our own strength.

We shouldn't have to submit to the lies and doubts of our limited vision, which makes us apprehensive about the future. We have a God who sees the whole picture, and with His perfect love there is no fear or worry. Talk with God about your problems and He will find a solution for you. He will deliver you. He will hold you. He will make a way when it seems impossible. The same God who raised Jesus from the dead lives inside of you and is transforming you to become who He created you to be: a strong, courageous, fearless leader and warrior of God.

When we fall victim to a nervous, heavy, or unsteady heart, we don't realize the toll it takes on our body. We don't see the damage until it's too late. Our energy and strength are shredded to nothing. We stop smiling as much, and become unaware of God's love shining down on us. We lose hold of The Holy Spirit working and praying on our behalf and filling us with His joy, love, peace, tranquility, and fire. As you offer God all of

your praise and trust, He will reveal blessings and grace. You will see a testimony of His Word and His truth. Let go of all your anxiety and allow God's radiant Light to pour into your heart. Sense how light and peaceful you feel as you become more attentive of His presence. Set good examples for others and show them how great our God is. God is accomplishing huge tasks inside of you, maybe without you even noticing.

He is working behind the scenes, making sure His plan comes true and that everything is aligned just right. Ask Him to renew your thinking, set your priorities straight, change your mindset, transform you for His glory, and what it means to have an identity in Christ. Open not only your heart to God, but your voice and mind—let Him control your thinking from now on.

With our limited thinking, we do not see solutions to our problems, but God's vision already sees the finish line. He knows where the path is headed to. He knows every twist, turn, hurdle, and rock on the way. He also sees that light at the end

of the tunnel we so desperately want and need. He equips us with strength, power, and wisdom from His hands for the run—all we have to do is trust Him until we see that flag at the end. What is there to worry about? Nothing can win against God!

Philippians 4:6-8 tells us to, “Be anxious for nothing.” Worrying depletes our energy, making God seem distant. Unfortunately, anxiety is one of the toughest obstacles to beat; it seems impossible to go through life without worrying about our situations. But the good news is we don’t have to battle anxiety alone. God is on our side, fighting for us and holding our hands! There are no limits to what God can do; not even the sky can limit Him. I encourage you to turn away from anxiety and proclaim yourself dead to a life of worry.

### *Faith Reminder*

*Abandon your past, mistakes, sin, and anxiety, and become alive in Jesus—your true Life! This*

*world may be fast-paced and fallen, but never let it make you lose sight of how close God's grace and peace are. He is your escape from anxiety. Don't think that your road to victory is just now starting—God has been working for a long time getting you to this point, and it's only one step closer to the victory line.*

## Four

# *Ageless, Childlike Faith*

### **MATTHEW 18:3**

*Unless you change and become like little children, you  
will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.*

Small children grow up learning to obey their parents. Sometimes, when children get older, and fall under wrong influences, they forget the values they were raised with. They forget all the sacrifices their parents made for them. All of the unconditional love their parents carried for them. Too often do kids drift from their parents' teachings and instead go along their own path. Just like with an earthly parent, many people sway from the teachings of God as they age and go out into

the real world, where many pressures and traps live. Some choose to put their faith on hold or do things in the way they think is best. But, God wants to see us remain as pure, innocent, and faithful as we were as small children. Just like we held onto our mother's hand while crossing the street, we should continue holding God's guiding arm through our lives, recognizing our need for Him no matter how old we are. Understanding that we are still His children along with humbling our souls will bring Him glory. Stay in pure faith, loving God regardless of the circumstances or your age. It's never too late or early to start trusting and believing in God. His Light lives within you. He waits patiently for all of His children!

It can be difficult to stay in faith when we get older, when life gets harder, and obstacles arise everyday. Letting our faith go is much easier than we think. We skip our nightly prayers to instead collapse in bed after a long, exhausting day of work. We think we've bothered God enough with our nonsense. We've thought the situation is not even

worth praying about because it's just too difficult—we've all thought like that. But this is exactly why we should never take advantage of our faith and our relationship with God. When things seem great and we feel as close to God as possible, it's easy to assume we can skip prayer that night or wait a day to do our daily Bible reading. Too often do we just assume our closeness with God means we can skip our spiritual routine. Even when your situation is great, retain that childlike faith within you and thank God for His favor and goodness.

You will see God fighting for your victory and He will shine His Light upon you as you continue being faithful and obedient, humble and repentant. He rewards your efforts, I promise.

I've seen too many Christians let pride get the best of them. They leave their childlike faith and some, influenced by temptations like money, begin thinking of themselves more than they should. The thing is our lives change, our income may change, but God never changes. Don't let any amount of success make you forget Who gave that gift to you.



Every amount of success is given from God's hand, so remember to stay humble, glorify God with everything that is given to you, and remember Who is the most successful of all.

Just like small children do, we should try to learn more about God every day. Kids have so many questions regarding the Cross, who Jesus is, how God loves them, etc. Who says we can't be curious after childhood? I encourage you to have questions. Talk to God about them if you feel uncomfortable asking others. Ask Him to answer all of your curiosity and reveal His truth to you. You'll be surprised how much more there is to learn.

There are many people who unfortunately have not even heard of God's love, who haven't realized God loves His children unconditionally, or who think they have done too much bad to even be loved at all. Even though we don't mean to, we forget this and all we do is just ask God for more money, more success, or a bigger house without thanking Him for the simple things: a roof over our heads, food on the table, and the free, permanent

opportunity to pray and have a relationship with Him.

### *Faith Reminder*

*No matter what your age, remind yourself to stay in faith as a young child would. Don't let the changing world around you let you lose sight of God's never-ending and never changing perfect Love.*

*Everything good comes from Him, and we should strive to be thankful for His gifts and use them for His glory. Humbly serve Him and His people.*



# Five

## *Pray Expecting Answers*

LUKE 18:1

*And it came to pass in those days, that He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.*

We should make it a habit to pray as often as possible. The most important time to pray is when we don't feel like doing so. When we feel like our lives are perfect and nothing needs to change, or even when we feel as if God forever abandoned us and left us to suffer with our own issues, we must continue growing our prayer life, and communicating with God more. Talk to Him about

your issues, or thank Him for the goodness in your life and ask Him to use the blessings to help others.

Even during the day, just remind yourself God is with you and whisper a small prayer. Just thinking of God will make you put your best foot forward during the day's often tiring, hectic schedule. Don't think you are sinning just because you are praying throughout the day during work or at the grocery store, where you may not be alone and on your knees. God doesn't keep score; all He wants to see is you thinking about Him and recognizing His presence.

Today, there are a lot of misconceptions about Christianity. Too often do people assume living a Christian life centers around endless sets of rules, strict limitations, and an overall boring life. Nothing could be further from the truth. Corinthians 5:7 tells us to walk by faith and not by sight. This means regardless of what everyone else is doing, we should strive to do what God wants us to do, and be confident that our faith will pay off.

When we understand the power of praying with

a faithful heart, we can truly unlock the door to God's limitless power that He implants in each and every one of our hearts. God is not all about rules. He picked you to be here. To be alive. To spend eternity with Him. He just asks for your belief and faith. How could we resist? God is still alive, here with us, in your heart, and He is holding your hand, and all things truly are possible when we trust in Him, for He created the Heavens and Earth—why should we ever question His abilities? God will give you the faith you need; He never leaves us unprepared or unequipped. He gives us just the right amount of everything we need to be victorious in our battles.

Don't underestimate the power of obedience, though. Don't forget the power of just obeying God's Word, and how much He really does reward you for following Him consistently. If you accept Him as your Lord and Savior but continue giving into the same temptations, committing the same sins, and don't strive to grow in faith, it won't do much good for you. But, if you obey His

commandments and continue walking in faith, He will amaze you by opening doors for you and taking you light years ahead of where you thought you could go. He sees the potential within you. Just stay in faith and expect Him to give you more than what you asked for.

It is important to connect with God first thing every morning as well. Praying in the morning allows for us to refocus our attention on Jesus before we receive all the day offers us, and reminds us we have His power to get through each event of the day's course. Psalm 90:14 says God will satisfy us in the morning with His unfailing love, "That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days." Even a quick conversation with God before getting dressed or ready for work will shift your whole mindset closer to God, offering you comfort for the whole day. Make the effort and pray each morning:

*Lord Jesus Christ,*

*Thank You for the gift of life and another day.*

*When You came to earth for Your children, You*

*grew as a child in grace, peace, and wisdom. Receive me as You received children in Your arms as Lord, and this day hear my prayers, bless my parents, loved ones, family, teachers, and all caregivers of mine, and let them see You when they see me, hear You when they hear me, and touch You when they touch me. Make me more like You Lord Jesus.*

*Bless me and protect me from danger and evil seen and unseen. Work Your miracles within me and do Your work inside of my heart. Give me strength to be truthful, honest, kind, and helpful to others. Make me strong like You, and help me avoid temptations the world may throw at me. Make me a giver and not a taker. Forgive my sins and accept my prayer in great mercy, for I seek refuge in You, the merciful and almighty God. Shine Your heart upon me and teach me Your ways this day, that I may bring honor, credit, glory, and all things good to Your name. Guide me, God, to grow in Your peace and grace, and*



*make me a temple of The Holy Spirit with everything I do. Use all that I have for Your glory and honor today, and Father, today I give to You all my praise and all the glory for whatever success comes my way Father, You've created this day for me, and I thank You as my first thoughts.*

*Please grant me discernment to Your voice and patience in Your perfect timing when obstacles arise today. Keep my heart opening and pouring out to You, as You seal me in a sealed envelope of protection against all danger and evil. Please keep me eyes above the waves and humble me before You, for I exalt You above anything and everything today and forevermore. You, preserver of my life, endure forever Lord, and I ask that You keep my mind focused on Your limitless power, protection, and promises You left and made for us in Your word. Father, You are my strength this day and everything I have belongs to You. I thank You for allowing me to*

*rejoice in You, for this is the day You have made. I give thanks to You, Lord, for You are good and Your steadfast love endures forever!*

*Having this day as a gift from You Lord, I thank You, Holy Trinity, for Your patience and goodness towards me. You were not wrathful with me, and idler, and impure sinner. But instead, You have continuously shown love towards me, guiding my heart to You and using my efforts for Your glory. Please enlighten my soul to meditate on Your word and understand it by opening my heart to You. Help me apply everything I learn and to praise and glorify You with all my energy, time, soul, and heart. To You I give the glory, honor, and praise. Help me remain strong in faith and spirit, especially when my flesh fails. Remind me that all my challenges and obstacles result in glorifying You for the victory. Reveal Yourself to me in an incredible way today, and show me Your favor. Father, use this day and all that it contains to remind me of Your glory, peace, and all your*

*perfection. Keep my head above the waters and transform me, change me, and morph me into the Christian revived by the blood of Christ You designed me to be.*

*Remind me I'm not longer under the curse of the Old Testament, and by Your sacrifice, I'm forever changed and saved. Also, help me reach true understanding of how far You've gotten me, how much I've progressed, and how the best is only yet to come. Bless me with Your tender touch, and I will be saved. You made the ultimate sacrifice for me, and I ask for You to take my life as a living sacrifice, and I permit You complete entrance into my heart. Forgive my sins and all the mistakes of my past life, and rid me of my memory of my mistakes and sins—now I live in Christ. Wake up my spiritual senses and anoint me, Father, in Your righteousness. Allow me to walk in Your hand across this path of Life and uprightness. Fill every cell in my being with Your Light, healing, and all Your limitless, endless*

*power. Bring my focus to You, and today line up explosive blessings and hidden treasure for me to use to glorify Your Holy Name. Thank You for this day Lord! In Jesus' Name, I pray, Amen, Amen, and Amen!*

Likewise, praying before bed is important, too. As the day comes to a close, we should be glad to thank God for all He did for us. For giving us the strength for that day. For blessing us and blowing the winds of favor our way. For life. For breath in our lungs. For letting us know Him. There are so many things to thank God for that we take advantage of. Psalm 3:5 says, “I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me.” That’s exactly what He will do: sustain you. He won’t only do that, but also reenergize you for the next day and bring you closer to your destiny. God makes all of our days exactly how they should be—meaning every blessing and obstacle alike is in your life for a purpose. But when we submit our hearts and problems to God, we can sleep with peace knowing

He will take care of it. At the end of each day thank God for what He has done and what He is doing. Pray for Him to bring answers and joy in the morning. Each night, strive to pray for your needs and thank Him:

*Father,*

*Thank You for the amazing blessings and happiness You gave to me today, and all the great opportunities to do Your work and help others. As my strength and energy fades, replenish me of everything I need for tomorrow, and protect me as I sleep a deep, restful sleep. Thank You for a roof over my head and a bed to sleep in. Thank You for my family, and let tomorrow bring explosive blessings right towards me.*

*Lord, thank You for this evening, as I rest in Your presence. Wash away my fears, anxieties, and all polluted thoughts of today, and all doubts forming from the overload of work that I just don't see how it will get done. Assure me of Your*

*excellence this night, and let me praise You even in my sleep.*

*Lord Jesus, You gave me this night, and You overcame all the battles of the day for me. You are the reason for my success, excellence, and all accomplishments. Now I give the glory for all of it to You, for none of it was done by me but only by You, my Savior. Please guide me through this night and shine Your Heavenly Light upon my heart, placing me into a peaceful spirit. Lead me to Your grace, and help me understand more about You as I sleep this night. Lift me eyelids in the morning with singing angels and Your Light already blessing the course of the day.*

*Father, the burdens and pressures of the world have taken their toll on me. Please reverse the damage done to me and refocus my attention on the unseen but very visible Kingdom of Heaven, where no pressures or weight exists. Bring me a Heavenly peace and lightness to my movement, that I may go about the next listening*

*to the stillness of Your voice and serving You, not the world.*

*Despite the world's temptations, I forget not Your laws and promises. This night, like all others, I rise to praise You and glorify Your Holy Name because of Your humility, explosive miracles, help, righteousness, and unchanging love You hold for me and my loved ones, despite our sins. How sweet is Your word, Lord! Allow me to place myself wholeheartedly in Your endless, limitless power and strength for all the days and nights ahead. Use me to speak truth and not bring shame but bring honor and glory to Your Name, Jesus! Clean me to become whiter than snow, and turn Your face away from my sins. Renew a clean, right spirit within me as Your Word promises.*

*Please grant us rest of every cell inside us; and keep us from dark sleep of sin and away from all impure pleasures and fantasies roaming in the night's darkness. Still the assaults of evil*

*passions, quench the fiery darts are aimed against us, and give to us watchful minds and spirits free from all dark thoughts.*

*Nothing is impossible for You, blessed One who I exalt. Humble me before You and Your throne room, and allow all my works to exalt You in some form. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, take away our sins of the fallen world and extend Your mercy towards our way, and accept our prayers, Lord, enthroned at the right hand of the Father, and I shall use this life You've gifted me with for all Your endless glory.*

*You received all the children who came to You, Father. Please accept me also as Your child and servant in need of a Savior and salvation. Give me understanding of my weakness, granting me humble humility, and wake up anew as You move into my heart, filling my soul with Heavenly strength.*

*You are my Shepard and Your love has clothed me since my birth—when You loved me*



*before I even knew You. Please, Lord, I ask for Your grace and Spirit to fill the voids in my life and heart, and guide me to fulfillment in You through prayer and supplication, sacrifice and dedication to You and Your Word. You laid it all down for me to live, Father, please guide me to make the most of this blessed gift of a life, and do Your work every step of the way.*

*Lord, teach me that obstacles are blessings and opportunities to grow in faith and trust You more. Grant me Your continual gift of peace, and allow it to flow from Your Heavenly throne to the deepest depths of my soul. Teach me to stop complaining, and embrace whatever challenges try to take me down. With all my stress and the chaos of this fallen world I ask for Your grace to pick me up and lift my eyes to You—the One who holds everything and everyone in Your peace.*

*Lord, as my restless heart prevents me from living this night in peace please remind me of Your favor, grace, and Light, that shines from*

*Your Kingdom down to the deepest place of my heart, and out into everything I do. Take my focus off of worldly pleasures and problems, and train me to think of Heavenly, bold prayers and solutions to problems in my life so I can truly become the victor and no longer live as the victim of the world. Amen.*

### *Faith Reminder*

*Make it a priority to pray as often as possibly. Wake up and ask God for a blessed day, and at night, thank Him for revealing Himself to you more through the day. Meditate on God and His Word day and night and get to know Him more than ever before.*



## Six

### *God's Got You Covered*

**MATTHEW 28:20**

*And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

When we are put in new situations, it is not hard to be scared. What often slips our thinking is fear is a sin, and sin separates us from God, who hates seeing us sin when we try to predict the future He has already set out for us. In God's eyes, when we are fearful we are not trusting Him. Yes, it is very difficult to not fear when things look uncertain, and us as humans tend to fear the worst for future situations in which we have no control over. But the great thing is God already knows the outcome,

so why be afraid? God uses everything for our good—He promised.

As Psalm 23:4 says, “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” If you have God, you have everything. Without God, you are nothing. He didn’t create us to be self-sufficient and strong enough to handle every situation on our own.

Instead, He purposefully created you and me alike to rely on Him and take refuge in His strength, which is strong enough to overcome anything imaginable. That is why once we become aware of God living inside of our hearts, we forget about the fear and visible obstacles. God wants us to rely on what is unseen, and rely on the faith in Him rather than tangible obstacles and what our eyes deem as impossible. God will always be there to comfort you in the midst of adversity, as long as you walk by faith, not by sight.

Moses said in Exodus 14:13, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the

Lord will bring you today.” We tend to crumble under sever stress or harsh conditions. When things seem to be getting worse, when we don’t get that job we wanted so badly, when the door to that great opportunity all the sudden closes, our faith is cut, and we grow further from The Lord. But when we stand tall and declare our faith in Him, God will take you higher and deliver you from every trial and tribulation. Standing tall in faith means trusting God will not let you sink; He will make you walk upon the waters and be give you the strength needed for the battle.

No obstacle comes without a reward. When things seem overwhelming or scary, understand God has placed those obstacles right on time; He uses those mountains to remind you that He can pull you through it, to remind you of His strength. He not only can, but will, turn all obstacles into opportunities for bigger blessings in your future. God promised you a future of hope, plans of prosperity, and eternal life—you won’t ever wither away with Him; you better be ready for a new life

and better believe it only gets better from here!

Psalm 112:1 tells us to, “Praise the Lord. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in His commands.” We should all reverently and worshipfully fear God, and not take advantage or joke about Him. Just as we obey our earthly parents, we have to obey our Heavenly Father, who knew you before your birth and will forever know you better than you know yourself. When God asks something of us, we should ignore everything else occurring and obey Him, no matter what we have to ignore or leave behind. When we take delight in everything God asks of us, we show our obedience and respect for Him. Not only that, but God blesses us with every act of obedience.

Psalm 56:3-4 says, “When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?”

God is our refuge. That means we can always take comfort in Him, knowing He will pull us through whatever we are going through. No matter

what, God will be there to catch us when we fall. Because of this, we should never try to hide our anxiety or fear from 'The Lord—He knows everything about us. Instead, we as Christians have the responsibility to come to Jesus when we are weary and trust in Him, and wholeheartedly believe His grace and presence will be enough to press on and pull through it all. Maybe there's somebody bothering you at work, bullying you at school, or even a family member treating you disrespectfully: let God take care of the situation.

He knows what needs to be done, and how to get it done. Man can do nothing compared to the power of Almighty God. Nobody can take your faith away from you, which means the power of Jesus is with you at all times, and always end in victory. You just have to be patient.

Be a fighter. When things are less than great, don't be fearful. Accept the challenge and tackle the issues instead of running from them. Make your problems afraid of you, not the other way around. Jesus died and rose again just to see you be



victorious. To see you win every battle. Fight through the tough times, take refuge in The Lord, and watch how He refuses to lose. It is illegal for any challenge to even make God flinch. His strength and power will amaze you. God's got you covered; don't ever worry about the obstacles, just think how you will tell people about God's goodness!

### *Faith Reminder*

*God is always going to be there. He will hold your hand even when you don't hold His, or when you lose grip on Him. The enemy may try to whisper lies into your ears, but keep your eyes on Almighty God, because you know that He has a plan and He is working all of it out for your good!*

*No matter what anyone else says or how fearful the world says you should be, ignore all of that and*

*claim that the blood of Jesus has made you fearless,  
bold, courageous, victorious, and that your Father  
is holding you closer than anyone could think!*



## Seven

### *Pile On Joy, Not Stress*

#### **PROVERBS 3:5-6**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and He will make your paths straight.*

Stress. We've all given in. When things pile up on us, our immediate reaction is to—maybe unconsciously—stress until it's out of the way, then make room for the next thing to worry about. It seems unnatural to go through life without stressing. Sometimes it feels like we aren't worrying ourselves sick, we should be working harder or paying more attention. But we forget stressing is

sinful. It means we don't trust God's plans. We may unintentionally follow stressful situations and problems first before God, trying to fix them before we save time for Jesus. God does not want us to live stressed and worried all the time. He wants us to trust Him. Stress is a hit from the enemy, and if you stay stressed, you will not feel the fullness of God in your life. He designed you to live a happy, prosperous life full of joy. When you feel stressed, pray and confess it all to God: "Lord, I know things are hard right now. I'm so stressed, and don't see a way out. But I know You see the bigger picture, and You are working miracles in my life faster and larger than life. I know I will get through this, not only surviving but also thriving I am Yours, O Savior. I no longer take ownership of the stress, which used to attack me. I do; however, take ownership of the love and healing that comes from Your hands."

Stress roots from not trusting God and instead relying on our own strength, which invites nerves and doubts into our thoughts. After doing this, we

soon realize soon it cannot be done without help. We may unintentionally follow stressful situations and problems first before God, trying to fix them before we save time for Jesus. God does not want us to live stressed and worried all the time. He wants us to trust Him. Stress is a hit from the enemy, and if you stay stressed, you will further separate from The Creator, who never designed you to be stressed, but live a happy, prosperous life full of joy. Today, remind yourself you are a part of the body of Christ, meaning you represent Jesus and are here for the purpose of lifting up others and showing God's children His grace, goodness, and power. Go out and show Jesus through your actions. Show people how they should believe by showing them the way you believe. Show them how God delivered you from stress and how He can do the same for them.

Something great happens when we decide to let go of that stress. Well, first we have to decide how to get rid of the stress. There are many ways to calm stress, such as yoga or meditation, but the

one true, permanent answer is prayer. Immediately after stressful feelings arise, submit them to God and ask Him to renew in you a calm, unhurried spirit. Ask Him to slow your restless thoughts. Many people disregard the idea of praying for stress to leave because our society makes us think stress is necessary. But God knows better than our society. He knows you can accomplish your dreams without stressing, and that's why we need to ask for His help—because only He can take away stress forever. If you pray with faith and belief in God's true power, you will notice a shift in your thinking, a shift from worldly thinking to Heavenly thinking, how God wants us to think.

And the great thing is God already has a plan for you that is much larger and greater than anything you could imagine. God's vision is not limited, and He is bringing to life the incredible plans He has for you.

Do not allow yourself to cave into stress. You are better than that. Jesus never stressed, and His Spirit lives inside of you! God made you

wonderfully and fearfully—don't let your obstacles have the power to control you or make you forget that God is always victorious.

God is the only guidance you need. When you feel stressed, lost, or like nothing good will happen to you, meditate on God's word for you and His plan to prosper you, as He promises in His Word. Don't go searching anywhere else for solutions—God already has the blueprint for your success!

He always has a plan and wins, meaning nobody can even think of defeating Him or ruining the destiny He has ordained for you. God has your back! He is and always will be your defense! If you have God on your side, and you do, nothing should make you stress. It is your issues that should be worried, because they will never win with God fighting for you to win! You are so special in your Father's eyes to stay stressed. God will put you where you need to be, regardless of the timing and location. If it is meant to happen, God will put it into place. Just wait and ask God for patience as He leads you to the right way. It will land in your lap—



that grade, that college acceptance letter, that job application, it will all come to you when the time is right and the sooner you acknowledge that the happier you will live. And that's all God wants us to do—live happily and wholeheartedly for Him!

When you feel stressed, try to convince yourself that you are capable of overcoming these obstacles: “Lord, I know things are hard right now. I’m so stressed, and don’t see a way out. But I know You see the bigger picture, and You are working miracles in my life more than ever before. I know I will get through this thriving.”

Psalms 55:22 tells us where to leave our worries: “Cast your burden on the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved.” When you cast all of your struggles and anxious thoughts and other burdens onto God’s shoulders, instead of trying to bear them on your own, you will feel so much lighter, happier, and stronger, knowing that God is fighting your battles. He will not only sustain you and lift you up into a prosperous life. Let Him fight for you—cast your

worries on His shoulders. God will never allow you to be moved far away from Him. He will use some situation to pull you back into His path and grant you discernment to remember His sovereignty.

John 14:27 says, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” No matter how hectic life can get, nothing is too crazy or difficult for our God. He will always be able to give you peace and calm you down. Nowadays, we rush all over the place, trying to get all our work done. When we ask God to give us His peace, everything becomes still and we suddenly think like Him. His peace makes us forget all of our doubts and worries, and somehow all the work seems to just get done. God is taking the burdens off of your shoulders and carrying it all on His because only He can bear all of the weight. God will speak to you. Just listen, and hear His voice pouring peace, wisdom, and clarity into your soul. When we turn everything over to God, the puzzle pieces suddenly attach and there is no

confusion or worrying. Don't walk with a troubled heart. Let God instill His peace within you. Ask God for rest. This busy, chaotic world tends to drain us of energy and sometimes hope. Just ask God to give you rest and take the burdens of the world off of your shoulders.

Proverbs 16:3 tells us to “Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.” It is vital to learn the importance of letting go and letting God handle our situations. Instead of worrying, trust in The Lord to bring you the solution. He will put you in the right places at the right times. He will put you with the right people. He will put you in the right position. As long as you commit to God and His plan, you can rest assured knowing that He will come through for you.

Romans 8:6 warns us of setting our thoughts on the wrong things: “For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.” We accomplish nothing by focusing on the outside, tangible, and visible things. Our flesh is dirty but our insides—our souls, hearts, and

spirits—and pure and clean, thanks to God living inside of us. He wants us to live a life by faith, not by sight. Also, He wants you to not worry about the outside details because He is about to do something for you out of the blue and work from within you. Just like Jesus tells us in this verse, once we put focus on Him and the living spirit within us, we will gain His peace and life in Him—which is the only way to live. God is real, and if we focus on Him, all problems fade into the background.

In John 14:1, Jesus says to us, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in Me.” Never let your heart feel heavy. When we do this, God grieves. Instead of sitting while worry and doubts destroy us, focus on the One who died for you—He didn’t sacrifice His life for you to sit around and mope or worry! He has you in the palm of your hand, and is taking you to the right doors. When those thoughts of worry, anxiety—”how will I get it all done? There is no way this is possible—and fear try to seep into our minds and hearts, block them out, command them to leave, and

remind yourself of God's power by saying "Jesus, your bigger than these thoughts." Doing this will always make you win, because God always is and will be victorious in all He does. Let us lift our hearts to Him and cast our worries on Him, while He works on our behalf!

Proverbs 16: 9 talks about how God has the final say: "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps."

It's funny how we continually worry about the future. What's the point? No matter how detailed our vision or plan, God has the ultimate deciding factor, and He will take you where you need to go. This isn't always where we want to go, but it is where God will use us to become stronger Christians and where He will use us for His mysterious, perfect ways. If we notice God is opening doors that aren't exactly matching what we planned to do, we shouldn't fight it. He knows what He's doing—He may even get you to that point where you want to go, but His timing may call for you to receive more blessings this way!

On the other hand, if we walk with God and notice our plans matching up with God seems to be aligning, but seem like it's just too big of a task or door to walk through, that's when God intervenes. He will guide you and your steps to the right doors and give you His strength to pursue His plan and destiny for you. Don't ever look back and say, "How did I get this promotion? How did I get this far? I don't think I'm capable of managing this higher position. I need to step down. This isn't what God wants." No, thank God for His blessings! He has taken you to where He wants you, and along the way equipped you with His strength, courage, ability, and all skills to manage where you are at. He never gives us more than we can bear. Just keep going—you're on the right track to fulfill your destiny.

John 16:33 says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Since God overcame the world, He already overcame every problem that you

will ever face—even ones you don't even know about yet. All the power of your obstacles died when Christ decided to save all of us by offering His life in exchange for us to live. And just because there will be more problems down the road, that doesn't mean we should stress and worry about what we may have to deal with later—it means we should thank God for already winning the battle for us! He promises that He is bigger than all our hurdles, and that He will make a path, open doors, and do whatever else it takes to win the battle and become stronger in the process. Work on submitting all your battles and stress onto The Lord's shoulder, for He is strong even in our weakness.

### *Faith Reminder*

*Pile joy onto your life by thinking of all that God has done for you and how much He loves you.*

*Jesus has conquered your enemies, thrown your mountains into the sea, and formed a path for you even across the water for you to walk and thrive by*

*His power and strength! He will fulfill all of your needs and make you whole. Take everything He has given you and ask Him to use it all in incredible ways.*





# *Eight*

## *Pick God Over Greed*

**GENESIS 24:12**

*Then he prayed, ‘Lord, you are the God of my master Abraham. Give me success today. Be kind to my master Abraham.’*

I’ve found that if you work too hard and try to accomplish everything on your own you become a servant to work, obsessing over your job, grades, or other tasks. You then start to idolize your work instead of keep your focus on God. Life is busy and stressful, and it can be very difficult to find peace within this fallen world.

Say “There’s a lot on my plate, and God, I need Your help with all of it. Please keep my mind focused on You and make me Your servant, not a

slave to this work.”

There is only so much our body is capable of accomplishing. We have to keep pressing on. Not in a way that makes us more tired, but press on with our faith: the ultimate weapon against flaming arrows. We have our faith forever, and if we learned to stand by our faith in The Lord, things would not feel as exhausting. I've learned prayer releases so many more blessings, so much more strength, and unmatched power than we give it credit for.

Not only that, but prayer advances us much more than studying or working longer hours will. Working harder means making our bodies more sore. Praying more means God carving a path for you while you rest. Prayer will launch you further not only in your finances but in every area of your life. Just say: “Lord, I'll stand by You today, no matter how hard it gets. You see the big picture, and I know whatever happens today will be used to propel me forward, not backward. In Jesus' Name, Amen, Amen, and Amen.”

The world is filled with hard-working people. That's good. God doesn't want us to sit around wasting the potential hidden inside of us. But where we should draw the line is when our work makes us say, "If I just work a few more hours and focus I know I can get it done by myself" instead of letting God guide us and help us with the work. We can assume that most of time, working hard leads to some form of success or fulfillment. But don't think God loves you less because you haven't found a lot of success in some area of your life yet, or because you could improve financially.

God's love is everlasting, and His plans are perfect. If you could see His visions for where you are headed, you would never believe it. He's taking you to where no fancy degree, the hardest work ethic, or best golden opportunity could ever compete with. He has a reason for everything, and you might still be struggling with finances because God wants to keep you high in faith, humble in heart, and strong in trust.

Too many people confuse pride with

confidence. God wants us to be confident in Him and put confidence in Him, not on our own strength. What God doesn't want is for us to become arrogant and take glory. Remember, Jesus came to save those who recognized they were sinners and that He was the One who came to set them free. Nothing is more satisfying and humbling than boasting the power of God.

Only He grants true success, many times as a test of faith to see who can stay as humble as before. Of course, not everyone with financial blessings becomes arrogant, but God just wants us to use His gifts to us for His gain and for helping others. Ask for God to bless your finances so you can help others with it and give it back to Him.

Let's credit God for all blessings, even when we find financial stability and freedom, and even tithe that money to help His people and that glory may be brought to His Name. The Bible says God even delights in His servant's success. That means we don't have to feel bad about being successful, but we should thank God for it and remain humble yet

confident. Give God all the glory today. Think about your status, position, success, and how far you've come. Realize none of that came on your own, and with humility, thank God for getting you to this point. Just like 2 Chronicles 7:14 promises, as long as we humble ourselves and seek God in everything we do, He will forgive and we will prosper.

None of us have the perfect financial situation. God blesses those who serve Him, give to His people, tithe even when money is scarce, work hard, and appreciate everything they are given, regardless of how small it all may seem. The great thing about The Lord Almighty is He can turn those few dollars into thousands for you. I encourage you to realize the power of giving to others. When we serve and help others, we are helping God's people.

When we do that, God sees our kindness and sacrifices to help others, and reaches His loving arms out to us and not only magnifies but multiplies what you already have. God gives you the

fruit of The Holy Spirit.

Sadly, in the greed-filled world we live in, money seems to drive people's decisions. Which job they take. Of course, we have to do what is right for our specific situation and family. But, strive to look at success through the eyes of faith not through the flesh, which just sees money. You will see divine blessings when you are motivated by God and not money. God will grant you what you need, but chasing money is chasing a powerless item. Just when you think it's hopeless, God intervenes and grants you riches that are better than anything we could ever buy with money.

Proverbs 21:5 tells us, "The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenty; but the thoughts of everyone who is hasty only to poverty." What does it mean to be diligent? To do well in school, help your parents, or be honest? Yes, those are all great forms of diligence, but when we showcase obedience by yielding to God's guidance, God rewards us with plenty of riches beyond our wildest dreams. Those riches could come in any shape. He

could give you that job, that acceptance letter, that good health report, bonus, promotion, or even reveal to the spiritual gifts that He has given you. Obeying God means putting Him first, and diligently striving for spiritual growth. Like in any great relationship, you enjoy spending as much time with that other person or people as possible.

Well, imagine how God feels when we merely call upon His name in despair or troubling times. Of course, we should always call to Him in times of need, but God wants our whole hearts, meaning He wants us to talk with Him when in need and just because we want to; He wants to see us gladly obeying His commandments and thanking Him out of our own love for Him. God sacrificed His only begotten Son to die for you—all out of love and hope for you to live in diligence for Him!

Proverbs 24:3-4 says that by wisdom, “A house is built, and by understandings established and knowledge, the rooms shall be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.” When God gives us wisdom, it is like He takes over for our thinking



and us and makes decisions for us. Wisdom cannot be fully explained, or understood, because it is when God gives us answers and thinking that is beyond our own capacity. Of course, with experience comes wisdom, but never underestimate simply asking God for His wisdom, which is far different from natural wisdom caused by experience. Ask Him for wisdom to make the right decision in that difficult situation, to know which way to turn, and to hear His guiding voice.

Proverbs 10:4 says, “Poor is he who works with a negligent hand, but the hand, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.” Being rich in The Lord is different from being wealthy with money. The difference is God’s gifts are greater than any amount of money. God gives us what money cannot buy—family, joy, and His peace. Without God we are nothing, regardless of our financial status. No amount of money can compare to the love Jesus Christ gives us.

If we are diligent in Christ, meaning we put Him first and have Him as our motivation and our drive,

He will reward us with His fruit of the Holy Spirit—true richness. Enduring financial struggles may seem overwhelming, but what you might not see is God already shifting things around for you and your family, bringing that blessing closer to you. He wants you to be happy, stable, and secure.

But first you have to take refuge in Him and ask Him to take the pain, obstacles, and struggles from your hands and admit it is too much to handle on your own. Once God is in control, He will not only carry you through as a survivor, but He will make you thrive and live a happy, prosperous life.

God sees everything we do, meaning every time we look to Him or even say a short prayer, He rewards us even in the slightest way which is still more than we could ever deserve. He knows how hard it is, all the pain and sorrow that you may have endured.

But, if you just press on and continue, He will make you rich with love and righteousness. Pray for supernatural success to fall into your lap by His grace and favor—He will always answer you. He

says riches and wealth are found in His House, and He isn't lying.

*Faith Reminder*

*No amount of money can match the Love that God offers us. He loves and accepts us regarding our financial status, and rewards those who earnestly seek Him instead of the world and its greed. The world revolves around money, but that doesn't mean we have to accept the world. Make it your goal to abandon your life in the world and seek the riches of life in Christ.*

## Nine

### *Overcome Discouragement*

**JAMES 1:12**

*Blessed is the man who is patient under trial and stands up under temptation, for when he has stood the test and been approved, he will receive crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him.*

When things do not go according to our plan, it is easy and natural to become discouraged. Luckily, we don't serve a natural God—He is supernatural and extraordinary.

I've found that the obstacles we deem as permanent, and those which discourage us the most, are often the same ones that lead us to our biggest breakthroughs and blessings. Those times

of hardship end with God revealing His grace to us. It is at our weakest moments when God shows His strength and the start of His mercy. What we think is our end, God sees as the great beginning.

He sees that things will only get better from that point. Sometimes we have to reach those low moments in order to understand what God is telling us or what He has been trying to show us all along. You may even see that discouraging time as a huge blessing and thank God for bringing you to that point.

He wants to see you stay in faith and keep your head up high, trusting Him with all your heart. He promised He has equipped you for every bump in the road, so don't give the enemy control by becoming discouraged. Stay in strong faith as you wait for your answer. God will lead down the right path, and He knows where He is taking you.

We've all been discouraged at one point in our lives. Regardless of the success or luck you've had, everyone faces difficulties. Dealing with discouragement is difficult, especially when you

work so hard on making that dream become reality and you just don't see the prayers getting answered.

When we slip into discouragement we feel like God was just too busy to answer that prayer. Like He just didn't feel like giving us that promotion. Like He had more important things to do, and more important people to help. That's exactly what the enemy makes us think.

You cannot listen to any of that. Your job is just to wait and have faith have—God will come through for you and He hears all prayers. He is testing your patience, and equipping you for the prosperity coming up. He is seeing if you can handle this to decide when to pour His favor on you. Pour your praise onto Him and bless Him with all that you do, and you will see discernment, wisdom, and more understanding of God's will for you. Just know, you are equipped for this battle and have the strength to overcome every obstacle between you and your destiny.

In the blink of an eye, He will throw a blessed curveball your way and change the game. Just when

you think you struck out, God says differently. You may think waiting for God to show up is just not worth it. Like it would take days, months, or years to get even a good sign. But think about how long it takes for God to turn everything around—one second. That sudden switch is worth the wait. He will blow the wind of favor and success your way. Your destiny will be reached.

Discouragement is just a phase—God is forever. Your times of trouble are limited and temporary, but God's power is limitless, timeless, and forever. There is nothing to be discouraged about—God has you in His hand. He will pick you up when you feel weak and alone. Remember that your hurdles tremble in fear when you speak the Name of Jesus over them. They know they cannot win against our God.

God tells you in Jeremiah 29 that He has "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." When things don't go according to your plan, don't get discouraged. God is bringing you something even better than

anything you could imagine. It may seem like your obstacles right now have no end, but don't give up! You will see the Light at the end of the dark tunnel. All your obstacles are strengthen and preparing you for the plans The Lord has for you, and you wouldn't believe where He is taking you!

You will prosper, soar, and flourish through your faith in God. You will thank Him for the challenges, because they will let you see God working in new areas of your life, and you will see His victory before your very own eyes. It is a miraculous blessing to watch God defeat our enemies and break every chain, every bondage, and every addiction. He came, died, and rose for us to trust in His power and be saved by His grace. We have no need for worry anymore, because the One Messiah has saved our souls and we cannot be discouraged when we know the paradise that awaits us after this life, along with the gift of life itself. Jesus gave up His own life to give us ours. Let's see what else He has in store. Just image what kind of blessings He can bring!



Whatever it may be, I want you to be inspired and excited about watching God win against your opposition. The way He pulls us out of our low points and wins without even trying amazes me every time! He is fearless. He does not flinch when adversity comes. When your life is a mess, He simply says that He has a plan and that He will be blessed by having the privilege of seeing your faith in Him, which gives glory to His Name.

You were not made to give into discouragement. You aren't just to scrape by or hardly make it. He didn't create you to give up now, not when the blessing is just around the corner. You were made a victor, a champion, and a servant of God—nothing to be disappointed about.

Discouragement makes us feel exhausted, drained of all energy. When you feel like this, rest in Matthew 11:28, where God tells us, "Come to Me, you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." Life can throw us some good beatings here and there. It's okay to give up trying to be perfect and all kept together.

God is not just there for when we are happy. On the contrary, He is ever so present in our distress and during our trials. It's okay to say: "Lord, I'm tired. I've tried everything. I don't see a way, but I will hold on. I will trust that You see things beyond this mountain. I'm not going to be discouraged. Not this time. I'm not serving both You and discouragement—for now on, I serve You and You only." God will hear you and feed you energy and quench your thirst. He will answer you and demonstrate the power of prayer for you.

You will think more like Him, and all discouragement will not just fade away but because it is illegal for it to win against God, it will be forced to flee far from you—and never return.

We don't bother God when we come to Him. He wants to talk with us, energize us, and give us what we lack. It gives Him glory as He watches you trust Him. Don't think you're letting Him down by not being perfect or happy and energetic all the time—you're only human!

Like Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord

with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.” The best path, visible by our eyes, may not be the same as the path God has designed for us to walk on. On the other hand, the path we look at through our heart and faith can easily be distinguished as God’s way for us. This is because walking by faith lets us see things His way.

His wisdom tells us which path to take, and The Holy Spirit talks to us, ensuring we stay on His path. We may think other paths we see are better for whatever reason. The walk with God will not lack obstacles—and we have to learn to accept that—but it is incomparably easier in the end because it leads to fulfilling your destiny and it puts you where God intended for you to be.

His path leads to Heaven. His path leads to salvation. His path is truth.

A “straight” path without any obstacles will lead nowhere if we walk alone. But, The Lord’s path for you is filled with good obstacles—ones

that will build your faith and actually bring God glory as you walk through them.

He loves to watch us face the mountains fearlessly; nothing brings Him more glory than watching His children declare His victory over all the obstacles. Speak to all the forces making you feel discouraged and command them to fall under your feet in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior. You were destined to make all your obstacles discouraged by their own failure to destroy you, not the other way around.

Jesus Christ died for you and me. Do you understand the kind of love He had, has, and will always have for you? He didn't have to save anyone, but He chose to out of the love and kindness from His heart. He chose you because of who are you. The talent you have. The potential you have. The success you have in your future. Think about that everyday, and you will grow closer to God faster than you could imagine. You will be confident in how He made you, and develop complete confidence in Him.

Be the light switch of the room. With your discouragement long behind you, make it your mission to brighten up someone else's day wherever you go. Hebrews 10:24 tells us to encourage one another. Show others how Jesus can brighten up our spirits. Make it a goal each day to spread positivity in any way possible—or impossible.

With God there is no such thing as just possible—He can even do the impossible through you. Do not give up on your dreams; if God placed those inside of you, He has already equipped you to reach them. Just believe and have faith—that will carry you further than anything.

There are just some things in our lives that we have to accept we could not have done it on our own—it was Jesus. Ask Him to do the impossible within you today.

### *Faith Reminder*

*Keep small personal phrases of encouragement playing in your mind all day. If you are currently in a stressful situation, play in your head the phrase; “This is only leading me to better places. Today I’m here, tomorrow I’m living my dreams.”*

# Ten

## *The Power of Happiness*

**ISAIAH 60:1**

*Arise! Shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the  
Lord has risen upon you!*

Just like discouragement, fighting depression can be a long, tedious battle. But God says in Jeremiah 32:27 that nothing is too hard for Him. We shouldn't question Him or His abilities because He can do the impossible.

Depression is a normal obstacle a lot of people face. Don't think anything is wrong with you if you start to feel sadness in your heart. Depression often results from sinking deep enough into those thoughts of discouragement, inferiority, or loneliness that we feel too weak to reach for God's

strength. It can be depressing when life's trials seem to never stop piling on our shoulders. It's not that being depressed means you failed a test of faith, but rather it means you get to make the decision and run to Jesus before depression begins to run faster towards you. It simply means you have another victory in front of you!

Many people become sad when they think God has left them or has not answered any of their prayers. They feel abandoned. Clearly everything from mild sadness to clinical depression comes in many different shapes and sizes, and can result from many different causes.

Sometimes we invite feelings similar to depression by thinking we are dumb. Inferior. Hopeless. Worthless. Too skinny. Not skinny enough. Not pretty or handsome. We give into self-pity. We think we have more problems than anyone else, and that life is just out to get us—we've all been there.

Even Elijah felt like he didn't measure up to his ancestors (1 Kings 19:4). Because of that, he cried



out to God feeling depressed, angry, and like he wanted nothing else but die. Many people think like that, and it can seem impossible to break that mold. With our own strength it is impossible—not with God, though! God comforted Elijah and reminded him of His presence, and He will do the same for you. It is not hard to find yourself trapped under the arrows of depression once those thoughts enter come. It can hit quickly and feel like you are sinking in quick sand. Don't give into those lies the enemy throws at you or any of those thoughts that are clearly not from God.

Ask God to provide a shield for you and grant you discernment to hear His voice and think like Him. Focus on God and His joy. He is our rock at rock bottom. He overcame death, and He will overcome depression for you. He can defeat any sadness you are experiencing, no matter how extreme or mild it is. He will show up for you just like He promised. He uses that low moment in life to make us depend on Him and show us that He's aware of every obstacle that we've been hit with.

He knows everything about you, from the number of hairs on your head to every thought you will think—of course He knows all of your issues. And He is using this depression, or any sadness you may be experiencing, for His gain and for your good.

God restores all of His children. No matter your past, mistakes, sadness, or complaining, God stands by you with open arms, and will shift your situation around to see you smile again. He didn't condemn Elijah for feeling the way he did. Instead, He was patient and gave him wisdom to hear His comforting voice, reminding him that his God will never leave him.

According to God, whether you agree yet or not, you are wonderfully and fearfully made. Never let that slip your mind. We all have flaws, but that should show you how unique you are, not make you feel bad about yourself. We all have insecurities, but every hair, pimple, mole, and freckle was planned by God and it is your trademark. It is God's stamp of approval. You weren't made perfect—you were purposefully made

with flaws—but the way He made you was perfect. He made no mistakes and He looks at you as a masterpiece and jar of treasure.

There is a reason for all of your flaws. Keep your chin up. God's not done yet. Don't get upset if things aren't going as good, or as fast, as you are hoping for. Realize that God's timing is perfect, and ask Him for wisdom to accept His pacing. Soon God will show you what those reasons are. Tell that depression it's role in your life is over. Let the Light of Christ in and force depression to leave now!

Nobody can take away the gifts, education, and intelligence God has given you. You were made to thrive. Also, nobody can understand the gifts God has placed within your heart because that's between you and Him. What someone else has, you might not, but that's better because their gifts won't help you reach your destiny. Only the talents and skills God has placed directly into your heart will.

He knows what the future holds for you, and He knows everyone's path is different. That's why He put the perfect ingredients within you—He's

getting ready to mix them together and create something amazing and fresh. Don't worry if you don't yet understand what your future may hold—that's up to God. Your job is to recognize that no adversity or obstacle is too difficult for God, and the hidden gems of your heart will equip you for the road ahead. God put His DNA into you. He equipped you with His armor. A sealed envelope of protection that God holds with His own hands guards you. He is protecting those treasures within you, making you a warrior, and bringing you to the blessing on the other side of this mountain. Your destiny is bright, just like the gold within you.

God can lift your head up when you lack the strength to even open your eyes. Psalms 3:3 says, "But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head." He is honored to help you in your time of need—He wants nothing more! When we are tough on ourselves, feel down, or just seem like we've reached our end, sometimes it is just plain hard to get down on our knees and pray. God understands that, but we don't always see it

like He does. We think we have to do everything the right way to please God and therefore be blessed and have a good life. If God didn't promise us everlasting love and eternal life in Him, maybe we would have to work for His approval and love—but that's not the case. He loves us the same at our best and worst.

The most important time to pray is when we feel hopeless, and as if God has left us—the times we simply don't feel like praying. However, try your best to ask God to incline His ear to your cries, lift your head up, and fill you with His joy unspeakable. He will always lift our heads when we are down, grab our hands when we fall, and shield us from harm. We just have to ask. You can just close your eyes and whisper to Him.

You've already pleased Him and you don't have to bend over backwards to receive His love or reach a certain amount of hours in prayer for the next level of blessings. Instead of attempting to find happiness and remedies for depression through search engines or other worldly answers, bring your

requests to God. Look to Him and ask Him to show you real happiness. You'll be glad you did.

Believe that no matter how far down you slip, God is still there to pull you up. You can never travel so far down that God can't reach you. Just like Psalms 42:11 claims, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God."

Sometimes we don't understand why we are mad, but we just are. It seems like we plan on living a long, happy life, but for some reason we aren't all smiles. Why is this? Are we putting too much pressure on ourselves, feeling empty inside, or distancing ourselves from God without realizing it? Maybe, but with prayer comes unmatched peace and lightness, which is why it's vital to keep praying even through depression. Even through that illness. Through all of the toughest battles. Fight with your weapon: God's Word. You are strong enough to win. You have oxygen in your lungs. You have a mouth to smile with. You have hands to help

people with. Most importantly, you have the Creator of life living inside of your heart.

Oftentimes we feel depressed not because something happens but rather from feeling empty and without a purpose. But God will fill those voids for you and show you amazing purposes He has planned for your life. Just wait for His voice.

You may feel like you're nowhere near where you should be, like you haven't even come close to fulfilling your purpose, or like you are just not good enough to achieve something great with what you've been given. Nothing could be further from the truth. Despite how you may feel, God thinks differently. He thinks you are a masterpiece. You are a gem. He says in the Bible you were made "wonderfully and fearfully" for a reason.

You are a force to be reckoned with. You can't be beat because you have unlimited power within you—supernatural power. He loved you enough to give up His life on the Cross, and He loves you the same to this day. Keep fighting. Stay in belief. Lose yourself in Christ. Go deeper in faith and never

look back. Be dead to the world and alive in the Spirit. He will take that seed of faith and multiply it. You will see your destiny being fulfilled before your very eyes. God will take you further and His plans will amaze you. Just believe.

Psalms 40:1-3 says, "I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth." When we hit rock bottom, God is there as our rock. He is there when nobody else is, when we have reached the lowest point.

He loves you enough to follow you and support you through victory and failure, through the top to rock bottom. Why? Since only He knows all of the reasons for making you the way you are, just please rest assured that you have something special inside of you that is so important to God that He will protect you, guide you, love you, be patient with you, forgive you, and live inside of you forever because of His desire to amaze you everyday.



Have you ever thought about thanking God for your problems? It sounds crazy, of course, but think about what your problems have done for you, and how you got through them. Did you find yourself praying more to get through it, anticipating an answer from God?

What about the outcome—did you thank God for getting you through it? Did you feel stronger after God helped you overcome that difficulty? That's all part of God's plans for you! He doesn't give us obstacles to hurt us or because He is mean, but instead He just wants to strengthen you!

Every bump in the road is another obstacle to overcome, but the great thing is God already overcame it so all we have to do is sit back, trust Him, and wait for that blessing waiting at the finish line!

It is the greatest feeling to look back and see how God's plan, including the tough times, unraveled perfectly to get us where we needed to be.

Not only that, but we can rest assured that if

God can pull us out of destruction, and forgive every sin, then He will surely bring us through all that we are facing!

### *Faith Reminder*

*God never promised life would be easy or without trials, but He did promise His everlasting Love would be enough to rise above all of them. It is a honor and blessing to be able to worship and praise God, so take your focus off of your issues, and if you suffer with any kind of sadness, take refuge in God and ask Him to receive your heart and make it clear what His plans are for these struggles you are facing.*



## Eleven

### *Fleeing From Temptation*

**PHILIPPIANS 2:13**

*For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey  
Him and the power to do what pleases Him.*

Temptations are often the real test for Christians; even believers fall victim to them. The enemy is a tempter; he will try everything to tempt you. But the great thing is he never wins. God does. God is so forgiving that it doesn't even matter how many times you've given into temptations, how many sins you've committed, or how dark your past may be. God only cares about your future, and He

has a bright one ahead for you.

Oftentimes temptations get the best of us. The enemy attacks your weaknesses, in hopes you will take focus off of God and fall. But when we resist temptation, and realize God has already overcome it for us, He rewards us in the most unimaginable ways and grants us riches superior to anything the enemy could have given us. The enemy is not strong enough to overcome God's power, which overcomes everything! So, with The Lord on your side, there is no such thing as failure! Count on Him to pick you up again and redeem you. God promised He won't put anything in your path that is more than you can take—remember tat anytime you feel tempted or pulled into something that could potentially deviate you from God's path.

Know that God has already overcome that temptation for you and is waiting for you on the other side—the side of victory! When temptations arise, think about the gifts God has given you, and try to understand all the obstacles and tempting situations will only bring you closer to Him as you

rely on His strength and ask in His Name for help.

Like Ephesians 6:11-12 says, “Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” The accuser knows how much God loves you, and he will fight to try to distract you from His love. Regardless of his attacks, stay in strong faith, knowing that God has equipped you with His armor and shield to overcome everything that comes your way. The accuser wouldn't be fighting so hard if he didn't know great things were coming your way; he knows God is about to unleash His miracles and blessings straight your way.

Matthew 26:41 encourages us to, “Keep watching and praying, that you may not enter to temptation. The spirit is willing but flesh is weak.” Temptations come in many shapes and forms, and often seem far too difficult to overcome—and they

are, with only our strength. No temptation is too strong for God, though.

Do not punish yourself or think God loves you less because you've given into many temptations. Even Christians suffer with this. God is working within you and strengthening you to resist temptation and do what is right. Just like the enemy who tempts us, every temptation lies to us. They leave us feeling powerless, hopeless, and like a failure to God for giving in. Not only that, falling victim to temptation often leaves us with unshakable, heavy burdens of guilt and shame that only the blood of Jesus can truly clean. The good news is, since God is on our side, as long as we continue praying and pressing on, we can submit these temptations to Jesus and let Him deal with them.

Jesus is more powerful than any temptation the enemy can throw at you. The devil may try to tempt you, but you have The Holy Spirit living inside of you. Remind yourself of God's unfailing love and let your thoughts be focused on God when

temptations arise.

Of course, we are only human, so one time or another we will fall into temptation. But don't get discouraged. Any time we fail, God says "Don't worry, my child, for I am still with you, and I will forgive your sins." He cares about you, and knows all your struggles and needs. The Spirit within us is so mighty that it is more than capable of overcoming the minimal power of lust and temptation that the flesh is weak to.

It doesn't matter that our flesh is weak, because of Who lives within us! Submit to The Holy Spirit and flee from flesh-filled, lustful thoughts. Submitting to bad habit or giving into a temptation repeatedly is a hard chain to break, but just remember: God rescues us every time and His love for us is perfect yesterday, today, and forever—no matter how many times we fall, He will pick us up.

God tells us in Ezekiel 14:6 to, "Repent! Turn from your idols and renounce all your detestable practices!" As you continue your spiritual journey, be proud of yourself for getting this far and thank



God for holding your hand and giving you the strength to turn from your old ways. Thank Him for making you new again. Leave behind your old habits and form ones that glorify Him. Look for ways to sow righteousness, like Hosea 10:12 tell us to do: “Reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until He comes and showers righteousness on you.”

James 4:7 says, “Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” You are subject to a spiritual battle between God and the enemy. They are both at battle for control over you, and you have the freedom to pick your choice.

Although God is incomparably mightier and stronger, some still struggle with making this choice. We can either serve the world or serve God. There is no meeting in the middle.

Serving God is a blessing. It is an honor and a privilege. We should never assume being a Christian and serving our Creator is too “hard” or too “strict.” Take a moment and imagine trying to

charge through this life without any help. Just think of the impossibility of living a blessed, successful life without God's favor on you, without His help and assistance. A life without God is not life at all, and is nothing but pointless and hopeless. Jesus is our only true hope. He is our refuge and we need to take comfort in Him.

Choosing to serve Jesus as your Lord and Savior means you get to see His endless power working in you everyday. It means you are living a life filled with purpose, destiny, grace, and success! But the only way to live that way is to serve and love God with all your heart. You can choose: follow Jesus or follow temptation.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 says, "For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

The way our eyes see is completely different

from walking by faith. Our eyes focus on earthly things—things that are “seen.” These things run out, expire, and are powerless. Our eyes gives us the truth of the world—walking in faith lets us see the Truth that is Jesus Christ. The Bible says to “walk by faith, not by sight.” This means avoiding earthly pleasures and desires and focusing our attention on the very evident and real Glory of Jesus Christ and His eternal, limitless power.

Fighting any kind of temptation—whether it involves lust, envy, cheating, stealing, lying, or whatever it may be—is often a long, hard battle. Don’t think you won’t fall victim to temptation just because you love and serve God—it’s quite the opposite.

The enemy hates to see us flourishing with God, so he will try harder to tempt and pull you away the stronger you grow and mature in God. Don’t give up or think you are doing something wrong, just continue serving the Lord and praying for strength and deliverance from all temptations.

Truly submit to God, and the devil will flee from

you. When temptation comes your way, remind yourself that God never leaves you unequipped. Then, you can smile rest assured that the strength of God will pull you through and make you overcome all temptations.

Psalms 26:2 says, "Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind." It's not difficult to submit to temptation—it can be done with no effort and without us even realizing it. Sometimes it seems impossible to resist, or like we don't have to strength to escape.

Soon, we stunt our potential to spiritually mature. Yes, we continue to pray and believe in God, but in turn we unconsciously separate from Him. That's the effect of giving into temptation—it separates us from God. It is false fulfillment. Once you begin submitting to temptation you grow weaker in the spirit, get addicted, and asking God for forgiveness doesn't even enter your mind. Don't let this happen to you. Recognize how strong God has made you and the amazing plans God has for you.

We have to truly call out to God and pray for forgiveness. He knows you are only human, and that you are weak, so he will forgive your sins. We shouldn't take advantage of His forgiveness, though. God's job is to forgive us, but our duty is to change our ways and pass the next test against temptation. By the blood of Christ not only are your sins forgiven but you are also given the strength to start a new life, start new habits, and flee from temptation. Just because God forgives us doesn't mean we can go and sin without caring and just say, "It's okay, God will probably forgive me." No, if we truly live in faith and trust in God's unlimited strength, we can pass any test. You can overcome the power of temptation and sin. God will reward your efforts. He will give you what no temptation could offer you.

Peter warned us to, "Be of sober Spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." God said our spirit is strong, but our flesh weak. Our spirit is what keeps us together and close with

God, and able to resist temptation. That's why it's vital to strive for spiritual growth and excellence, because when we do, we become so much closer with The Lord, who then grants us His strength to overcome lust and all other temptations that our flesh is weak to. If we just stay with God, the victory is ours!

### *Faith Reminder*

*The world can be very tempting, and it is difficult to avoid them and stay pure in the fallen place we live in. We won't be perfect. We will fall and give in occasionally. But that doesn't mean we have to stay in shame or continue giving in. God forgives us, shining out all shame and guilt, and strengthens us by letting us learn from our mistake so that we don't give into temptations the same way and we can walk stronger in The Lord.*



# Twelve

## *Trusting The Wait Is Over*

**PSLAM 9:10**

*Those who know your name will trust in you, for You,  
LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.*

How can we be Christians—or follow God at all—without trusting God? Not just trusting Him when we are desperate or just when we feel like it, but how can we criticize others for not opening their hearts to Christ if we don't trust Him wholeheartedly?

Trust, along with faith, is at the core of Christianity—without trust, we have nothing. Lacking in trust results in the most common personal difficulties we face in life—it is the cause for anxiety, fear, worry, and depression, and many



others. How can you feel blessed and anointed when you spend time questioning if God will come through for you, or make the right decision? I don't mean to be blunt, but trusting God through thick and thin is just too important to not emphasize. We are sinning and grieving God when we don't trust Him!

This is the real test for people—yes it's easy to say you're a Christian and you believe in God, but what good is that if you always plan ahead and think of what you will do if God doesn't come through for you? Having that attitude will prevent you from growing in the full potential God sees in you. As Christians, our spiritual growth depends on trusting Jesus, and His power. If we don't, there is no room for Him to bless us. It's either all Jesus or nothing.

Many people are scared or uncomfortable at first with trusting Jesus with their entire life, but it gets easier once you see the great things He can do with, and for, you. He will transform your life and reward your trust. He will make it easier for you to submit

your cares to Him. God longs for your trust, and will do everything to earn it by revealing His goodness to you in some incredible way. You will soon be transformed to live in a way where you realize you can't last one second without Jesus and His help. You will see how crazy the idea of trusting in your own power compared to Jesus' is.

Some of the biggest blessings come as a result from bold leaps of faith—times when there is nothing left for us to do and we completely leave it in God's hands, trusting in His power. Do you want to pretend like you've got it covered if God doesn't answer your specific prayer, or live a life of faith by trusting Him, knowing that He will answer the prayer in a bigger, better way? I encourage you to lean on Him, and say, "God, this is out of my hands. I'm letting go and letting You lead. I trust You, Jesus."

Rest in what Psalm 37:3 tell us: "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture." God wants to impress you with His marvelous power. Let Him show you what He can

do for you. Trusting God means letting go of fear, predicting the future, all those doubtful thoughts saying, "What if this happens?" The more you trust the Lord, the more magnified miracles you will see. He cannot release the blessings reserved for you if all you do is doubt Him. Just submit yourself to Him, and feel His secure hands cradling you.

Psalm 13:5 says, "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation." God's love for you never changes. He doesn't wake up and change His mind about how bright His love is for you. He never gets tired of loving and helping you, which is why we should never get tired of serving Him. His love is unconditional. It is there for us regardless of our sins or how we were raised. It is everlasting.

It is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His love offers us salvation, and whenever we feel down, empty, or broken, we trust in His unfailing love to bring us through it and fill the voids in our hearts with His Light. Maybe some people or bad breaks got the best of you in the past, but God is

erasing all of that pollution off of the shining glass of your life. Get ready to shine!

Psalm 20:7 says that while, “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, we trust in the name of the Lord our God.” I want to remind all of my brothers and sisters in Christ to never underestimate the power of trusting God. It doesn’t matter what your friends do or who they trust the most. Stay strong in faith and know who you are in Christ. You are a child of the most precious God and are smart enough to understand the power in trusting God.

Even if you walk alone in your journey with God, and have to leave others behind, rest assured He will comfort you and He is the only One you can fully trust with all your life. He promises us if we trust Him, He will make a way and fix everything, if we just give Him time. That doesn’t mean He can’t work fast—Jesus turned water into wine within a blink of an eye—but He wants to show you every case scenario and give you a new perspective on your life through different

experiences. That sounds vague at first, but trust God and you will begin to understand how He works. He wants only the best for you. Trust in Jesus, our Lord and God.

Isaiah 26:3 says, “You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.” We think differently when we have God on our minds. Not only does He cleanse our body, mind, soul, and all thoughts, but He also gives us wisdom and insight as to what we should think about. You probably haven’t thought about the power of our thoughts. He wants us to use even the smallest thoughts to bless His name.

Even a silent, quick prayer can shift your situation. It means you took that initiative to silently surrender your circumstances to God. He knows all our thoughts before we even think of them, so why not use them to glorify Him? You will see larger blessings as you continue to think of His goodness throughout the day. Despite your hectic schedule, you can make time to silently pray and mentally surrender your cares to God. He will grant you the

answers, just stay focused on Him!

Sometimes our times of trouble are used to bring us closer to God. Psalm 46:1 says “To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamoth. A Song. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” God uses our troublesome times only for our good. He’s not being mean. He doesn’t enjoy seeing us suffer. But, He loves watching us rely on Him during our distress. He smiles when we rely on Him. Then He helps us and takes care of the issue. The trouble in your life is no match for God!

### *Faith Reminder*

*Trusting God is a daily task. With the demands from the world and all of the busy schedules, it can all seem overwhelming. Continue striving to place God at the front of your thoughts and ask Him for peace to overflow in your heart so you’re not worried about all of the tasks surrounding you. Trust that*

*He will get you to the places He wants you at, and  
watch Him work wonders in your heart as He takes  
care of everything on your behalf.*

# Thirteen

## *Nothing To Be Jealous Of*

### **PROVERBS 3:31**

*Do not resentfully envy and be jealous of an unscrupulous, grasping man, and choose none of his ways.*

Have you ever been jealous of someone? Maybe it was their nice car, new promotion, good looks, or great grades that made you feel as if they were better than you or they deserved it more. Maybe you even thought if anybody deserved those gifts it was you. We have all felt like that at some point in our lives. Too often do we shift focus from what God has blessed us with to what others have. We think about what we lack more than what we've been given by God. Have you ever thought about



what makes everybody different?

Your life includes obstacles that are too difficult for others to handle. You are too strong to have their small obstacles. The harder the fight is, the bigger the reward is on the other side. God knows that. He gave you large obstacles because there are huge blessings on the other side. You are equipped. God has favored you and given you strength you will find nowhere else. He picked you to be up for these challenges. Not somebody else. No, He chose you to live this life.

Nobody else is allowed to have what you have, both the challenges and the gifts. What works for others may not work for you, too. God has purposefully given you each gift and challenge to you specifically for a reason. Likewise, others may have other talents or abilities that suit God's plan for them and not you. We are all made differently, and given different gifts and talents. So, why should we care about if someone else seems to have more than us?

In God's eyes, we are all equal, so no amount

of fancy clothes, jobs, money, or sport cars can change that. What makes us jealous? Well, we are selfish and our minds trick us into thinking every prize or award belongs to us, making us forget all the things that we actually do have. Jealousy often leads to self-pity.

We think everyone has it all put together and everything comes to them easily, while we sit and wait for God to finally do something good in our lives too. But the great thing to know is God is working harder for you specifically because He knows your needs and wants to outdo your expectations. He is giving you something better than you've ever even asked for. Don't get upset if you can't afford as many expensive, materialistic items. The greatest gifts are those given by God: life, love, kindness, redemption, salvation, restoration, healing, blessings, talents, abilities, the list never ends.

Nobody is a better you than you. That means there is no point in engaging in jealous feelings towards someone else. No matter how many

materialistic prizes they receive, they will never be able to have the true prizes hidden inside your heart! Remember that material items break and scratch, but the treasure inside of you only shines brighter each day. Your life is a gift from Jesus Christ—embrace it, don't wish you were someone else! It may seem like they have it all, but we don't see the inside. Everyone is broken; everyone has problems; everyone needs God.

Take a deep breath, close your eyes, and thank God for the hidden treasures He buried within you, and for making you wonderfully and fearfully. Exodus 20:17 warns, “You must not covet your neighbor’s house. You must not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.” God gives us each different things—whether it be abilities, talents, skills, houses, or cars—for His own purposes, which surpass our limited understanding. There is a reason why I have different things than you, and vice versa. There is no “better” thing to receive; therefore nothing is

worthy of becoming jealous of. Trust that God is giving you all the right preparation for your journey ahead.

James 4:1-2 says, “What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. “ Instead of asking God for what we want, we envy what others have. Of course, nothing good comes as a result from this.

Jesus so clearly warns us of becoming violent and self-destructive through envying our neighbors. Instead, we should realize we have everything we need: God. If we have Him in our hearts, there is nothing worth worrying about. No amount of money can buy God. The world can be taken away from us and we would still have everything we need: Jesus. People take everything else from you, but nobody has the power to take your Lord from you; He lives inside your heart. We have to invite

Him into our heart—He will gladly enter—and turn us away from our jealous, bitter ways. Understand today that the only thing in existence that is worth fighting for is your faith.

Stop questioning why God gave them that promotion and not you. He has something better in store for you. Thank Him for not granting you that new house your friend got. Don't get jealous of others. Their gifts and possessions don't even compare to what God is going to give you.

Romans 12:2 says “Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” We should not serve the world, but instead focus all our energy towards serving the One who created it. Additionally, we should avoid copying other people and their ways. Instead, copy how God is.

Allow God to shift you and make you the person He created you to be. God has different wills for all of us. They important things if for His

will to be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Focus your mind on His righteousness, and He will shift those envious thoughts away and replace them with pure, innocent ones. Jealousy can erupt from thinking someone else has better things or a better life, but by asking God to renew our thoughts and give us His mind, we can be freed from that mindset.

Romans 13:13 reminds us to “Walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.” With envy comes a feeling of separation from God, which results in strains on your heart and His. Even though you can never be separated from God because He lives within you, envy gradually tears down the priceless relationship with God you are blessed to have. Walking with an envious attitude, like everyone else has it better off, will only lead to destruction.

This is something we need to understand before it's too late. We can say we are true Christians all we want, but if “secretly”—acting as

if God can't see us—walk around wishing to be someone else, have what they have, be as successful as the boss, we won't go too far. God grieves and can't give us His hand of blessings when we do this, because our jealousy distances us from Him. It is like an ungrateful child, mumbling and barely getting by without complaining all day—complaining about their clothes, looks, or living conditions. We cannot live like this anymore. We cannot keep grieving our Father—He created us in His image and gave us the priceless gift of true life that nobody can take away from us—a life of perfection in Heaven, seeing Him face to face for eternity, basking in His glowing peace. This is all just a test of faith—will you trust that God has made you the way you are for a reason and know that you are a special individual, worthy of His love, and worthy of doing great things to honor Him?

James 3:16 says, “For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.” Nothing good comes from envying others. It results in self-destruction and

disrupts order in our lives. We suddenly cannot function as well because our thinking is not clear anymore. We are too focused on what others have and not being grateful for what we are given. God says “Well if you don’t want what I have to offer you than I just won’t give it to you.” He wants us to take everything He’s given us and use it to glorify Him, not complain about it.

Proverbs 14:30 says, “A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot.” We accomplish so much more when we are calm, peaceful, and listen to God’s voice whispering in our ears. However, when we ignore His voice and focus all of our thought and energy on what other people have, we suddenly try to fill that void in our hearts with the desire to be like someone else, instead of asking God to live inside of us and fill those voids. Sooner or later, you will start to see yourself feeling worse, empty, and like nothing is ever good enough—compared to what someone else might have in their life. We need to keep our eyes, mind, souls, and body focused on God and



His greatness—He’s done so many great things for us, and He is just getting started. Submit to Him, and ask Him to give your heart peace like a river.

### *Faith Reminder*

*Even though it is tempting, try your best to not compare yourself with others and what they have. We have all been jealous one time or another, but it is important to remember the gifts God has given you and the treasure hidden under your heart that hasn’t even been revealed to you yet. Don’t worry about what anyone else has because it doesn’t compare to what God is about to grant you.*

## Fourteen

# *Proclaim Victory Today*

**JOEL 11:12**

*‘Even now,’ declares the LORD, ‘return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.’*

In Jeremiah 29:11, Jesus declared, “I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Notice how much confidence Christ carried with Him, knowing truly that He has your plan mapped out. God spoke and declared each one of His children will prosper in their lives. He didn’t just say that, but He declared it with assurance. This

verse shows us the power of our words. Similar to that, the saying “You control your own destiny” in part means that we have the power through how we speak and act to get the outcome we wanted. If we think negative thoughts, and tell everyone we won’t make it, we won’t get that promotion, or aren’t good enough. If we go around saying we won’t succeed, not much good will come as a result.

On the other hand, if we declare our confidence in Christ, we give our future to Him and allow Him to take control of our situation. That means we give Him permission to intervene and do what we thought couldn’t be done. God is not limited by possibilities; nothing can beat God. Declaring His sovereignty shifts our focus from our problems to His power. He turned water into wine. He multiplied food supply by a mere touch. His Word is a gift to us. He tells us about His miracles, unlimited power, and how everything He declares is nothing but the truth.

Along these same lines, we should strive to

declare the victory of Jesus over all the trials and tribulations we face. This reminds us that He has the final say. His power cannot be overcome. You might not think the words you say hold much power, but imagine this. God is lining up something huge for you—He's about to answer a prayer you've spoken for months, maybe even years. But you start doubting Him, thinking the waiting won't do any good. Your mind tells you that you've wasted time waiting for something that won't come. You start telling people not to expect any good news anytime soon. No breakthroughs coming. God might not answer the prayer then.

It's up to Him in the end as to which calls are answered, but He definitely rewards those who stay in persistent prayer, trust Him, and who claim their future according to His Name and Word. He will blow the winds of favor and miracles your way.

This principle in part accounts for the power of prayer, when we speak aloud and converse with God about our problems. In doing this we shift our problems and burdens from our shoulders over for

God to handle.

Although God is the only One who knows the full blueprint of our future, we still have a say in how our plans turn out. Success of any kind usually comes as a result of hard work, but I want to encourage you to practice proclaiming your future the way you want it to turn out, and use the power of words for good. Instead of giving up, going around saying, “I’ll never get that good break, the chances are too slim, it just won’t work out, it’s simply too hard,” put your head up, proclaim your trust in Christ, and speak out loud that He will have victory over all the hurdles. There is true power in speaking and grabbing God’s attention, permitting Him to intervene and fight for you—and we both know what God will then do: win. He has never let you down, and He never will. If He can turn water into wine, then He can take care of whatever situation you are dealing with.

Most people know the generally accepted truth: Jesus Christ died on the Cross. But I encourage you to make the power of His sacrifice part of your

daily thinking and meditation. Our bodies, made of flesh, die each day, and the only One who can revive us and renew our spirits is Jesus Christ. His blood is everlasting freedom and the only true way to become born-again. His blood transforms. His blood never lets us down. Just like His Love, His blood never fails. His scars are the reason we are alive. Even with all of the shame and violence thrown towards Him, He continued living a perfect, sinless life and still chose to take our place at Calvary.

The Bible says God The Father turned His back at one point while watching Jesus on the Cross. Even though God knew the plan He had for His Son—that He would die but rise three days later—we still need to understand His pain watching His Son being tortured was enough to make Him look away. He endured that pain just for us. The more we understand the true power of Jesus' sacrifice, the clearer we will become in understanding how much He loves us, why He loves us, and how He shows that everyday. He loves you the same

regardless of what you do. What sins you commit. What thoughts you think. It doesn't matter. His grace is enough to cover us in His perfect Love unconditionally and for eternity. Just think about that. How incredible is His love?

We are saved for eternity thanks to Jesus. Because of what He endured on the Cross of Calvary, you can live free of darkness and instead with the Light of God in your heart. Not just for a day or week, but God has already rescued your soul for the rest of time. If there is one thing to know about life it is that Jesus died for you to have the life that you have. Everything about your life that makes it unique and different from everyone else's life is exactly why Jesus gave up His: He wanted you to have all of the things that you do today. That includes the problems in your life, too, but Jesus knew that they would only bring you closer to Him.

He knew your life would be good enough that it was worth every second of His pain, and because of His Love for us and desire for us to live with Him

forever, He took the price. Our lives and our souls are in God's hands. He already knows everything that waits for us in the future. Think about the Cross everyday. Nothing can separate you from God's grace. Because of what Jesus did for us, we have His permanent forgiveness and love, and He promised no matter how much good or bad we do, He will love us all the same. Don't try to impress God, and don't think that you earn God's love by praying for a certain amount of time or helping others daily—you have His love just because you are His child. Just sit in silence and proclaim the truth of Jesus:

When we can't stand on our own, we can fall on God and rely on His strength. He is solid and will never let us fall. God is the reason why we are set free from all sins. God knows everything about each and every one of His children. Not one of His creations is forgotten. The Bible says that He has you imprinted on the palms of His hands. Even though Jesus didn't have to die for you, He chose to out of His relentless love He has for you.



None of us are worthy of what He did, but Christ looked at us as worthy of saving. Nothing can separate you from God. No amount of mistakes or sins can make God love you less. Jesus loved you perfectly on the Cross and He never changes—neither does His love. God can't love you more on some days than others, either. His love is forever the same. God is using every obstacle in your life to bring you a brighter future.

He is just equipping you for the blessings headed your way. Stop whatever you are doing now and read aloud these prayers and confess all your past mistakes and transgressions to God. He will cleanse you in His blood and clothe you in His robe of righteousness if you really repent and surrender to His Word and Will for your life. Today, proclaim out loud the things God is doing for you, the breakthroughs He is giving you, the doors He is opening, and the freedom He is giving you:

*I declare God is anointing me with wisdom to see through His vision and through eyes of love.*

When we ask earnestly, God hears us and grants us

undeniable wisdom and supernatural gifts straight from His hand that no amount of money can purchase and no human can replicate.

*I declare I'm changed by God's grace and I'm leaving behind the person I used to be*

. You are not who anyone but God, your Creator, says you are. Take off the labels of your past and wear the grace and righteousness that God's given you.

*I declare I am redeemed and brand new because God has given me a second chance.* God is forgiving. He will give you the second chance you ask for as you serve Him with all your heart. His blood is the only solution to the pain caused by sin. When you ask, He will pour His precious blood on your heart, transforming you forever. He will mold you into the person He created you to be.

*I declare God is making a path for me even when it seems hopeless.* God's plan for us is better than what we can see. It's more than we think is possible. He already knows the exact moment when that breakthrough comes along. When that healing

comes. When that promotion comes. He knows where this road is leading. He knows the hurdles and bumps, but more importantly, He is getting you to that place where you will look back and understand He knew what was right all along. Don't stop fighting, God's plan for you is on course and the solution is right around the corner.

*I declare God is strong when I am weak.* Many people think they must be perfect and have it all together every second of the day. Don't worry if you feel burnt out or not good enough. God is fighting on your behalf and knows all your needs. Take refuge in Him and place your confidence in Him, not yourself. Put your trust in His power and watch Him take you further than you could ever go on your own even in years.

*I declare when I fall, Jesus picks me back up again.* Jesus lives inside of you, and you are part of the body of Christ. You are priceless to God, a masterpiece, and because of that He will never let you fall or feel hopeless. Ask Him to replenish you; He is more than happy to lift you up.

*I proclaim the heavy weights and earthly burdens are being lifted off by the strength and grace of my Savior.* Worship takes our focus off of our problems. Our energy is built by praising God; He instills His peace and freshness within us as a result of glorifying Him. He fills us with His living water springs. He will lift your eyes up from the worries of your life and let you watch Him bless you instead of let you watch your problems pile up.

*I proclaim all anxiety, chains, bondages, and controlling thoughts have left and have made room for me to fully worship God The Father, God The Son, and God The Holy Spirit.* No longer is your mind full of earthly desires and sinful thinking. He has made you whiter than snow. The power of His blood is more than enough to cleanse you and He has set you free from all bondages. Now you can focus solely on worshipping Him.

*I proclaim The Holy Spirit is living inside of me, guiding me, praying for me, and redeeming me.* His Light is within you. Ask God to shine His favor and Light upon your face. Never think He is

distant from you; He will always be right there in your heart!

*I proclaim God is giving me life through His Light.* The breath of God gives us life. Ask Him to breathe winds of favor, excellence, and blessings towards you and your loved ones.

*I proclaim God is breathing on me His grace, wisdom, peace, and tranquility.* God is residing in your heart, and saying, “Prepare for gifts that will rain from My Kingdom like rain into your heart.”

*I proclaim God is breathing favor upon my loved ones.* God isn’t just blessing you, but He also knows the needs of your family and is right there with them, helping them, giving guidance, and blessing them behind their wildest dreams. He is uniting you all through the power of His blood and make you have a stronger bond than ever before. Claim it in the name of Jesus Christ!

*I proclaim I am worthy of God’s love.* Don’t think you have too many problems or are too weak or unintelligent to be worthy of God’s love. We are all sinners, but that’s why we need the love of God

and His comfort in this fallen world. Appreciate the love God has for you and love Him back!

*I proclaim God has not left me or failed me, and He never will think of forsaking me.* When you think God has failed you, think again. He plans everything out right; everything He does is perfect. Don't lose sight of the fact that He will prosper you and not fail you.

*I proclaim God is crushing my enemies and is winning all my battles on my behalf.* You're not alone in all of your battles. God is always victorious. He overcame the world by rising from the dead after His crucifixion. If He can do that, He can defeat your enemies.

*I admit that I am strong enough to admit I'm weak without God, but stronger, with Him, than any obstacle.* Don't fall under the thought that running to God for help means you're weak or not good enough to fight your own battles. God says only fools think like this. You were not made strong enough to make it on your own. We are all sinners—the only help that is true is God!

*I proclaim God is able to turn any situation around and win even if the result is not what I expected or wanted.* All it takes is one blink of God's eye to turn around a problem or issue. Just like that, He can bring you an answer. Just stay in constant belief. He's getting you places. Just trust Him.

*I proclaim the Light He brings to my heart is unmatched and impossible to compete with.* God's power is something so great and perfect nobody can understand it completely and definitely not even come close to matching.

*I proclaim my mind is cleared and cleansed from all earthly pleasures and polluted desires.* Your thinking will become so much clearer with God putting your focus on Him. You will see the answers to your problems with clarity from Him. God has equipped you with Heavenly thinking. He sees and knows the answers. Ask Him to grant you the wisdom to see them.

*I proclaim my prayers will be bigger, bolder, and will be answered in Jesus' Name.* Don't be

afraid to pray big, bold, and God-sized prayers. It's good to ask God for help to get through the day, but take the leap of faith and pray for that new house, that promotion, or to be financially blessed to the point where you can help more people, because God will reward your large faith with extraordinary answers.

*I proclaim God is working within me, raising my faith up and giving me magnified miracles.* Continue to strive to strengthen your faith each day. Never think you pray enough, have enough faith, or have as much of God as you deserve. Every day is a gift from God for you to use to grow closer to Him and receive more of His gifts!

*I proclaim my prayers are heard even when I don't think they are.* Even when we doubt our prayers are heard, God always hears and answers them. He even knows our thoughts and prayers and needs before we do. Rest assured your prayers are not going unheard or unanswered.

*I proclaim God is infusing me with wisdom to pray for things I previously didn't think about*



*praying for.* The Holy Spirit gives us wisdom to pray for things that we didn't think needed prayer, things we thought were too difficult to pray for. God is saying no prayer is too big for Him. Every prayer makes us grow closer to Him.

*I proclaim God has saved His best plans for me for now.* Every obstacle you've faced has led you to be as strong as you are today. God is ready to unleash the huge blessing He has stored just for you. If it wasn't for those obstacles in your past you wouldn't be prepared, and God knows the details. Be prepared and claim that your time to be blessed is now.

*I proclaim God's cup of love never stops flowing.* God never stops loving us. Never.

*I proclaim I will step out of darkness and now live in my Savior, Jesus Christ and His Light.* God is Light. God is Love. Without God we are nothing. With Him nothing is out of reach. When we join hands with Jesus, the darkness of this fallen world is casted out and our sins are forgiven. All the guilt and shame leaves. Joining with Christ

means we can enjoy His Heavenly peace here on Earth.

*I proclaim because of what Jesus did for me on the Cross, He has shown that nothing is out of reach for Him.* If God can beat death and the whole entire world, why do we doubt at all? Why bother worrying if God can make it happen if we know He can?

*I proclaim God's love will sustain me and bring joy unspeakable to my life.* Joy unspeakable cannot be expressed in words. Ask God to show you joy unspeakable and the power of His love. Watch what He does for you!

*I proclaim my vital need for a Savior.* The basis of living free in God begins by humbly recognizing that you need a Savior, and that Jesus is vital in everything we do. He is the only source of freedom from the shame sin brings upon us. He is the only way for resurrection of a new life in Heaven. We were all born as sinners; we all need Jesus, for He is the only One worthy of our praise. God loves you despite your shortcomings. You will never meet

anyone who loves you as much as God does! He is the great I AM. God is not dead. He is still living in your heart, watching you, praying on your behalf, and blessing you second after second after second!

*I proclaim God's not finished with me yet; He is just getting warmed up for the bright future ahead of me.* You have a bright prosperous future ahead of you—The Lord promised us that in His Word. Don't fear about where you are going because the best is yet to come. The future is blindingly bright. The tunnel is ending; the Light is shining on you. Step into the shoes of blessings—you won't be taking them off soon.

*I proclaim God's blessings and favor will rain on me like a supernatural rainstorm.* The favor, healing, forgiveness, mercy, love, safety, breakthroughs, and answered prayers are coming in through an abundance of Heavenly rain. God has heard all of your prayers and seen your hard work. Don't think He's ignoring you. He's about to reward you. Thank Him now for what He is about to do for you.

*I proclaim God is bringing peace and beauty to my life like flowers blooming in the spring.*

God's peace is undeniable. He will show you how to live a peaceful life and no longer be servant to anger or bitterness. Be more observant of how God is working for you throughout the day. You will begin to notice small but mighty signs that God is with you. That's when He shows you His peace.

*I proclaim and declare I'm leaving my old ways. I'm leaving those negative thoughts and sinful desires behind me. I'm saved because of the Cross and now I'm living a brand new life.* The old you died with Jesus on the Cross. The person God created you to be was resurrected with Him. God is cleansing you and making you the person you were destined to be!

*I proclaim God is transforming me through my prayers.* Prayer changes things. It is our time with our Creator to hear His voice, just Him and us alone. It is the time when our cares and worries are given to Him. It is when He listens to our cries and revives us. It is when He instills peace within our

hearts. It is when He takes the burdens of the day off of our shoulders and lets us rest in His Heavenly lightness. It is when He touches us and we feel His Spirit present. Prayer is the time when miracles are asked for and given. Nothing will compare to the power prayer holds; no other source can offer us the chance to talk with God and let Him know what we need. Prayer is when we see breakthroughs coming our way. When we see the Light. When we see things shifting. Prayer is a privilege and an honor, not a chore.

*I proclaim God is praying for me to grow closer to Him everyday and praying for things that are unnoticed by me.* You'd never believe how much God works behind the scenes. He is constantly before you making sure everything runs His way. He is praying for you to grow closer to Him, and protecting you from the harm and darkness of the world. Rest assured your Creator didn't just make you and forget about you; He is working every second of the day for your dreams to come true.

*I proclaim God is taking me deeper into my spiritual journey and faith than ever before.* Don't fear the spiritual journey you are on. Don't get settled in where you are. God has something bigger in store. Don't be afraid of change. Every step leads closer to God's destiny for you.

*I proclaim God is using me for His purposes and as an example of His beautiful creations.* God has amazing plans and purposes for your life here on Earth; you have a very special place in God's heart.

*I proclaim I will rest in the stillness and wonderful presence of God, Who grants me peace and restores all my energy and faith in Him.* Take time daily to hear God speak to you. Turn off all electronics and all distractions, sit down in silence, and just spend time with God. There is no better or more restful feeling.

*I proclaim God is speaking to me loud and clear, and He is using my lips to bring praise to His Name.* Many times I find God using my mouth to speak wise words beyond my comprehension.

There is no other explanation but that it is God speaking through me. This happens to you many times also, I'm sure. Start paying attention to how God speaks through you and uses you for supernatural reasons.

*I proclaim God will help me fulfill my destiny and reach the places He wants me to reach.* Never doubt the way God times things. Notice how at the end of the storm everything was perfectly planned to make you as strong as you now are.

*I proclaim I'm not who I used to be; God has cleansed, redeemed me, and has given me a new identity in Christ.* You are not who the world says you are. You are not the person the media wants you to be. You are not who society wants you to be. You are changed by the precious blood of Christ. You are who He says you are.

*I proclaim God is using my weaknesses and obstacles in order to make me a testimony of His love, greatness, mercy, and perfection.* God wants you to hold on just a little longer. He wants you to

tell everyone about Him, how He got you through all the hurdles, and to encourage others that He is real, alive, and still performs miracles today. You are a testimony of God's goodness.

*I proclaim my life has changed for the better by knowing and following God.* Once you see Who God really is, how could you ever return to how you used to live? Jesus bled to death for us, nails piercing His flesh and causing Him unthinkable pain—once you understand that, it's pretty difficult to think about life without Him, because without Him there is no life. No amount of pain in my life compares to the suffering Jesus endured on the Cross, and because of His suffering, all of us are free in Him.

It was either you or Him—He died in your place and carried the burden of your sin—mine too. There is truly no other Love but Jesus Christ!

*I proclaim only God can open the door to Heaven.* God assures us if we follow Him He will open the gate to His wonderful and perfect Kingdom. He is still alive and on the throne of



Heaven today. He is waiting for you to come home. He has a place set for you. No pain of this life can compare to the perfection waiting for us with The Lord in His Kingdom. Ask God to grant you hope for Heaven and for Him to help you visualize Him sitting on the throne, holding you in His perfect arms. There are simply no words to describe how glorious our King is.

He is so patient with us; no matter how many times we fail He continues to wait with us and He holds our hands despite the bad things we've done. He does all of this within His Kingdom, a place of sheer perfection, light, healing, love, and glory. Stay in faith, knowing your belief in Him will grant you that spot in Heaven where you can spend eternity seeing Him face to face.

God does not condemn any of His children. No amount of bad can block you from Heaven; all Jesus asks is that you believe in Him and declare Him as your Lord and Savior. He will forgive your sins and let you spend eternity with Him. Never think you aren't good enough to be with Him. You

were made to come home to Him, to see Him again, and look Him in the eyes—and never look back on this life.

*Faith Reminder*

*No amount of words can describe how bright the fire of God's Love shines, burns, and roars. We cannot even fathom His perfect Love and the grace that He has for us. Also, the pain He endured on the Cross cannot be imagined, and that is why we should commit to giving God all of the glory and be thankful for what He's done. Use the voice He's given you to remind yourself of His unfailing Love, Light, and use it to bring inspiration to others hurting or who need to know the power of God.*



# *Fifteen*

## *A Personal Thank You*

### **PROVERBS 16:4**

*The Lord works out everything to its proper end—  
even the wicked for a day of disaster.*

I hope and pray this book has made you grow spiritually and strengthened your relationship with The Lord. I thank God for giving me strength to be where I am today, and pray that He will take you to higher places than you ever thought possible.

I pray for you to grow in your relationship with God everyday, see your dreams become reality, and feel His Spirit working inside of you more every time you wake up for another day.

I sincerely thank you so much for reading my humble attempt to bring glory to our Savior, and thank Him for giving us these encouraging verses from His Word to comfort us during the hard times. All of these specific verses that I've included in this book have personally helped me, and hopefully granted you something in return. The Bible should never be underestimated—it is God's story, medicine, and guide to us! We should read the Word daily, saturate ourselves in Scripture, and savor everything that God has to say.

No matter how tough life gets, know that God is with you and is holding you in the palm of His hand. This is all just a test of faith. If you push through the tough spots you will see favor like never before. God will move mountains for you—I'm proof of it.

If you are still lost and don't know how to develop a relationship with Jesus, start by declaring Him as your rock, your solid ground, your salvation. Shout His name in praise. Proclaim He knows your name, all your needs, and He has a plan

unlike any other for you. Still suffering with pain? Declare your healing, take ownership of God's supernatural power and rejoice in the Lord for delivering you from pain today! Don't wait another minute. This is your day. Shout it from the rooftop. God is your refuge. He loves you and has forgiven your sins. He has equipped you for this journey.

Don't get frustrated if you still have questions about God. Your spiritual journey is not something that will ever end; there will never a point where everything clicks and we understand everything about how God works—and that's how He created us. Start trusting Him more, doing your best with all you do, and day by day, continue asking God for wisdom to fathom His ways deeper and patience to accept His timing. It will all work out—just give God time to make the blessing as good as it can be!

You will soar, flourish, and excel under God's leadership. He will supernaturally make you get that job, pay those bills, and open those doors that you so desperately need. Keep being patient with Him—He knows what He's doing! When prayers

seem to be ignored by God, remind yourself that He is perfect and nothing is a surprise to Him. Right now He is aligning all the right things and people together for you to be ready for the amazing blessings about to be rained upon you and your loves ones. Besides, those blessings will feel so good knowing you trusted God and made it through with patience. Make sure to remind yourself each and every day that God knows exactly the right path for you, and that is a different path from your friend, brother, mother, and every other one of His children.

You are a special to Him, and He has a specific destiny for everyone. You are a masterpiece to God, made wonderfully and fearfully. When it comes to being you, nobody else can even pale in comparison. You are the best you out there—act like it. You need to embrace what God's implanted in your heart—all the talents, abilities, riches, blessings, and fruit of The Holy Spirit. All of that is what makes you special and makes The Lord look down from His kingdom and smile at you, knowing

He did good when He made you. Once again, God bless you and may He grant you and His desires for your heart. Thank You Jesus, for the rain of favor and blessings coming at full speed towards Your children. Amen!



## *About Me*

*I am a Christian author who has written for years, and I'm so thankful for you picking up this book today. I grew up in North Carolina and love making readers inspired and passionate about God through my writing, striving to make every word count. God has done great things in my life, and I know He is doing the same in yours. May He bless you with peace, health, faith, and reveal to you all of the gifts He engraved within your heart. God bless.*

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