



Encouragement

for

Home School

Moms

Devotional Bible Studies

by Bonnie Lisech

Encouragement
For
Home School
Moms.

31 Devotional Bible Studies

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Encouragement
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31 Devotional Bible Studies

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Encouragement For Home School Moms.

Dear Moms,

I would describe the ten years I spent home schooling four of my five children as “the hardest job I ever loved.”* The responsibility of home schooling, coupled with all my other obligations as a wife, mother, homemaker, missionary, and active participant in the ministry of our church was overwhelming at times. I am now past that season of my life. I can look back with great thanksgiving to what the Lord did in my children’s lives. He is so faithful, and He loves our children more than we do.



I am also thankful for what God did in my own life in those years. God gave me joy as well as struggle, blessings as well as failure, and always His strength for the immensity of the task.

I made an effort to maintain my priorities, but too often the pressure of home schooling pushed a time alone with God to the end of a list that never seemed to get accomplished. The things I needed most—refreshing, strengthening, encouragement, and empowering from intimacy with God were often forfeited. Instead, self-focus and stress caused me to buckle under the load. I made some foolish decisions and missed some opportunities He could have used to encourage me with His confidence and peace.

Encouragement for Home School Moms was written to help you avoid putting off your special time with God. My prayer is that these studies in God’s Word will build you up and cause you to be the example of Christ to your children that only knowing God intimately can produce. May God bless you as you make Him your priority and allow everything else to revolve around Him.

Love in Christ,

Bonnie

“Don’t shape your Christianity from your human observation, experiences, feelings; shape it from God’s Word.”

My Sacrifice His Fire by Ann Ortlund

*Adapted from the Peace Corps slogan, “The hardest job you’ll ever love.”

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Journaling

Journal your meditation thoughts and insights to know God. Journaling—writing thoughts, meditations, prayers, or truths we have just discovered—is a highly effective way to reinforce what God is teaching. Journaling helps us to think about our life and what God is doing. We sometimes give little thought to what we are experiencing and what God is revealing to us about Himself, His eternal purposes, His plans, and His will for us.

Journaling is collecting our memories as reminders of our own struggles, joys, God's faithfulness and power.

David probably kept a journal, which we read today in the book of Psalms. He wrote, *Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced* (Psa. 105:5). David recorded great times of joy and praise, as well as deep despair and depression; times of defeat as well as deliverance. We are blessed when we read these records of his spiritual journey. David wrote in Psa. 143:5, *I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done.*

There are many ways to keep a journal. Don't get caught thinking that you have to write many words. A few words can, at times, express your thoughts adequately. Consider these ways to journal:

- Record personal thoughts, perspectives, and experiences.
- Journal deep thoughts or insights you gain from scripture.
- Write a personal letter to God.
- Write a prayer to God expressing praise, thanksgiving, concerns, requests, and gratitude for answered prayer.
- Record poems or songs.
- Write or paraphrase a passage from scripture that becomes meaningful to you.

"I have found journaling of great importance in continually drawing my focus back to the character of God. I write letters to God and prayers about times of confession and forgiveness. I use journaling to give my burdens to Him. I write verses that remind me of His faithfulness." Linda Fields

STRENGTHENED THROUGH CHRIST

Day 1

I can do everything through [Christ] who gives me strength.

Phil. 4:13



At times the overwhelming demands of home schooling will make you feel inadequate for the task. In the context of the verse above, the Apostle Paul is sharing that in peaceful or in challenging times of his life, he knew that *through Christ*, he would have the strength of the Lord to accomplish His will.

1. Read Col. 1:9-12.

Col. 1:9-12 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

2. According to verse 9, how is the knowledge of God's will obtained? *(Note: Knowledge and wisdom have different meanings. Knowledge is information, truth, that one knows from scripture; wisdom and understanding is the perfect application of that knowledge.)*

3. According to verse 10, what is our **conduct** like when we apply spiritual wisdom and understanding to our life? *(Note: Verse 10 is speaking about our conduct, not the personal pleasing of God. God is already pleased with us personally through Christ.)*

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4. From verse 11, what are the **results** of (1) living our lives worthy of the Lord, and (2) pleasing God by doing His will?

5. According to verse 11, what kind of godly behavior is present when we are strengthened with God's power and strength?

6. What are the results of God's power in and through us as recorded in verse 12?

7. Describe the *light* from Eph. 5:8-9 and write what is commanded.

Eph. 5:8-9 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth).

Prayer Suggestion: *Thank the Lord that teaching your child (children) is a "good work" and your ministry in this season of life. Ask the Lord to give you strength as you grow in spiritual knowledge, understanding, and wisdom so that you can live a life that is a worthy model for your family. Ask God to strengthen you today through His Spirit to patiently, lovingly, and cheerfully teach your child (children).*

STRENGTHENED THROUGH CHRIST

Day 2

Read 2 Thes. 2:16-17. Write what these verses reveal about God. Write your personal thoughts and insights.

2 Thes. 2:16-17 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.



GOD KNOWS YOU

Day 3

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. Psa. 139:1



God knows and understands you, and He is perfectly acquainted with every detail of your life. He never discovers anything; He is never surprised or amazed. God has never learned and cannot learn, for He already knows and has always known everything. No matter what you face today, God is fully aware of you and your needs.

1. Read Psalm 139:1-6. Take time to think about each verse. Of all the things that God knows about you, which is most significant to you?

Psa. 139:1-6 O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD. 5 You hem me in — behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

2. Continue to read verses 7-12. In this portion you will read that God not only knows you, but He is with you. Take special note of verse 10 where God's loving guidance and protection of you are expressed. Write your thoughts.

Psa. 139:7-12 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

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3. Read verses 13-18. Through this Psalm, God reveals that He created you. Pick out phrases that express to you just how intimate and active God was in your personal creation. What phrases clearly state the great value of your life to God?

Psa. 139:13-18 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. 17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

4. When you think about verses 17-18, do you share the awe that King David had toward God when he thought about his value to God? God knows and loves you! Read Heb. 10:14. Write your thought and insights.

Heb. 10:14 because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

5. It is very significant that God is all-knowing. Because God knows everything, He knows what is best for you, and you can trust Him to provide it. Read the following verses and write what is significant to you.

1 Th. 5:18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Phil. 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Prayer Suggestion: *Praise God that He is all-knowing, and that He knows and greatly values you. Thank God that He created you and is so personally involved with your life. Express your requests and concerns for this day. Thank Him that He is working every circumstance of your life for good, and that you are a delight to Him.*

GOD KNOWS YOU

Day 4

“Your life is like a book in God’s library that has always been there.”*

Write your personal thoughts and insights.

Psa. 139:16 Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Phil. 2:13 For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

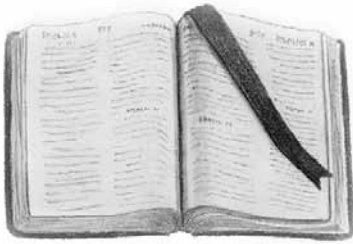
*Quote from *A Glimpse of God’s Majesty* by Bonnie Lisech



GROWING SPIRITUALLY

Day 5

***Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk,
so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. 1 Pet. 2:2***



We normally would not understand the intensity of the phrase, “crave pure spiritual milk” without looking into the original meaning. In this verse, the word “crave” in Greek means “to yearn for,” “to intensely crave possession,” “to earnestly desire,” and “to greatly long after.” Newborn babies are totally dependent on pure milk to grow and remain in good health. We also need to

depend on the Word of God for healthy, spiritual growth.

1. Timothy had the great privilege of being taught by the Apostle Paul. It is our privilege to read from letters Paul sent to Timothy encouraging him to grow in his spiritual life. Read 2 Tim. 3:14-17.

2 Tim. 3:14-17 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the [woman] of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2. Read 2 Pet. 1:20-21. Write what you think “God-breathed” means.

2 Pet. 1:20-21 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

3. According to 2 Tim. 3:17, what is the purpose of the Scriptures. How does this apply to the good work of home schooling your child (children)?

4. The book of Hebrews gives a stern warning to believers. Read

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Hebrews 5:11-14. Think about each verse and write what is revealed about the problem.

Heb. 5:11-14 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

5. What does “milk” represent?

6. According to verse 13, what is true of someone who survives on milk?

7. What is revealed in the last verse about growing toward maturity?

***Prayer Suggestion:** Praise God for allowing you to have His wonderful Word. Thank Him for the privilege of teaching its truths to your child (children). Share your desire for spiritual growth in your life, and your desire to know God intimately. Thank the Lord for thoroughly equipping you for the good work you are doing.*

GROWING SPIRITUALLY

Day 6

Read Psa. 119:130-135 for encouragement. Write your personal thoughts and insights.

Psa. 119:130-135 The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. I open my mouth and pant, longing for your commands. Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name. Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me. Redeem me from the oppression of men, that I may obey your precepts. Make your face shine upon your servant and teach me your decrees.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Day 7

You are the light of the world... Matt. 5:14



Our children are very important to us. We wouldn't be teaching them at home if we were not concerned for them. Children are very perceptive. You are being watched. Your child (children) is learning from your every action and every attitude. Even times when you fail will teach them. So, let your light shine. Teach them by example that they are also lights in a dark world.

1. Matt. 4:16 reveals the source of the light. How does Jesus describe Himself?

Matt. 4:16 the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."

2. According to John 8:12, what does Jesus promise those who follow Him?

John 8:12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

3. What does John 9:5 reveal about how long Jesus will be the light of the world?

John 9:5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

4. According to Matt. 5:14 and Eph. 5:8, when He is no longer physically present, who is His light in the world?

Matt. 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

Eph. 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.

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5. Read Matt. 5:14-16. Jesus uses an illustration to teach his followers about their lives as His lights. (Note: Light is still light whether it is hidden or revealed, but “results” of its illumination are different.) According to these verses, what should be true of a believer’s light?

Matt. 5:14-16 “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

6. What is illustrated by placing the lamp on a stand?

7. According to verses 15 and 16, what are the two results of a light that is in full view of the world?

***Prayer Suggestion:** Praise the Lord for the awesome opportunity to be a light to your family and the world. Confess any sin that hinders your light from shining. Praise God for His love and willingness to give His only Son to light the way to salvation. Ask God to give you the boldness to let your light shine and to empower you to walk as a child of light.*



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Day 8

A life demonstrating godly attitudes and actions is a light that will be seen by the world. Have you intentionally set your light upon a stand for all the world to see? Write your personal thoughts and insights.



DISCOURAGED

Day 9

He said: "In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry. Jonah 2:2



When I was home schooling our four children, many times I felt like Jonah. Yes, I wanted to run away. There were many reasons for discouragement. There were days when almost nothing went right. Sometimes I didn't really know why I was discouraged. I can't count the number of times I wanted to resign. It was a good thing my husband, the principal, wouldn't accept my resignation. He constantly reminded me that we were doing God's will. This helped me to keep my focus.

Jonah had a good reason for his distress, and you probably do, too! His distress came because he disobeyed God.

1. Read Jonah 2:2-7, 9 to discover more of Jonah's perspective.

Jonah 2:2-7 He said: "In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry. 3 You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. 4 I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.' 5 The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. 6 To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God. 7 "When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.

Jonah 2:9 But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD."

2. Have you ever felt a little like Jonah? What did Jonah do in his discouragement that revealed a decision based on faith and not feeling?

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3. What did God do that encouraged Jonah?

4. In spite of Jonah's impossible situation, by faith he focused on God and not on his circumstances. Perhaps you feel like he did when he said, "I have been banished from your sight." Is this possible? Read Psa. 139:7-10. Explain insights or blessings you receive from these verses.

*Psa. 139:7-10 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.*

5. Read Psa. 40:1, Rom. 12:12, and Heb. 4:16. Write how each verse encourages you.

Psa. 40:1 I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

Rom. 12:12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Heb. 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Prayer Suggestions: If you know why you are discouraged, express it to the Lord. If sin is involved, confess it at this moment and thank Him for His complete cleansing (1 John 1:9). Praise God for His faithfulness to hear your prayers and for His care for you. Praise and thank Him for the very situation that is discouraging you. If a person has hurt or provoked you, pray for that person. Trust in His life to be your joy.



DISCOURAGED

Day 10

Read Psa. 34:1-8. List the practical actions you can take when you are facing discouragement. How can you make this way of thinking practical in your life?

Psa. 34:1-8 I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. 2 My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. 3 Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. 6 This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

Use each verse of this Psalm to praise the LORD. Write your personal thoughts and insights.



TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU

Day 11

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matt. 11:29



A yoke is a wooden bar with loops that join two animals together at the neck. The yoke enabled a younger animal to learn to work together in unison with an older one to pull a heavy load. Picture yourself yoked with Christ: one unit, moving in the same direction, for the same purpose, to reach the same goals. You are the stumbling, weak, and burdened one in the yoke, learning from Christ as you go.

Because of the perfect strength of Christ, you are steadily moved along, trusting with a rested heart, learning to walk at His pace, confident because of His teaching and guidance. What used to be a great burden becomes easier and easier to handle, as you learn to trust the Master.

1. Read Matt. 11:28-30. Some weary and burdened believers are yoked to the performance of religious tasks. God calls us to a personal relationship with Christ which salvation begins and fellowship develops. What three instructions do these verses contain for the weary and burdened believer?

Matt. 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

2. What does Jesus promise to those who choose to place themselves under His teaching?

3. What does Jesus say about Himself?

4. How does this truth about the Lord encourage you to choose to be

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yoked with Him?

5. What do you think makes His yoke easy?

6. Read John 12:25-28. The man who loves his own life will lose what really matters. When compared with one's love for God, the believer who is yoked with Christ must hate the self-life. Christ gives a perfect example of this kind of dedication and obedience in verses 27-28. He is facing death, yet He denies His self-life in order to obey His Father. With whom or what are you yoked?

John 12:25-28 The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. 27 "Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?' No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."

7. If you are yoked with Christ, are you trying to lead, or are you trusting in His strength and leadership?

8. According to verse 26, what must be true in the life of the one who serves?

Prayer Suggestion: Praise God that He offers you the privilege of being yoked with Him. Share with Him your thoughts concerning what an amazing privilege it is to be taught and led by the Lord Himself! Give thanks for the Holy Spirit. Express to God any personal sins that prevent you from denying yourself and having a teachable heart. Thank God for His Word that enables you to grow and mature in your faith.



FOLLOW IN CHRIST'S STEPS

Day 13

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

1 John 2:6



I stood with my legs apart, my hands cupped above my eyes, as I scanned the top of a very tall building. When I glanced downward, I noticed my young daughter standing beside me. She was in the very same stance, looking intently at the highest level of the skyscraper. I remember being

struck with the thought that she was imitating me exactly. Being role models to our children is sobering reality.

1. Christ is to be our example or role model. Read 1 Pet. 2:21. What is commanded?

1 Pet. 2:21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

2. When we walk with Christ, we can take only one step at a time, one moment at a time. Read 1 John 1:5-9 to understand the example that Christ left us.

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

3. According to verse 5, what is true of God? (Note: Light refers to God's perfection or holiness; God is without sin. Darkness refers to sin—that which is evil.)

4. What does verse 6 say is impossible if we walk in sin?

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5. According to verse 7, what happens when we are walking in the light?

6. Verse 8 brings out the importance of admitting that we do sin. If we don't believe that we sin, what does this verse say is true about us? (Note: The last phrase means that the truth of God is *not operating in and through our life*.) As we choose to walk moment by moment with the Lord, the Holy Spirit causes us to be more and more sensitive to our sin.

7. Read 1 John 1:9. What does God say happens to our sin when we confess? Why can we depend on this? (Note: Confession means to agree with God that what we thought or did was sin. There is a need to name our sin—I lied, I said a harsh word, I was gossiping, I lacked joy, etc.)

8. How much sin does God cleanse, on a moment-by-moment basis, as we confess or name the sin?

9. If there is no unconfessed sin at this moment, then are you walking in the light as Christ walked? Explain why this is true.

***Prayer Suggestion:** Thank God for such a gracious and simple way to deal with our sin moment by moment. Ask God to help you be especially sensitive to the Holy Spirit, that you will be responsive when He reveals areas of sin in your life. Thank God for instant forgiveness and total cleansing through the promise of 1 John 1:9. Praise God for immediately restoring your fellowship with Him.*

FOLLOW IN CHRIST'S STEPS

Day 14

Read the following verses and write your personal thoughts and insights.

Psa. 111:7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.



GIVE THANKS

Day 15

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Th. 5:18



We need to obey this command regardless of what the “this” represents in our lives. Being thankful seems very difficult when we face the hard circumstances of life. We tend to be easily influenced by our emotions rather than guided by our faith in the God who is in control. Our feelings are often erratic and can’t be trusted as a standard for thankfulness. Faith must step outside the influences of our emotions and act on the *facts* of God’s Word. God’s character and His Word give us sound *facts* upon which to base our thanksgiving.

1. Read Psa. 57:1-2. In this Psalm, David was fleeing for his life from King Saul. He was hiding in a cave. He began in deep despair. Take special note of the last phrase in verse 2. Why was David sure that God is in control of the circumstances of his life?

Psa. 57:1 Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed. 2 I cry out to God Most High, to God, who fulfills [his purpose] for me.

2. State in your own words what you think David knew about disasters and calamities.

3. Giving thanks in all things may not change your circumstances, but it will change your attitude toward them. Read Psa. 57 to see if thankfulness changed David. Read all of this Psalm and note any attitude change.

Psa. 57:3 He sends from heaven and saves me, rebuking those who hotly pursue me; Selah God sends his love and his faithfulness. 4 I am in the midst of lions; I lie among ravenous beasts — men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords. 5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all

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the earth. 6 They spread a net for my feet — I was bowed down in distress. They dug a pit in my path — but they have fallen into it themselves. Selah 7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music. 8 Awake, my soul! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn. 9 I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples. 10 For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. 11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

4. What does God send that saves David from despair?

5. What does David know about God that causes an attitude change “in” his difficult circumstances?

6. David takes certain actions to encourage himself in the Lord. What specific actions does he take?

7. When you are faced with hard circumstances, how can these same actions be applied in your own life?

***Prayer Suggestion:** Praise the Lord that He is fulfilling His purpose for you in every detail and circumstance that He allows into your life. Thank Him for the love, mercy, grace, and holiness that are characteristics of His life. Choose holiness for your life by confessing any known personal sin that the Holy Spirit has revealed to you. Share your cares with the Lord at this time and thank Him for the way He cares for you and for each of your concerns.*

GIVE THANKS

Day 16

David's change of attitude did not change his circumstances; he continued to run from King Saul for a long time after his experience in Gath. Read 2 Cor. 4:15 and Rom. 8:28. Write the reasons why you can give thanks in everything. Write your personal thoughts and insights.

2 Cor. 4:15 All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.



BY DESIGN

Day 17

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Isa. 64:8



Visualize yourself as a lump of clay about to be formed on the potter's wheel into something beautiful and useful by God—the Master Craftsman. The planned design and your eventual form are left totally to the discretion of the Potter.

Our life circumstances could be pictured by the shaping and reshaping of the clay in the hands of the skilled Potter. God intentionally designed experiences that would mold our individual lives into His work of art.

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph. 2:10

Could God's "workmanship" be any less than a *work of art*? Certainly not when you consider the perfection of God. A "work of art" is put on display, a priceless piece to be treasured forever. God's "work of art" is glorifying to Him.

Our attitudes would be so different toward challenging circumstances if we did not resist the potter. Know that each experience is planned in advance in God's sovereign purpose to shape us into something beautiful for Him.

1. What false assumptions are made by the clay in Isa. 29:16? Explain how the attitude alluded to in this verse affects how we react to challenging circumstances in our lives.

Isa. 29:16 You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, "He did not make me"? Can the pot say of the potter, "He knows nothing"?

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2. According to Jer. 18:4, what is the potter's right? Is this verse an encouragement to you? How?

Jer. 18:4 But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

3. In what ways do you recognize yourself as God's work of art?

4. According to Isa. 45:9-12, how does man show his arrogance and foolishness?

Isa. 45:9-12 "Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, 'What are you making?' Does your work say, 'He has no hands?' 10 Woe to him who says to his father, 'What have you begotten?' or to his mother, 'What have you brought to birth?' 11 "This is what the LORD says — the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker: Concerning things to come, do you question me about my children, or give me orders about the work of my hands? 12 It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts.

5. How does the Lord express His authority?

6. Think of an experience that you believe was the molding process of God in your life. What was your reaction?

Prayer Suggestion: Praise God that you are His precious work of art. Ask God to mold you and make you into something beautiful for Him. Thank Him that He has provided everything you need to be equipped to do His will., through the sacrifice of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit that raised Christ from the dead.

BY DESIGN

Day 18

Read Heb. 13:20-21. Consider each phrase and write your personal thoughts and insights.

Heb. 13:20-21 May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, 21 equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.



EMBRACING CHANGE

Day 19

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17



Knowing that scripture teaches that God Himself is unchangeable gives us a wonderful security. God is always going to be trustworthy because He is always the same. However, Genesis indicates that God must enjoy change.

1. According to Gen. 1:11, what things grow and change?

Gen. 1:11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.

2. What changes are recorded in Gen. 1:14?

Gen. 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years,

3. Read Eccl. 3:1-8. God has a fitting time for each thing to be done. Some of these activities are ones we choose as we discern God's timing. Sometimes we have little or no control over these changes.

Eccl. 3:1-8 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: 2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, 3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, 6 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, 7 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, 8 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

4. Read Eccl. 3:14. What indicates that God is involved and sovereignly

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in control of changes we encounter?

Eccl. 3:14 I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that men will revere him.

5. What is God's purpose for changes in our lives? What does this mean?

6. According to Eccl. 3:11a, what is the result of divinely purposed changes?

Eccl. 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Prayer Suggestion: Give thanks that our times rest in the wise and loving hands of God. Thank Him that He has planned for man to “plan” and make choices, but that He is ultimately sovereign over His purpose and will for your life. Praise Him for the security that is yours through His eternal, changeless, and holy character.

EMBRACING CHANGE

Day 20

Read Prov. 16:9 and Psa. 116:7. Write your thoughts and insights.

Prov. 16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

Psa. 116:7 Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.



JOYFUL LIVING

Day 21

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thes. 5:16



The Old Testament associates joy with celebration and victory, but the New Testament includes joy in our salvation and suffering. Happiness is dependent upon circumstances. Happiness happens—joy abides.

According to Gal. 5:22, joy comes from the Holy Spirit. *But the fruit of the Spirit is ...joy...*

We are commanded to be continually joyful. If believers' lives are to reflect a constant inner joy, then we must *choose* joy no matter how adverse and difficult our circumstances may be.

Write the paradox found in each of the following verses.

2 Cor. 6:10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

1.

2 Cor. 12:10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2.

1 Thes. 1:6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

3.

4. In the Holman New Testament Commentary on Thessalonians, Max Anders describes this joy that is experienced in times of suffering and sorrow as “wellness of soul.” How would you describe this inner joy?

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5. According to Heb. 12:2-3, what did Jesus focus on in a time of hardship?

Heb. 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

6. What was *set before him*? What is set before you?

7. How does *fixing your eyes on Jesus* affect your joy when you are challenged by difficult circumstances?

8. What godly character trait mentioned in Heb. 12:3 is needful if we are to be encouraged by the last phrase of that verse.

Prayer Suggestion: *Praise the Lord that He is our joy. Share with Him your concerns and difficult circumstances. Ask Him to help you trust in Him and to calm your soul. Give thanks that He endured the cross for you to give you joy through the Holy Spirit. Ask God to strengthen and encourage you as you fix your eyes on Jesus.*

JOYFUL LIVING

Day 22

The following verses clearly state what our responsibilities are in the area of joy. Write your personal thoughts and insights.

Phil. 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Rom. 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



PEACEFUL LIVING

Day 23

**...Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—
if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—
think about such things. Phil. 4:8**



Our thoughts are very powerful. What occupies the mind will ultimately affect our spiritual and moral choices. A wholesome thought life leads to a life of peace. In Phil. 4:8, the Apostle Paul urged wholesome thought. He listed six thought patterns that are “excellent or praiseworthy.”

1. According to Isa. 26:3, what type of person will God keep in perfect peace?

Isa. 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

2. Is your mind set firmly and surely on Him? What are the benefits of such a mindset?

3. WHATEVER IS TRUE

The Holy Spirit desires to control our minds through “truth.” Write what Psa. 119:9 and John 17:17 say about truth.

Psa. 119:9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.

John 17:17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

4. WHATEVER IS TRUE, NOBLE, AND RIGHT

We need to think on what is respectful and right according to God’s standard. One who is noble has an excellent character. Read Isa. 32:8 and Luke 8:15. Using these verses, write several characteristics of a noble individual.

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Isa. 32:8 But the noble man makes noble plans, and by noble deeds he stands.

Luke 8:15 But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

5. According to Psa. 37:30 and Prov. 16:13, what is true of someone who is honest?

Psa. 37:30 The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks what is just.

Prov. 16:13 Kings take pleasure in honest lips; they value a man who speaks the truth.

6. WHATEVER IS PURE, LOVELY, AND OF ADMIRABLE REPORT

Think on things that are morally pure, beautiful, attractive, constructive, and positive. Carefully consider Eph. 4:22-24. What must take place if you are to be made new in your attitude?

Eph. 4:22-24 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

7. According to Eph. 5:8-9, what are the characteristics of a life of light?

Eph. 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

Prayer Suggestion: Thank God for the ability to choose obedience through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Confess by agreeing with Him about any personal thought patterns that are not excellent and praiseworthy. Thank the Lord for the cleansing of that sin and all unrighteousness in your life as you act in obedience. Praise Him for the peace and promise of His presence.

PEACEFUL LIVING

Day 24

According to Phil. 4:9, what is the reward of an obedient, holy life? Are you encouraged by this? Write your personal thoughts and insights.

Phil. 4:9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

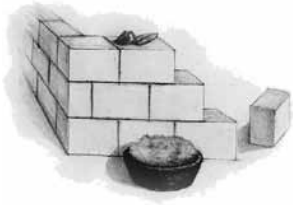


BUILDING OTHERS UP

Day 25

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up ...

1 Thes. 5:11a



In the home school arena, there are many different opinions on several issues. At times there are heated disagreements over debatable things. Spiritual growth in each of us is a continuing process. At times in our spiritual walk, we seem to be taking giant steps forward, but sometimes our growth seems to stop, or at least to become slow and agonizing. As believers, we have a part in the spiritual building process in each other. Our role is to continually edify one another with spiritual encouragement and comfort.

1. Read Rom. 15:1-3. The “failings” or “infirmities” referred to in verse one are *not* sin, but matters on which scripture does not give clear guidance. Weaker believers sometimes suffer from confusion and doubt in their stand on such issues. How does the Apostle Paul appeal to the stronger believer to shoulder the burden?

Rom. 15:1 We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. 2 Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. 3 For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: “The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.”

2. How is “pleasing ourselves” a big part of the problem of disagreement with others?

3. Read Rom. 15:5-6. What does God give to the obedient believer and what is the result?

Rom. 15:5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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4. What is the ultimate goal of unity?
5. Christians will not agree on every issue, but they can agree to disagree in love and choose in their hearts to glorify God. According to Rom. 15:7, what is the key to unity and harmony among believers?

Rom. 15:7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

6. Do you need to give up pushing or debating some scripturally unclear area to have fellowship with another believer? Explain.
7. How does unity bring praise to God? Read John 13:35.

John 13:35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

8. In what way are our children affected by observing our attitudes toward those who are weaker? Are we expecting them to act differently than our model?

Prayer Suggestion: Express your praise to the LORD who delights in you and accepts you just as you are. Confess any sin that hinders your relationship with another. Thank Him for giving you endurance, encouragement, and unity with others as you follow Christ. Ask the Lord to love and build others up through your unconditional acceptance and love for the glory of God.

BUILDING OTHERS UP

Day 26

The scriptures teach believers what their responsibilities are toward one another. Write your personal thoughts and insights.

1 John 4:11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Rom. 15:7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Eph. 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1 Thes. 5:11a Therefore encourage one another and build each other up...



DON'T BE AFRAID

Day 27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27



Fear, anxiety, and worry are very disabling and destructive emotions. Fear will rob you of the peace and security that God has promised in His Word.

1. In Psalm 3, David refers to a time when he fled from his son, Absalom, who was seeking to overthrow David and take the throne by force. David fled for his life and seemed overwhelmed, fearful, and extremely troubled. What was David focusing on in verses 1-2? In verse 2, what temptation was he fighting?

Psa. 3:1-2 O LORD, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! 2 Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him." Selah

2. According to verses 3-4, David took his eyes off the fearful circumstances. What phrases prove David's confidence in God? When you are fearful, do you refocus your thinking on God and His power and love?

Psa. 3:3-4 But you are a shield around me, O LORD; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. 4 To the LORD I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill. Selah

3. In Psa. 3:3, *God's shield* refers to a shield that completely encompasses the believer. What does it mean to you that God Himself is this kind of shield for you?

4. In verses 5-6, what decision did David make? Why do you think David

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was able to rest at a time like this?

Psa. 3:5-6 I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the LORD sustains me. 6 I will not fear the tens of thousands drawn up against me on every side.

5. If fear is an enemy with which you struggle, you know how paralyzing it can be. Study David's strategy for overcoming fear and discouragement. Do you follow this strategy when you are anxious and fearful about your child (children) or the task of home schooling?

David:

- 1. Recognized that his focus was on his circumstances and not the love, caring, and power of God.*
- 2. Praised the Lord for what he knew to be the truth of God.*
- 3. Conversated with God in prayer.*
- 4. Chose by faith to rest in the confidence and peace that comes from trusting God.*
- 5. Chose by faith to not allow fear to control him.*

6. Jesus also expressed concern for those who battle fear. According to Matt. 10:29-31, sparrows were cheap; they sold two for a penny in the market place. Since God the Father is perfect in His love and His care, what do you think Jesus is saying about you?

Matt. 10:29-31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Prayer Suggestion: *Praise the Lord that you are secure in God's care and protection. Thank the Lord that you need not fear, because He is your shield. Feel free to confess your own weakness to God, and trust the Holy Spirit's power to give you His peace. Express your gratefulness for the blessing of God's Word that gives you confidence to trust God.*

DON'T BE AFRAID

Day 28

Read John 14:27 and Phil. 4:6. Peace is the opposite of fear. The peace God gives is the supernatural peace that is lived out only through the power of the Holy Spirit. Write your personal thoughts and insights.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Phil. 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



THE LORD IS GREAT

Day 29

***Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
His greatness no one can fathom. Psa. 145:3***



Psalm 145 is entitled “A Psalm of Praise,” and was written by David. David, as the king God chose, praised God as his King. David, God, and the Hebrew people are the focus of this Psalm.

1. David speaks in Psa. 145:1-2 and 5-6. In these verses, what did David say he would do? (The word “exalt” means to “lift up,” and the word “extol” means to “give highest praise to.”) List the qualities and actions of God that motivated David to praise.

Psa. 145:1-2 I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

Psa. 145:5-6 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.

2. David describes our God and King in five ways. Write the phrases that describe God’s character. Meditate on these verses and write your thoughts after each.

3. **GOD’S GREATNESS** Read Psa. 145: 3, 6.

Psa. 145:3 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

Psa. 145:6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.

4. **GOD’S GLORIOUS GLORY** Read Psa. 145:5, 11-12.

Psa. 145:5 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

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Psa. 145:11-12 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, 12 so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

5. GOD'S POWER Read Psa. 145:4-6, 11-12.

Psa. 145:4-6 One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. 5 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.

Psa. 145:11-12 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, 12 so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

6. GOD'S GOODNESS Read Psa. 145:7-9, 17.

Psa. 145:7 They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. 8 The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. 9 The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

Psa. 145:17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made.

7. GOD'S MIGHTY ACTS Read Psa. 145:11-13.

Psa. 145:11-13 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, 12 so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

Prayer Suggestion: Praise God for His awesome greatness, glory, power, goodness, and glorious work on your behalf. Extol Christ who, through His death and resurrection, was God's greatest work. Ask God to give you a correct view of Him as you study His Word. Give thanks that God loves you and cares for you so much that He satisfies your desires. Call upon Him to empower you through the Holy Spirit to respond as David and the people did to our God and King.

THE LORD IS GREAT

Day 30

Psa. 145:14-20 expresses God's loving actions toward humanity. Write what God does for us. Share your personal thoughts and insights.

Psa. 145:14-20 The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. 17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. 18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. 20 The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.



TREASURE IN JARS OF CLAY

Day 31

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being. Eph. 3:16



The Apostle Paul experienced many challenging circumstances, but he remained faithful and continued on, steadily working, and serving Christ. Paul never viewed himself as a victim, but as a victor. He wrote the words of Philippians in a Roman jail cell chained to a Roman soldier. To many, this imprisonment would have meant defeat, but not to this soldier of the Lord. Through life experience, he had learned to be content

in His circumstances and to draw upon the sufficiency of God's power to live moment by moment.

1. Read 2 Cor. 4:7-12. From verse 7, write the word picture that Paul uses to illustrate the frailty and insufficiency of man.

2 Cor. 4:7-12 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. 11 For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. 12 So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

2. The Jewish people hid valuables in clay jars that didn't attract attention. According to verse 7, what is shown by possessing *this treasure* in such unattractive and inexpensive vessels?

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3. Write the phrase that expresses the total sufficiency of God.

4. In verses 8-9, Paul lists some of the ways that he has shared in Christ's sufferings for the sake of the Gospel. What do verses 10-12 reveal about the purpose of suffering this way?

5. Reread verse 12. Who benefits when we suffer as *victors*?

6. How does your answer fit into your purpose and plan for serving Christ as you home school your child (children)?

7. There are no victories without battles, but victory depends on the direction of our focus. Read 2 Cor. 4:16-18 and 2 Cor. 1:5. Write your thoughts and insights.

2 Cor. 4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Cor. 1:5 For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.

Prayer Suggestion: Praise God for His all-surpassing power in your life through the Holy Spirit. Ask God to help you view your tasks and challenges as valuable to eternal glory. Thank Him for the work he does in your child's (children's) life as you face life's difficulties as a victor. Praise God for the comfort that overflows in your life through Christ.



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may we recommend:*

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GREAT GIFT!

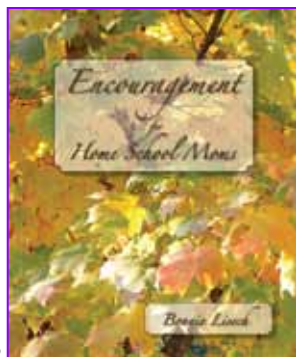
Many have purchased the hard copy and hundreds have downloaded *ENCOURAGEMENT for Home School Moms Book 1* and used it for refreshment and encouragement during the challenges of home education.

Here is the table of contents to give you some insight into the meaningful and helpful Biblical content.

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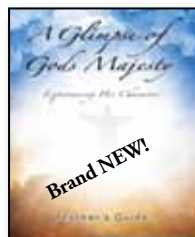
New small group or Home School studies

Our Teacher's guides and student workbooks will give you everything that you need to easily lead a small group Bible study or teach Bible effectively to your High Schoolers. All the work and research is done and is listed in a column right next to the inductive questions that students will be answering in the Student workbook.

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This brand NEW Teacher's Guide and Student Workbook set contains studies revealing the wonderful principles of knowing God with more intimacy and personal depth through God's Word. The foundational truths revealed in this study will help you guide your student to a greater understanding of the nature/character of God, as well as help develop a deeper heart-felt relationship with Him. As we dig deeply into God's character and plan for the ages, we see that Christ's sacrifice for our sin was a planned act of the greatest mercy and necessary for us to be able to come before the Father. A Glimpse of God's Majesty clearly explains and reveals what is needed to be "on target" to know God and Christ in a deeper, more powerful way.



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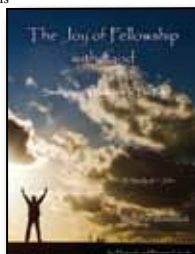
This study is also excellent for those that are looking for a serious individual Bible study or possibly for mature high school level home school students. Order and use the student workbook and answering the focused questions on your own will build your faith for the times that Christians are facing in a culture that seems to be in a downward spiral.

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These Teacher's Guides and Student Workbooks are studies of the wonderful principles of FELLOWSHIP with God. The truths revealed in the book of 1 John are essential and valuable for each believer. It helps clarify relationship (*position/salvation*) and fellowship (*walking with God*).

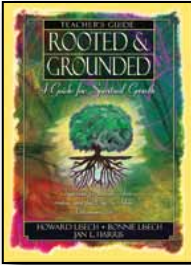
Correctly understanding these truths will revolutionize a believers' life as he or she learns how to deal with the sin that constantly drags a believer down and discourages. Confession is the key to restoring our right relationship with HIM on a moment-by-moment basis! This teacher's guide has wonderful helps and insights to help you lead your own Bible study group with confidence using either the (Stapled) paperback or pdf eBook versions.



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ROOTED & GROUNDED, A Guide for Spiritual Growth
 Suitable for 10th or 11th or 12th Grade
Howard & Bonnie Lisech and Jan Harris, Deeper Roots Publications

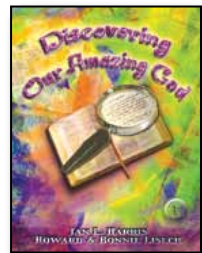
Rooted and Grounded is being used for one or possibly two years of Home School or Christian high school Bible classes. It can also be used for college, adult, discipleship, or small group Bible studies. Each of the 27 lessons focuses on an important spiritual principle. Every lesson begins with an unreached people group profile that features beautiful pencil sketches by artist Julie Bosacker. Encouragement for Christian living is presented in an appealing and easy-to-use format. In addition to essential principles for success in a student's spiritual life, each student is introduced to world

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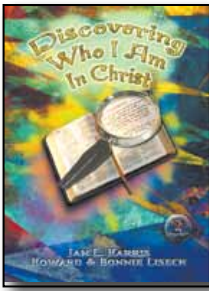
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DISCOVERING OUR AMAZING GOD,
 Best for 7th Grade Bible Curriculum (Book 1)
Jan L. Harris, Howard & Bonnie Lisech,



This exciting 7th or 8th or 9th Grade Bible curriculum deliberately focuses on some of the less familiar stories and events in the Bible to give students a new appreciation of how much God loves them. Interesting line drawings and suggested activities intermingled with inductive Bible study will help keep students focused. At the beginning of each lesson we introduce beautiful artwork and an unreached people group profile to broaden each student's understanding of our world. The Tch Guide provides extensive notes and will help teachers teach essential biblical truths effectively with a minimum of preparation! The Student Workbook includes reflections/journal pages to help students organize and record their new appreciation for our amazing God.

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211DCHSTG Home School (Teacher’s Guide)...\$30.95

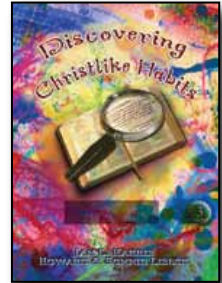
212DCHSSW Home School (Student Workbook) ...\$21.95

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DISCOVERING CHRIST-LIKE HABITS,
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ENCOURAGEMENT FOR HOME SCHOOL MOMS HARD COPY
Bonnie Lisech, Deeper Roots Publications



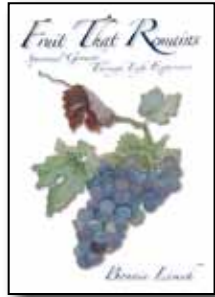
Devotional Bible studies that give encouragement and hope. These spiral bound studies, written by a mom who home schooled her children, address the issues and pressures experienced by those who have chosen to educate their children at home. *Encouragement For Home School Moms* was written to help busy moms avoid putting off and missing their essential and special time with God.

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Bonnie Lisech, Deeper Roots Publications

Bonnie challenges readers to view life's blessings, trials, and tests as important steps in spiritual growth. Enjoy the discovery of spiritual principles that lead us to bear Fruit That Remains through an intimate relationship and fellowship with God.

Bonnie Lisech has been studying Scripture, writing, and teaching spiritual truth for over 20 years. She delights in encouraging people around the world. Bonnie writes for Deeper Roots Publications, PIONEERS, and Women of the Harvest Ministries International.



Bonnie says, *"My goals are to challenge women to grow in their faith and to see them enjoy God's sovereignty, love, and power in all circumstances of life."*

107Fruit.....\$11.95

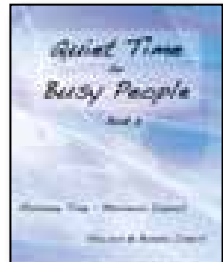


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Howard & Bonnie Lisech, (FOR NON-MISSION GENERAL USE)

Brief, but life-changing, devotional Bible studies that are short but far from shallow. Designed especially for those who want to maintain a quality daily quiet time with the Lord, but are pressed by time constraints. Verses are included to make it quick, convenient, and easy to complete each study and answer the inductive questions. A journal page for each of the 30 studies is included to help you capture valuable insights.

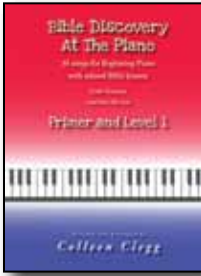
"I am currently working through your devotional, "Quiet Time for Busy People." Thank you for writing a devotional that helps me know and understand God on a deeper level, rather than just knowing "about" Him. The questions, your notes, and the personal journaling that you encourage on the back of each study all contribute to feeling as though I am spending real quality time with God Himself. As with your other studies that I have completed, it is a wonderful way to keep my focus on Him." Linda S.

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Colleen Clegg, Deeper Roots Publications

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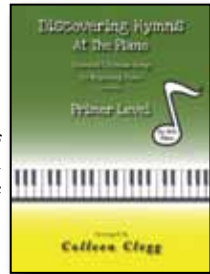
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THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER – SHEET MUSIC FOR PIANO LEVEL 1– BIG Note, *Arranged by Colleen Clegg*, Deeper Roots Pubs

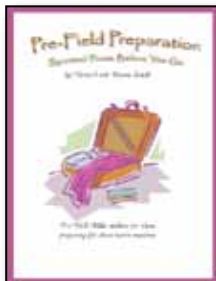
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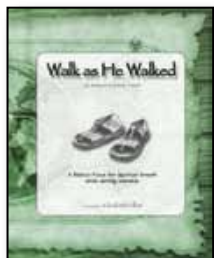
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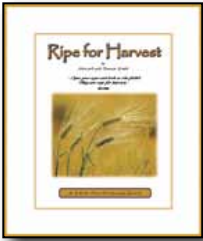
Howard & Bonnie Lisech,

Deeper Roots Publications



These spiritual journals and devotional Bible studies are endorsed by Don Richardson and are great for those who finish *Walk as He Walked*. These too, were designed for short-term missionaries and will add an important dimension to any STM trip experience. Topics are sequenced for the culture shock curve and missionary usage, but some laymen and church leaders are using them for personal refreshment and time with God. *50 day, 30 day, 21 day, and 14 day editions are available.*

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LIVE IN THE LIGHT – ON-FIELD BOOK 4 OF 4

Howard & Bonnie Lisech, Deeper Roots Publications

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658RH-14....\$7.95

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Lisa Espinelli Chinn, Deeper Roots Publications

Lisa Espinelli Chinn is an authority on *Reentry Stress*. In this book she provides valuable insights and instructions on how to successfully deal with it after your trip. This important publication contains her research, ideas, and concepts that can help you assist your team members return successfully. Nine important chapters, plus four exercises in the appendix, make this small but powerful 76 page book an essential tool in your chest of resources to help you and your team have a successful reentry.



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3 books combined into ONE volume



WALK AS HE WALKED 3 PART COMBO BOOK #1
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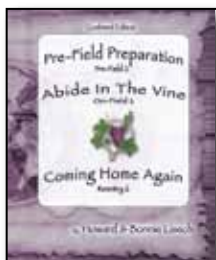
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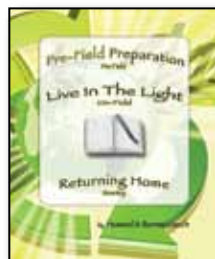
as He Walked and/or *Coming Home* studies. In fact, many churches and organizations can cycle through brand new studies each year for 3 years.

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Bonnie Lisech has been studying Scripture, writing, and teaching spiritual truth for over 35 years. She homeschooled her children through high-school back when homeschooling wasn't common. She delights in encouraging women to study scripture and finding encouragement from God's word. Bonnie has written for Deeper Roots Publications, PIONEERS, and Women of the Harvest/Thrive Ministries



Bonnie says, *"My goals are to challenge women to grow in their faith and to see them enjoy God's sovereignty, love, and power in all circumstances of life."*

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