

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE

House:
God's Heart My Home

Marriage:
Ten Ways to Pray
over Your Spouse

Health:
Be in Good Health

Finances:
Money Has an
Assignment

Parenting:
Show No Fear

Community:
You Don't Have to
Walk Alone





PUBLISHING EDITOR

I'm Niccie, founder of Fulfill Your Legacy and a spiritual growth and leadership coach helping others experience the fullness of Christ — in their lives, homes, communities, and the nation. I equip mankind and ministries to step into their God-given calling through discipleship, teaching, and Kingdom tools.

Most everything I do leads back to the LEGACY Jesus left for us. We are called to go make believers — each of us differently, but all of us purposefully . . . just as long as we step in and do our part to His glory.

Go LIVE | LOVE | LEARN | LEAD according to the call!



COPY EDITOR

Helen Izek is an award-winning author and was once also a freelance editor. In addition to her current full-time day job with a global medical device company, Helen continues to edit the articles for our monthly *As for Me and My House* magazine.

Passionate about working with each and every author, Helen strives to ensure the magazine is free of errors while preserving the unique voice of the contributors. She'd rather stay true to you, the authors, quirky turns of phrases included!

Helen lives in Israel with her husband and is mother to three wonderful children, and grandmother to three little tots.

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HOUSE

Dawn Bostick is an engaging storyteller and motivator whose voice brings clarity, confidence, and purpose to everyday living. Anchored by her bold mantra, "Loving Life N the Now!" she empowers readers to embrace the present and turn ordinary moments into extraordinary experiences.

Dawn is the author of *Maggie the Milkshake Baby* and *Hello Beloved*, and passionately ministers to women on identity and self-worth. She finds joy in the ink pot of her soul, writing to inspire healing, transformation, and hope. Dawn lives in Tennessee. She treasures being Grammie with the peppermint patties in her purse to her three grandchildren.

**10**

MARRIAGE

Chrystal Gilkey is an author, speaker, educator, and Bible study teacher. A Texas girl born and raised, she now resides in Arkansas with her husband, three children, and cat.

Chrystal writes to encourage and strengthen people's faith in God. She enjoys playing the piano and gardening.

Connect with her at chrystalgilkey.com or find her on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn @chrystalgilkey

**14**

HEALTH

Merline Ulloth is a Christian transformational coach, speaker, author, Army veteran, and founder of The Uncommon U. Through biblical teaching, discipleship, coaching, retreats, and community, she equips Christian women to move from survival mode into wholeness by renewing their minds, embracing their identity in Christ, and being formed into His image.

Drawing from her own journey of resilience, faith, and transformation, Merline helps women break free from limiting beliefs, cultivate emotional and spiritual health, and live out their unique God-given calling with courage and purpose.

Her mission is simple: to equip women to become who God created them to be. Her life message is rooted in Galatians 4:19: "Until Christ is formed in you."





20 FINANCES

Danyelle Bridges is a leadership strategist, consultant, author, and founder of Ingenuity Consultants. She equips leaders to build what Heaven has assigned through faith-driven leadership, strategic stewardship, and purposeful living. As the creator of CEOing with Christ™, Danyelle empowers individuals to lead with wisdom, integrity, and lasting impact in every area of life. Her mission is to equip leaders to build what Heaven has assigned through faith, wisdom, and strategic stewardship. Whether she's writing, teaching, consulting, or speaking, her goal is to help people lead with purpose, honor God with what they've been entrusted, and create a legacy that extends beyond success. Danyelle believes true leadership begins with faithful stewardship of our gifts, resources, and influence.



24 PARENTING

Tammy Weitzel Largin is a Christian author, speaker, and parent coach whose work blends faith and real-world experience with spiritual courage. She is the author of *Children Are Like Arrows in the Hands of a Warrior*, a biblically rooted guide to parenting that equips families to raise children with confidence, faith, and purpose.

In her new book, *A Healing Journey: Navigating Cancer with Intention and Choice*, Tammy writes with honesty about healing and intentional living. Her voice is grounded, encouraging, and rooted deeply in faith.



28 COMMUNITY

Carolyn Jean Davis, a speaker, author, and coach, is the founder and CEO of Excited Free Living, LLC. This organization serves people who seek to become unchained from the bondage of pain and walk closer to God. She knows firsthand what it's like to be captive to pain. She was often rejected and unloved by some who were supposed to love her while growing up. To gain their love and approval, she became a classic "people-pleaser." Unfortunately, this approach to life never worked to give her the acceptance that she thought she needed. Instead, it seemed to deepen the pain and perceived need. Now she can say that she is finally free, thanks to God's loving deliverance. He taught her how to turn pleasing others toward a life that's free and exciting in Him. Mrs. Davis now helps people break their chains of pain one link at a time. She lives with her husband of 42 years, Keith. They have two adult sons.

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

NICCIE KIEGL, FULFILL YOUR LEGACY

July has arrived, bringing with it some of the sweetest days of summer. Family gatherings, backyard barbecues, trips to the lake, fireworks, and time spent outdoors remind us to slow down and enjoy the blessings God has given us and to appreciate the freedoms we often take for granted.

As we celebrate Independence Day, let's remember how blessed we are to live in a nation where we can openly gather, worship, and share our faith. While no earthly nation is perfect, Scripture encourages us to pray for our leaders and our communities so that we may live peaceful and godly lives (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Our citizenship may ultimately be in heaven, but God has placed each of us here for a purpose—to be a light in our homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, and communities.

One of my favorite reminders comes from Jesus in Matthew 5:14: *"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."* As believers, we're called to shine His light wherever He has planted us. Whether that means serving a neighbor, encouraging a friend, supporting our local community, or simply living out our faith each day, our influence matters.

For those of you who are new to *As for Me and My House*, welcome! We're so glad you're here. The writers in this magazine are part of our faith family—Legacy Leaders who are committed to living out their God-partnered lives in every aspect, from their homes to their work, and beyond. Our contributors come from all walks of life—parents, many Christian entrepreneurs, mentors, and more—all seeking to grow in their faith and impact their families and communities. Together, we **LIVE | LOVE | LEARN | LEAD** as we follow God's call, knowing that each step brings us closer to Him.

This magazine, *As for Me and My House*, is inspired by my second book in the Legacy Series, *Embracing the Loving Legacy*. As the book extends the God-partnered life into the home, this magazine touches on the same six areas: **house, marriage, health, finances, parenting, and community**. It's amazing to witness how God's work in our lives overflows into our homes, shaping the next generation.

As we enjoy the celebrations of July, let's also take time to thank God for His many blessings and pray for our nation, our communities, and our families. May we continue to be people who reflect Christ's love, extending His grace and truth to everyone around us. We hope you enjoy the wisdom and encouragement shared by our fellow Legacy Leaders in this month's God-partnered magazine.

Blessings,

Niccie Kiegl



DAWN BOSTICK

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE

[HTTPS://DAWNHBOSTICK.COM/](https://dawnhbostick.com/)

GOD'S HEART MY HOME

Life transitions bring both turmoil and triumph. At times, I have felt like a weeping willow tree, bent low in a storm, as if I might be uprooted at any moment, or a crepe myrtle tree being pruned in preparation to blossom. Perhaps, I have been both uprooted and pruned in different seasons. Either way, the God-ventures I have embarked upon have been brutal and beautiful.

God called me to move like Abraham and leave everything I had known. I'd lived in Georgia for almost

thirty years. Some of the worst and most beautiful moments of my 59 years occurred there. I'd cried tears of deep pain over the miscarriage of my son, the loss of my parents, and the end of my marriage. Yet, I also rejoiced over the birth of my only child, the richness of motherhood, and the beauty of learning to love life in the midst of turmoil and tragedy. In that place, I discovered who Dawn was as a single parent, a minister, a missionary, and a woman anchored in joy. It was home, or so I thought.



I sat crying as my daughter helped me sort through the memories I had carried from place to place for years. Taped up tattered boxes of timeless images had captured nameless faces that were meaningless to someone who had no memory of them. Gloves, glasses, and remnants of years passed were emotionally released to goodwill, given a chance at new life or destined to be discarded. I couldn't take any of these things into my new season. Slowly, painstakingly, we pruned as I let go of unopened boxes and the things I didn't use but somehow thought I needed to keep.

Then came the uprooting, the leaving of everyone and everything I loved. The first home I had ever bought on my own was no longer mine. I was stepping into the unknown, away from my friends, my family, my granddaughter, my soon-to-be-born grandson, my daughter, my son-in-love and my church home where I had matured through the challenges of ministry and missions. I was leaving everything familiar, everything that had shaped me over the past thirty years. I was leaving my heart; I was leaving home.

As I crossed over the border into my new home of Tennessee, the Lord quietly whispered to my heart, "Welcome to your promised land." In quiet surrender, I whispered back, "Lord, may I enter in and take the territory you have ordained for me. May I receive the treasures and release the past to make room for the future." Tears of unexpected joy flowed down my cheeks as I embraced this new beginning.

The territory felt unknown and terrifying but I was grateful for the friends who helped me navigate the transition. With intentionality and faith, I began to build a new life, following the strategy God had given me. I found my home in Him. His heart became my place of refuge.

“

Delight yourself in
the LORD, and he
will give you the
desires of your
heart.

”

Psalms 37:4 (ESV)

I call it the 3F's: I **focused** on Him through purposeful intimacy in His presence.



I **finished** with Him; creating something beautiful with intention kept me grounded in joy and purpose.

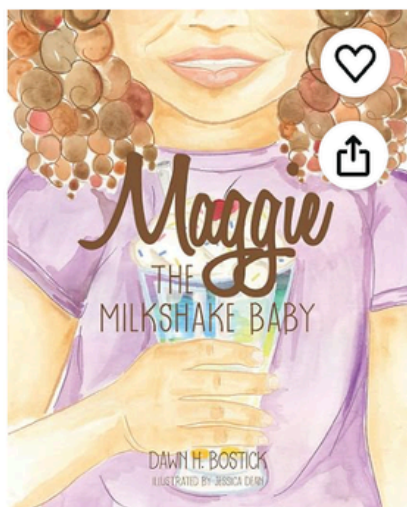


And, through this process I find myself **flourishing**! I repeat this rhythm when I am overwhelmed, uncertain, lost, or alone—those moments that often come when stepping into unfamiliar territory where giants are conquered and hidden treasures discovered.



Through this transition, I discovered something: My home is not a place; it is found in Him. It is in His heart for me as His Beloved Daughter. The beauty I found in His heart travels with me everywhere. It is with me now in Nashville, TN where I flourish in newfound friendships and this unfolding adventure with Him. It is present in the joyous laughter-filled visits to Georgia, FaceTime, and in the sweet moments with my family. Home is found in the heart of God. In His unfailing, enduring love, I am always home, here, there, and everywhere!

FOLLOW ME ON INSTAGRAM, BUY MY BOOK, OR SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING ON MY WEBSITE



[Read sample](#)

Maggie the Milkshake Baby

by [Dawn H. Bostick](#) (Author), [Jessica Dean](#) (Illustrator)

Format: Kindle Edition

4.9 ★★★★★ (18)

[See all formats and editions](#)

Book *Maggie the Milkshake Baby* is the story of Maggie an interracial child who is struggling with her self-image. Maggie's skewed view is challenged and transformed when she meets Allyse. As the story unfolds, Maggie embraces the beauty of being God's "special blend!" We all know children who think they are less smart, less pretty, less valued, and just less than others. Maggie's story lovingly encourages every child who has ever thought of themselves as "less than" to embrace the truth that they are "greater than" in God's eyes.





CRYSTAL GILKEY

AS FOR ME AND MY MARRIAGE

crystalgilkey.com

TEN WAYS TO PRAY OVER YOUR SPOUSE'S BODY, SOUL, AND SPIRIT

A few years ago, I did a book study with my Facebook group centered around praying for your husband. For thirty days, we prayed for our husbands from their heads down to their toes.

This time of prayer changed my view of my husband. Praying for him daily caused me to stop and really think about his needs. I can't meet my husband's every need and I don't expect him to try and meet my every need. There is only One Who can meet our every need, and that is Jesus Christ. What a privilege we have to bring our loved ones to Him in prayer!

THE INTENT OF OUR PRAYER

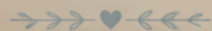
When we are praying for our spouse, our focus and intent is not to change them into who we want them to be. We might think that if only our spouse was a certain way, our life would be so much easier. When we pray with a selfish intent, God will not answer. James 4:3 says, "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

Before praying we need to be sure our hearts are pure, bitterness is uprooted, and we pray from a God-focused perspective, not a self-focused perspective. Here are ten ways we can pray over our marriage partner's body, soul, and spirit.



PRAYING FOR MY *Husband*

A MARRIAGE
BUILT ON PRAYER



THE CONTENT OF OUR PRAYER—OUR SPOUSE’S BODY, SOUL, AND SPIRIT

Our soul is the part within us that connects with God. It is the part inside us that knows God and communes with God. It is eternal. Sometimes our soul gets weary and troubled.

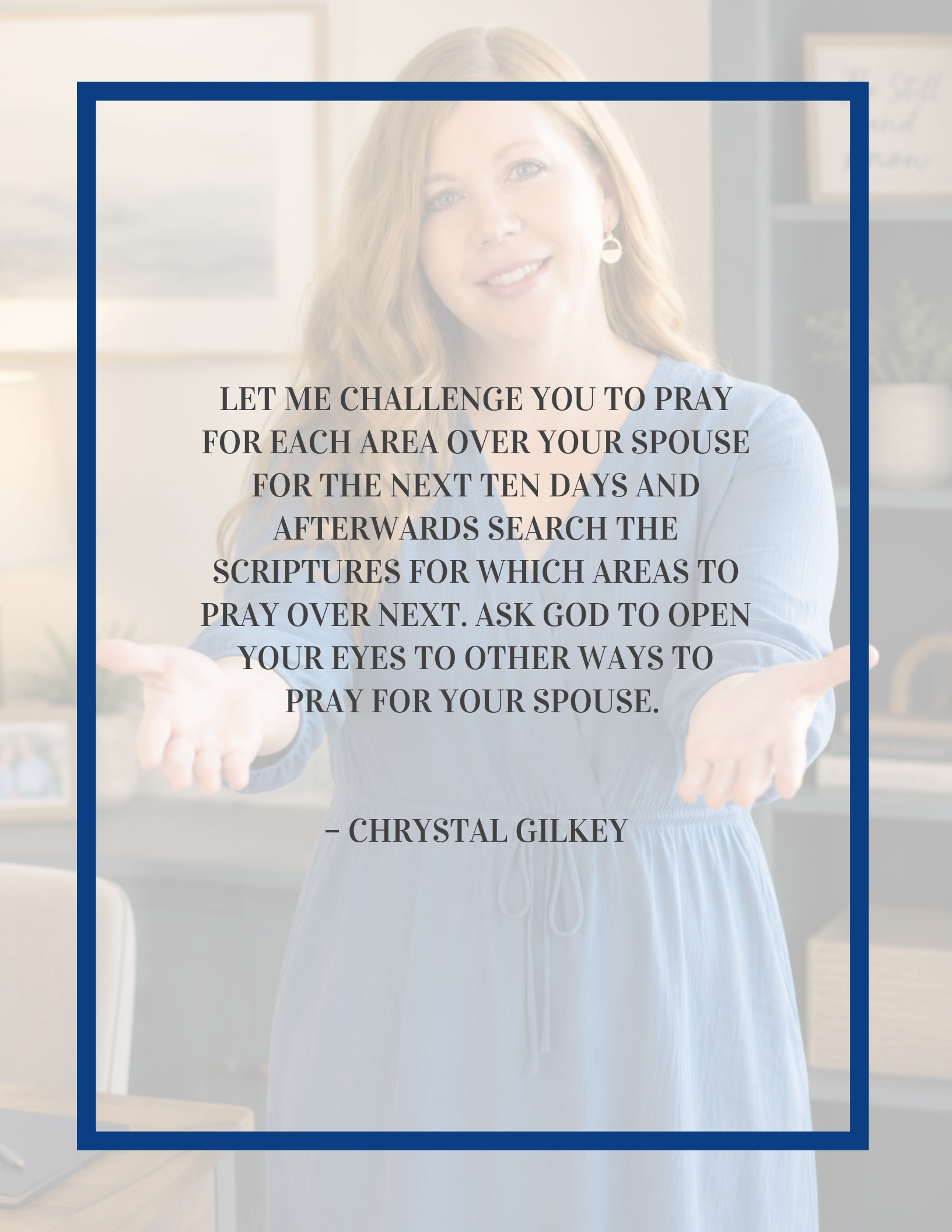
1. We can pray for our spouse’s soul to be strong in their love for the Lord. Mark 12:30
2. We can pray for our spouse’s soul to be satisfied. Psalm 107:9
3. We can pray for our spouse’s soul to be replenished. Jeremiah 31:25

1 Corinthians 15:44 tells us there is a natural body and there is a spiritual body. Sometimes our physical ailments stem from problems within our spirit.

4. We can pray for our spouse’s spirit to be healed. Proverbs 18:14
5. We can pray for our spouse’s spirit to be renewed. Eph 4:23, Psalm 51:10
6. We can pray for our spouse’s spirit to be protected from pride. Proverbs 16:18
7. We can pray for our spouse’s spirit to be free from feeling overwhelmed. Psalm 143:4, Job 10:12

Besides physical ailments we can also pray for protection over other parts of their body.

8. We can pray for our spouse’s eyes to wait on the Lord. Psalm 123:2, Psalm 23:26
9. We can pray for our spouse’s mind to be stayed on Christ. Isaiah 26:3
10. We can pray for our spouse’s hands to be faithful and diligent. Proverb 10:4



**LET ME CHALLENGE YOU TO PRAY
FOR EACH AREA OVER YOUR SPOUSE
FOR THE NEXT TEN DAYS AND
AFTERWARDS SEARCH THE
SCRIPTURES FOR WHICH AREAS TO
PRAY OVER NEXT. ASK GOD TO OPEN
YOUR EYES TO OTHER WAYS TO
PRAY FOR YOUR SPOUSE.**

- CRYSTAL GILKEY



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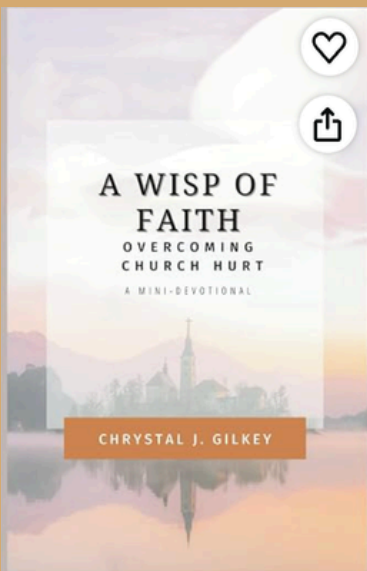
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From Book 1:

Every cloud has a silver lining . . . right?

Unexpectedly out of a job, Meteorologist Mercedes Lewis responds to an intriguing email about a strange weather anomaly in Shady Springs. Carrying the burden of past hurts and an uncertain future, she heads to the small town hoping to uncover a story that will get her career—and her life—back on track.

Pastor Grant Ford's ministry hangs in the balance—on a cloud. Literally. The people of Shady Springs have long believed the unique cloud that has hovered over the area for more than a century is a symbol of God's approval of their beloved town. But as the cloud



A Wisp of Faith: Overcoming Church Hurt

by [Chrystal J Gilkey \(Author\)](#) | Format: Paperback

[See all formats and editions](#)

It's one of the hardest things to experience and speak about...

If you've experienced church hurt, you are not alone. Satan uses church hurt as a means to wound and disable Christians from furthering God's message of love and hope. However, there can be healing and restoration with the Lord. There can be forgiveness and peace. Author and speaker Chrystal Gilkey provides Biblical insight for reconciliation and spiritual healing. In this devotional, you will discover:

The magnitude of remembering who God is.

The healing gained from true forgiveness.

Blessings that are bestowed through obedience to what God has called you to do

Confidence that is rooted and built on faith in the Lord.

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"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul." — 3 John 2 (ESV)

MERLINE ULLOTH

AS FOR ME AND MY HEALTH

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BE IN GOOD HEALTH

As a Christian transformational coach and founder of The Uncommon U, much of my work is knee-deep in helping women shift from surviving to truly flourishing through identity in Christ. Yet the lessons I share today were not first learned in a classroom. They were forged through some of the hardest seasons of my own life.

After surviving multiple life-threatening medical crises and a devastating accident, I came to understand that God's desire for our health extends far beyond the physical body. While I had witnessed His power to heal physically, I discovered His deeper work was restoring my soul. That journey transformed not only how I view healing, but how I understand John's prayer in 3 John 2:

that we would prosper and be in good health, even as our soul prospers.

In October 2020, an accident shattered life as I knew it. What I did not realize was that God would use it to heal wounds far deeper than the ones visible on an MRI. My body required some time to heal.

What I did not yet understand was how much He invested with the health of my soul beyond my confession at salvation.

God was after far more than my eternal destination. He was after the places still wounded, bound, fearful, bitter, striving, and unbelieving. He wanted my soul to prosper.

“

”

deliverance, mind renewal, and identity—bringing me out of survival and into wholeness.

It started with a question.

During my recovery, my neurologist asked, “Why are you so depressed?” He wasn’t referring to clinical depression; he had already determined I didn’t need medication. Yet I couldn’t shake the question. Soon I found myself in the Psalms, where David asks, “Why, my soul, are you downcast?” (Psalm 42:5 NIV).

I began to realize that while I was focused on my body, God was focused on my soul—my inner man. He drew me to Paul’s prayer: “May your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless,” (1 Thessalonians 5:23 ESV). He wanted wholeness, and He started on the inside. Not all at once, but one layer at a time.

He began with repentance.

REPENTANCE

I learned to repent daily—not only for what I had done, but also for what I had left undone. There is a release in daily confession, a lightness I had been living without. Repentance was not punishment; it was an invitation into freedom.

FORGIVENESS

This was the hard one.

The man who caused the accident was an instructor at my daughter’s school, so I saw him often. He walked away with a pinch in his neck. My life was turned upside down.

As believers, we learn how to feed our bodies and nourish our spirits, but often neglect to steward our souls.

Our minds remain anxious. Our emotions remain wounded. Our wills remain resistant to God’s leading.

Perhaps that is why John’s prayer is so profound.

This became the moment when I saw 3 John 2 lived out in my own story. We often quote this verse as a blessing over homes, finances, and success, but I was about to learn what John truly prayed: that every part of us would flourish as our soul prospers. This time, God came for the wounds I could not see. He led me through repentance, forgiveness,



I harbored resentment and white-knuckled bitterness the same way I had gripped the steering wheel on the day of the accident.

Then one Easter weekend, a quiet assurance rose in my spirit: Release it, and trust that God will faithfully care for you.

I assumed that meant instant healing—another miracle. It didn't.

Instead, I discovered I also needed to forgive myself: for the bitterness I had carried, the anger I had nurtured, and the person it had slowly made me become. Once I let go, freedom began to come in waves.

DELIVERANCE

The first thing the Holy Spirit touched was my mind.



He delivered me from years of depression and debilitating anxiety—and He didn't stop there. He exposed fears, old soul wounds, unhealthy patterns, and generational struggles that had taken root over the years. Through fasting, prayer, and consecration, He brought hidden things into the light.

I learned that freedom is not merely a moment; it is something we steward.

Freeing my mind was one thing. Keeping it free was another.

MIND RENEWAL

This is where the transformation held.

"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind,"
(Romans 12:2 NIV).

I had read that verse for years before I saw the order of

it. Transformation happens in the renewing. I had to become honest about the thoughts shaping my life:

I'm broken. I'm unserviceable. I'll never be who I was.

Those thoughts had become my narrative.

So I gave my mind something different to rehearse: *"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely . . . think about these things,"* (Philippians 4:8 ESV).

The pain was still real, but I stopped allowing it to define me.

IDENTITY

As I kept my mind fixed on Him, I began to hear what He had been saying all along:

Daughter.

Like the woman with the issue of blood, I was more than my condition. I was His.

I no longer identified as disabled, broken, or unserviceable. I began to live from my identity, my inheritance as chosen, redeemed, accepted, and deeply loved by God.

There is a freedom and peace that comes when you live from your true identity. It changes how you see yourself, how you see others, and how you walk through suffering. Everything else grew from this root.

My soul began to prosper.

It took me years to understand that we can be highly functional and still broken at the same time. But that is not God's desire for our lives. His desire is that we

become living evidence of His redemption. Jesus didn't simply want me to survive—He wanted to be formed in me.

Just as in 3 John, where others testified to the truth of God at work in a man's life, people began noticing the evidence of Jesus all over mine before I did. Many asked for the formula.

I didn't have one.

I could only tell them about the work Jesus had done in me.

Looking back, some of God's greatest miracles in my life were not the ones in my body. They were the ones in my inner man.

The world measures health by the body. God reaches deeper. He cares about the condition of the soul.

So let me leave you with John's prayer turned toward your own life:

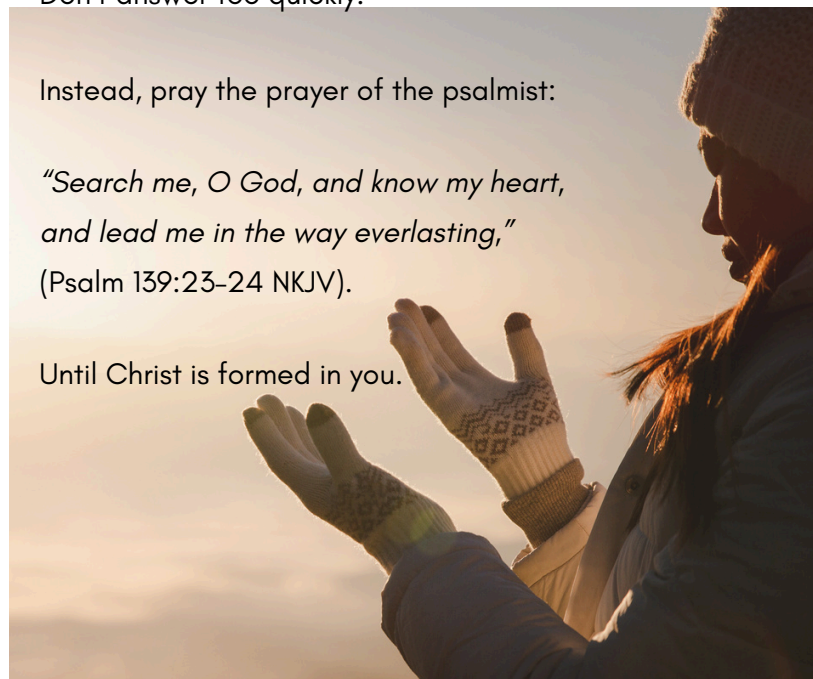
Is it well with you? Is your health good? More importantly, is your soul prospering?

Don't answer too quickly.

Instead, pray the prayer of the psalmist:

*"Search me, O God, and know my heart,
and lead me in the way everlasting,"*
(Psalm 139:23–24 NKJV).

Until Christ is formed in you.



A woman with long, wavy brown hair is smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a white, long-sleeved button-down shirt. She is sitting on a light-colored, textured couch. The background is softly blurred, showing some greenery and a wooden surface. The entire image is framed by a dark brown border.

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul."

— 3 John 2 (ESV)

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MERLINE ULLOTH

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MOST.



“

This devotional has become my lifeline.



Five minutes in the morning completely changes my mindset and my day. I feel more at peace and less overwhelmed.

JASMINE R.

Entrepreneur
Atlanta, GA

“

I love how practical and truth-filled this is.



It cuts through the noise and speaks to exactly what I need. It's like a reset button for my mind.

MARISSA T.

Working Mom
Dallas, TX

“

I used to rush through my days, constantly stressed.



Now I pause, realign, and walk in peace. This book is a game changer.

TIFFANY L.

Corporate Leader
Charlotte, NC

“

Finally, a devotional that speaks to real life.



It gives me practical tools rooted in Scripture. I look forward to my five minutes each day.

BRITTANY K.

Teacher
Nashville, TN

More Women Are Returning to What Matters



Real stories. Real alignment. One pause at a time.

“

Rest for the Busy and Weary Soul



This devotional touches every part of us—mind, soul, spirit, and body. Each page is filled with wisdom and practical ways to pause and redirect our thoughts back to God.

HEIDI

San Antonio, TX • Police Officer

“

Five Minutes That Leave a Lasting Effect



This devotional is amazing. It only takes five minutes a day, but it leaves a lasting effect. It has helped me grow a deeper, more meaningful relationship with God.

ELIZABETH

Seattle, WA • Coach

“

Food for the Soul



I don't read it every day, but when I do, the devotional mirrors something I just experienced. Thank you for writing this—it's truly food for the soul.

LaTon'Ja

Fayetteville, NC • Ministry Leader

“

Just What I Needed



I was able to Pause for 5 on 5 today, and it was just what I needed. I thanked God for giving this to you and allowing you to share it with me and others.

PAULA

San Antonio, TX • Educator



DANYELLE BRIDGES

AS FOR ME AND MY FINANCES
danyellebridges.com

MONEY HAS AN ASSIGNMENT STEWARD WHAT GOD PLACES IN YOUR HANDS

Many people pray for more money when perhaps the greater prayer should be for greater stewardship. God has never measured success by the size of our bank account. Throughout Scripture, He consistently measures faithfulness by how we manage what He has already entrusted to us.

Every dollar has an assignment.

Every opportunity has an assignment.

Every resource has an assignment.

When we begin to see our finances through the lens of stewardship instead of ownership, our perspective changes. We stop asking, "What do I want to buy?" and begin asking, "Lord, what do You want this resource to accomplish?"

Money is simply a tool. It reveals priorities, exposes our hearts, and amplifies our values. Left unmanaged, it can become a source of stress, anxiety, and comparison. Properly stewarded, however, it becomes a vehicle for generosity, provision, legacy, and Kingdom impact.

He who is *faithful* in what is least
is faithful also in much;
and he who is *unjust* in what is least
is unjust also in much.

Luke 16:10 (NKJV)



**FAITHFUL
IN THE LEAST**



**FAITHFUL
IN MUCH**

Luke 16:10 (NKJV) reminds us:

**"HE WHO IS FAITHFUL IN WHAT IS LEAST IS FAITHFUL
ALSO IN MUCH; AND HE WHO IS UNJUST IN WHAT IS LEAST
IS UNJUST ALSO IN MUCH."**

LUKE 16:10 (NKJV)

Faithfulness begins long before abundance arrives.

Many of us have delayed good stewardship while waiting for "more." We convince ourselves that we'll budget when we make more money, we'll save when our bills decrease, or we'll become generous once we're financially comfortable. Yet God's pattern has always been the opposite. Faithfulness precedes increase.

Stewardship also requires intentionality.

Ask yourself:

- Is my spending aligned with my values?
- Am I making emotional purchases or purposeful investments?
- Does every dollar I earn know where it's going?
- Am I preparing a legacy or simply managing today's expenses?

These aren't questions of guilt—they are invitations to wisdom.

**"THE PLANS OF THE DILIGENT LEAD SURELY TO PLENTY,
BUT THOSE OF EVERYONE WHO IS HASTY, SURELY TO
POVERTY."
PROVERBS 21:5 (NKJV)**



Every Dollar
Has a Purpose.
Every Resource
Has an Assignment.
♡

Financial freedom is rarely the result of one big decision. More often, it is built through thousands of small, consistent choices rooted in discipline, patience, and obedience.

Remember, God is not simply interested in increasing your income; He desires to increase your capacity to steward His provision well.

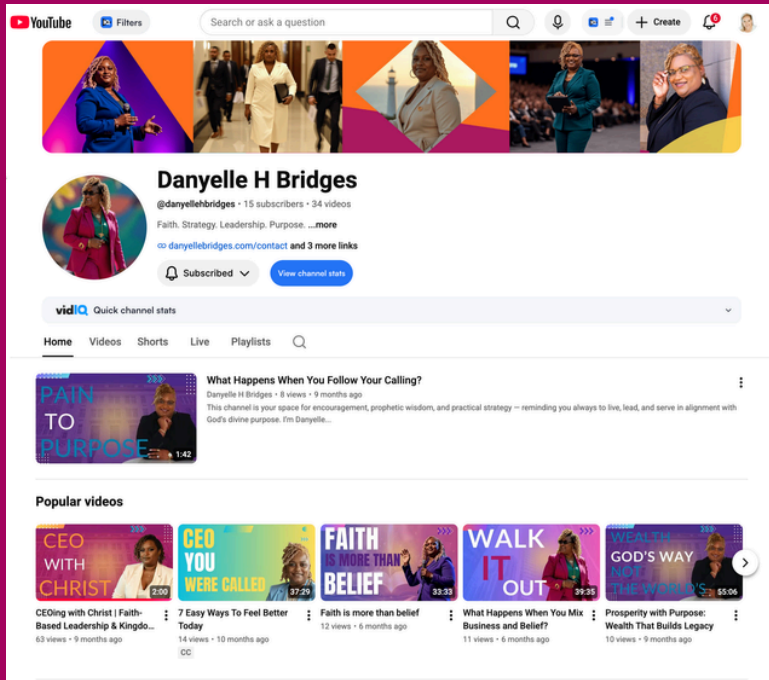
As you move through this season, don't simply ask God to bless your finances. Ask Him to reveal the assignment attached to every resource He places in your hands.



Because when every dollar fulfills its God-given assignment, your finances become more than currency—they become ministry, legacy, and evidence of faithful stewardship.



3 WAYS TO WORK WITH DANYELLE



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I'm Danyelle H. Bridges—a leadership strategist, speaker, author, AI educator, and Founder & CEO of Ingenuity Consultants, LLC. I help leaders and organizations strengthen culture, human capacity, leadership clarity, and AI readiness through practical frameworks, strategic education, and transformational consulting.

TAMMY LARGIN

AS FOR ME AND MY PARENTING
tammylargin.com



SHOW NO FEAR

In California, my dad wanted to learn to snow ski, so when I was five he bought me skis for \$5, bought a book about how to ski, and off we went to Big Bear. I can still see my dad teaching me how to snowplow by putting my toes together. Helping me grab the tow rope, he let go and when I reached the top yelled, "NOW LET GO!" The tow rope assistant picked me up, turned me around, and down the slope I went. When I got to the bottom, my mom yelled "SIT DOWN! SIT DOWN!" I sat and the rest was history. I love to ski!

For years my mom read a book and served us hot chocolate as the rest of the family skied. She never told us about her fear of heights or how she would never consider skiing. Matter of fact, Dad always bought her the gear for every adventure, but now I think of it,

maybe it was just so we wouldn't know that she was afraid. She had snow skis, a saddle, she even learned how to ride a motorcycle in a parking lot, none of which she ever used, but she never told us that she was scared.

As an adult, I see fear in my mom, but I never saw it as a kid. She was brave and independent, showed strength in times of need, and never let us see her sweat the fear. Her confidence made me strong even though she never fully participated in these adventures. She would simply tell us, "It's not my thing," and we were fine with that. But inside she was a wreck. When I was about 16, she came out to the barn and asked if she could ride the pony I was training. I didn't know until I was much older that she was terrified (even though her feet could touch the ground).

The hardest thing for us today as parents is hiding our fears. Life today is filled with more dangers than when we were kids. And while we all need to take precautions, it's still important for our overall well-being, to get out there, have fun, and play. Constantly focusing on the possibility of danger around can rob us and our families of the confidence God has given.

Now I know that many of us as parents, especially in a world as unpredictable as ours, tend to be more cautious with what we let our kids do, hence—limiting. Could it be that our fears as parents today have limited our children's ability to grow in confidence? Maybe.

I believe it is because we no longer allow them to have independence, even in the safety of our neighborhoods.

Having a healthy and safe community within our neighborhoods, in my opinion, is an important key to helping instill confidence within our children. And if you're not familiar with who your neighbors are, now would be a good time to introduce yourself and get to know them. You can create events for parents and kids to get to know one another.

When we were young, we played together, ALONE, with no parental involvement. Those experiences taught us how to manage relationships, solve conflicts, and build community. All of us were raised by the village and that is how God wants it.



A young girl with long brown hair, wearing a pink dress and white sneakers, is running away from the camera on a dirt path. The path is surrounded by green bushes and trees. In the background, there are rolling hills and a bright sunset or sunrise sky with soft clouds. The entire image is framed by a thick red border.

“...for God gave
us a spirit not
of fear but of
power and love
and self-
control.”

– 2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV)

Studies have shown that every fear your child sees in you becomes their fear, yet that fear does not always show as fear; it can show as lack of self-control. The scripture stated by Timothy is one that shows what fear takes away from us, which is power, love, and self-control. Confidence cannot exist without these three components. So, it is important that you use them to battle fear by taking power over your fears, love God through them, and self-control will follow.

In the year of COVID, it was painful to watch my students at school be so fearful. Parents instilled difficult restrictions and regulations to their child's daily lives that exposed them to uncertainties that were confusing and inconsistent. Study after study has shown us that our children under the age of 21 had the lowest possibility of getting a severe case of COVID, yet adults continued to share the fear and thus created a generation of anxiety, OCD, and unfortunately, suicide in children as young as eight. Being afraid within reason is important; it keeps us from doing something stupid. But the spirit of fear will take you outside of the importance of reason and lead to bad decisions, limited choices, and paralyzation that can confine a normally healthy person.



Our children need us to be a pillar for them when the world is screaming apocalypse; take a deep breath and DO YOUR RESEARCH. Don't be bullied by those around you; you know your child. Children feed off our energy so it's good for us to stay calm. Educate your kids as you educate yourself through world events and headlines. Help them find a balance between what they see and hear and what is the truth. Let them help make the plan; this will make it easier for them to understand and for you to be firm about the decisions you make as a family for safety, guidance, and fun.

So now you may be asking yourself, "But how do I face my fears?" I suggest you find a piece of paper, a pen, and write down EVERYTHING that scares you. Then take a highlighter and mark the fears you think you could overcome if given the chance. Next, mentally replace fear with faith; step out, taking your kids with you as you overcome each one. Your children need to see that everything can be conquered through the power of Christ Jesus.





CAROLYN DAVIS

AS FOR ME AND MY COMMUNITY
CAROLYNJEANDAVIS.COM

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WALK ALONE WHAT A BOOK FELLOWSHIP TAUGHT ME ABOUT COMMUNITY

My name is Carolyn Davis. I am a speaker, author, biblical counselor, and coach who helps Christian women move from bondage and pain to freedom unchained through Christ.

This article focuses on community and the importance of not walking through life alone. Through leading a Reading Fellowship based on my book, *Squeezed to*

Please, I witnessed women encourage one another, grow spiritually, and experience meaningful life change. What started as a book discussion became a community. Here are five lessons that experience taught me about the power of biblical community.

Recently, I had the privilege of leading a Reading Fellowship based on my book, *Squeezed to Please: Six Steps to Quit People-Pleasing and Find Freedom in*

Christ. The purpose was simple: gather women together to discuss biblical principles for overcoming people-pleasing and finding freedom in Christ.

What I did not expect was how much the experience would teach me about community.

Week after week, women showed up, shared their stories, encouraged one another, prayed for one another, and celebrated victories together. What began as a book discussion became something much deeper—a community. Through that experience, I was reminded of five important truths about community.

1 COMMUNITY REMINDS US WE ARE NOT ALONE

Many of us carry burdens silently. We often assume no one understands our struggles, fears, disappointments, or challenges.

Yet when people come together and begin sharing honestly, they often discover they are not alone. There is comfort in knowing others have faced similar battles and have experienced God's faithfulness through them.



The Bible reminds us:

"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up," (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 KJV).

One of the beautiful things I witnessed during our fellowship was women encouraging one another simply by sharing their stories. What felt isolating suddenly became something they no longer had to carry alone.

2 COMMUNITY CREATES A SAFE PLACE FOR GROWTH

Real growth happens when we move beyond surface conversations and allow ourselves to be honest.

Community provides opportunities to learn, grow, and become more aware of the areas where God is working in our lives. It creates an environment where people can ask questions, wrestle with truth, and take steps toward change.

**"CONFESS YOUR FAULTS ONE TO ANOTHER, AND PRAY
ONE FOR ANOTHER, THAT YE MAY BE HEALED,"**
(JAMES 5:16 KJV)

As women shared their journeys, they found freedom in bringing struggles into the light. Growth happened not because anyone was perfect, but because they were willing to be honest and allow God's Word to do its work.

One participant described the experience this way:

"It feels like medicine is coming to my sickness. It feels like healing. God's Word is explained in bite-sized pieces with clarity and application. I'm excited about the changes."

— Reading Fellowship Participant

3 COMMUNITY ENCOURAGES US TO KEEP GOING

Life has a way of wearing us down.

There are seasons when we feel discouraged, overwhelmed, or tempted to give up. During those times, God often uses other people to strengthen and encourage us.

“AND LET US CONSIDER ONE ANOTHER TO PROVOKE UNTO LOVE AND TO GOOD WORKS: NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, AS THE MANNER OF SOME IS; BUT EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER: AND SO MUCH THE MORE, AS YE SEE THE DAY APPROACHING,”
(HEBREWS 10:24–25 KJV)

The women in our fellowship regularly encouraged one another through prayer, Scripture, and shared experiences. Sometimes a simple word of encouragement was exactly what someone needed to hear that week.

4 COMMUNITY HELPS CARRY THE LOAD

None of us were designed to carry life's burdens alone.

“BEAR YE ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS, AND SO FULFIL THE LAW OF CHRIST,”
(GALATIANS 6:2 KJV)

Community gives us people who will stand beside us during difficult seasons. Sometimes the greatest gift we can offer another person is our presence, our prayers, and our willingness to listen.

One of the things that touched me most during our follow-up gathering was hearing the women express a desire to continue meeting, encouraging one another, and even gathering for prayer. It reminded me that community becomes especially meaningful when people are willing to help carry one another's burdens.

5 COMMUNITY POINTS US BACK TO CHRIST

The greatest benefit of biblical community is not simply friendship—it is spiritual growth. Healthy community continually points us back to Christ, His Word, and His promises.

“LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY IN ALL WISDOM; TEACHING AND ADMONISHING ONE ANOTHER IN PSALMS AND HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS, SINGING WITH GRACE IN YOUR HEARTS TO THE LORD,”
(COLOSSIANS 3:16 KJV)

Months after the fellowship ended, the women shared how God had continued to work in their lives. Several spoke about spiritual growth and positive changes in how they now approach life. One woman shared that family members, friends, and even people in her church had noticed the difference.

That is the beauty of Christ-centered community. As we encourage one another in God's Word, He changes us from the inside out.

Another participant reflected:

"This Word-centered, transformative book fellowship has made me look at my own sin and idols at the root and not just the fruit they produce. I am having an amazing time growing in grace through this book."

— Reading Fellowship Participant





FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT

What started as a Reading Fellowship around a book became a powerful reminder that God never intended us to walk alone.

Recently, I reconnected with the women from the fellowship. As we talked, they shared how much they missed meeting together and how grateful they were for the encouragement, accountability, prayer, and growth they experienced. What began as a book discussion had become a community.

Their experience reminded me that people often come together for one reason but stay connected for another. While the book provided the foundation, the relationships that developed became a source of encouragement and support long after the fellowship ended.

In a world where loneliness is common, God's design remains the same. He created us for relationship—with Him and with one another.

If you are carrying burdens alone today, I encourage you to take a step toward community. Join a small group, participate in a Bible study, start a book club, or simply reach out to someone you trust.

You may discover what we did: some of life's greatest growth, healing, and freedom happen when we realize we do not have to walk alone.

TWO WAYS TO WORK WITH CAROLYN
GRAB YOUR COPY OF HER BOOK OR SET UP A PRIVATE SESSION TODAY



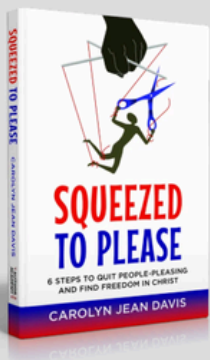
**ARE YOU READY TO
STOP LETTING FEAR
PARALYZE AND
MANAGE YOUR LIFE?**

BOOK A SESSION WITH CAROLYN

SQUEEZED TO PLEASE: **6 Steps to Quit People-Pleasing and Find Freedom in Christ**

Pain has a way of squeezing us and bringing what is inside us to the outside. Have you ever been squeezed? What comes out of you? How do you respond to life's squeezes? Do you want to deal with what squeezes you God's way? This book is for you.

Everybody has pain, but not everybody goes to God to deal with it. Instead, we run to unfulfilling or enslaving things to escape the pain. Carolyn can testify to this truth. Life squeezed her, and what came out of her was people-pleasing and living for approval to escape the pain of rejection. God set her free and now uses her experience to set others free.



ORDER THE BOOK