



365 DAYS  
OF ENDURING STRENGTH  
FROM GOD'S WORD

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# PREVAIL

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SUSIE LARSON

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BETHANYHOUSE

*a division of Baker Publishing Group*  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

© 2020 by Susie Larson

Published by Bethany House Publishers  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
www.bethanyhouse.com

Bethany House Publishers is a division of  
Baker Publishing Group, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Printed in China

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is on file at the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

ISBN 978-0-7642-3393-7 (cloth edition)

ISBN 978-0-7642-4192-5 (deluxe edition)

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Cover design by Kathleen Lynch/Black Kat Design

Cover art and interior art on pages 13, 42–3, 72–3, 102–3, 132–3, 162–3, 192–3, 222–3, 252–3, 282–3, 312–3, 342–3, and 372–3 by Joyce Klassen; “Acrylic Pour.” Remaining interior art by Paul Higdon. Interior design by William Overbeeke

Author represented by The Steve Laube Agency

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To Jesus . . .  
*The more I know You, the more I love You;  
I cannot wait to see You face to face*

To my husband, Kev . . .  
*Your patient persistence and humble strength  
make God's love absolutely tangible to me*

And to you, my dear reader . . .  
*I pray that each day's reading for you is divinely timed.  
I pray God's Word comes alive and fans the flame  
within you. And I pray Jesus grants you a fresh revelation  
of His love, His power, and His divine purpose for you*

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# Introduction

God is on a rescue mission. We could never jump high enough or perform well enough to save ourselves, so Love came down to rescue us. He made a way where there was otherwise no way to secure our eternity, no way to begin the miracle work of inner transformation within us. If you are in Christ, *Christ is in you!*

God is profoundly committed to us. We're prone to wander. He is utterly faithful to His promises; we tend to forget those promises. His mercies are new every morning and His compassions never fail. We're the ones who turn on ourselves. God sees the big picture while noticing every nuance of our story. Our gaze either drops to our feet and we forget about faith, or we stare off into an imaginary world where the enemy reigns and God has seemingly forgotten us because we've forgotten all about love. Yet in it all, Jesus beckons us to follow Him and, in the process, we become more like Him.

Jesus came to destroy the work of the devil. When we're perfected in love, fear no longer has the last say in our lives. When we remember who we are, the enemy doesn't get away with as much as he used to. The whole arc of Scripture is God's love letter to the ones He created. Everything He does, He does for love. Everything He asks of us is for our good and for His glory. I want everything He has for me. Don't you?

God wants us to *prevail*—to prove we're more powerful than our enemy. He wants us to overcome every battle with increasing courage and strength.

I've learned that whenever I ask for more from God, He asks for more from me.

As you align your life—every part of it—with His Word and His ways, you *will* find freedom, wholeness, and redemption you never dreamed possible. Use this book in a way that best suits you. Read chronologically from Genesis to Revelation, or read only by topic. I'm praying for you as you work your way through these pages. I'm so very honored to get to spend this time with you.

Affectionately His,

*Susie Larson*

# Build an Altar

Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your descendants.” And Abram built an altar there and dedicated it to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Genesis 12:7

*W*e have to let go of the old to lay hold of the new. We have to leave what’s comfortable if we want to experience God as our provider, our defender, and our way-maker. God called Abram away from everything he knew to a land God had not yet revealed. But God’s promise to Abram far outweighed his need to know every detail about the journey ahead. It’s the same for you and me. We are pilgrims, traveling to a most holy city. And God’s promise over us far outweighs our need to control every twist and turn. We’re on a need-to-know basis, and when we need to know, God will let us know! But this we do know: The land ahead is a good land. And our good God will ensure we make it to our new home safely. Will you pause today and build an altar of remembrance? Before you take another step, remember His faithfulness. Remember His goodness. It’ll strengthen you for the road ahead.

**LEARN** ▶ Read Genesis 12:1–9.

**FLOURISH** ▶ As pilgrims, we’re always on our way to a next place of promise. Take some time today and “build an altar.” Make note of this sacred place where you now stand. God is in this place. How would you describe the holy ground beneath your feet? What treasures will you take with you to your next place?

**PRAY**

*You are here with me. I pause today to remember Your presence in my life. Thank You, Lord.*

# Release and Trust

“The whole countryside is open to you. Take your choice of any section of the land you want, and we will separate. If you want the land to the left, then I’ll take the land on the right. If you prefer the land on the right, then I’ll go to the left.”

Genesis 13:9

*W*e can go through life one of two ways: We can posture for position, constantly trying to maintain control, or we can live wholly submitted to God, trusting Him with every step. But did you know that God will never bless faithless posturing? He won’t pour provision into a clenched fist. Both Abram and Lot acquired great wealth. Soon the herdsmen began to bicker, and the two men needed to part ways. Abram gave Lot first choice of the land. Though Lot had benefited greatly from Abram’s constant generosity, he still grabbed for himself the best share of land, even though it meant he’d live among the ungodly. His story didn’t end well. Scarcity and abundance both reveal the condition of our hearts in different ways. If we’ll grab for ourselves in difficult times, we’ll grab for ourselves when there’s more than enough to go around. As Christ-followers, it’s always a good idea to refuse selfishness, to open our hands and receive and release. We can trust God.

## LEARN

Read Genesis 13.

## FLOURISH

No matter which season you find yourself in at the moment, determine to release your grip on anything you’re holding too tight. Breathe in faith. Exhale fear. And know that God does His best work through His surrendered saints.

## PRAY

*You come to me with open-handed provision, so I come to You with open-handed trust. You’ve always provided, so I have nothing to fear. I trust You, Lord. Amen.*

# Deal with the Disconnect

Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, but he laughed to himself in disbelief. “How could I become a father at the age of 100?” he thought. “And how can Sarah have a baby when she is ninety years old?”

Genesis 17:17

God promised Abraham that the generations would come through Abraham and Sarah. His response? He bowed low. *But he laughed on the inside.* How often do we do the same? We sing about God’s faithfulness, but do we really believe He’ll do the *impossible* in our situation? When the gap widens between what our outward “Christian” actions reflect and what our inward beliefs reveal, we must make note of it (but without condemnation). We often arrive here because we’re weary in the waiting or tired from battle. But we must not allow the gap to linger within us for very long. Reengage your faith today. Remember, God can do in a moment what takes us a lifetime to accomplish. And when faith awakens your heart *and* inspires your actions? Well, that’s the stuff of miracles.

**LEARN** Read Genesis 17:15–17.

**FLOURISH** It’s time to deal with the disconnect. God is better than we know and He’s kinder than we can fathom! Remind your soul today that NOTHING is impossible with Him! Wrestle with God and contend for His promises until you believe them again. Your faith is so very precious to Him.


**PRAY**

*Precious Lord,*

*You are a faithful God! Show me the gap that exists between what I do and what I truly believe, and then fill in those empty spaces with more of You. Awaken my heart and I will engage my faith. Do the impossible in my life. In Your name, I pray. Amen.*

# When Our Unbelief Speaks

So Abraham said to God, “May Ishmael live under your special blessing!”  
Genesis 17:18

ut of the heart, the mouth speaks. When we’ve waited long to see a breakthrough or a fulfillment of a promise, our hearts grow faint. Unless we regularly take the time to strengthen ourselves in the Lord and remind ourselves of His faithfulness, unbelief and even offense will settle into our souls. In due time our own words, which reflect the condition of our hearts, will diminish our own faith. Abraham and Sarah had waited long for their promise. When the time of fulfillment was upon them, they laughed in unbelief and Abram tried to edit God’s promise by telling God where the blessing would land! Pay attention to how you talk about the longings of your heart. What do they reveal? Your faith is precious to Him. There are no time constraints on God’s ability to do what He will do. If He’s making you wait, it’s because He’s making you ready. May God bless you with a fresh and hopeful expectancy today. May your words inspire hope and reflect your actively engaged faith!

**LEARN** ▶ Read Genesis 18:1–14.

**FLOURISH** ▶ Has unbelief or offense settled into your soul? Today’s a good day to remember and rehearse the things God has promised you. Talk about them. Sing about them. Remember them.

**PRAY**

*Lord, I believe; help my unbelief! Help me remember the promises You’ve made to me. I’ve got to remember in the darkness what You told me in the light. I know Your voice. I know what I heard. I know what Your Word says. Fan the flame of faith within me today. I choose to trust You. Amen.*

# God's Wisdom and Revelation

“Should I hide my plan from Abraham?” the LORD asked. “For Abraham will certainly become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed through him.”

Genesis 18:17–18

*W*as God talking to himself here? Wondering out loud? We know this: God knows the end from the beginning. Our days are established before Him. He knows the plans He has for us and they are good plans. He also knows what troubles lie ahead for us and He intends to be intimately near during such times. In and through His wisdom, God reveals what we need to know. Scripture also tells us that He confides in (tells secrets to) those who fear Him. Eventually God told Abraham about His plan. Interestingly, that occurred just after Abraham radically trusted God with his future. Could there be a connection between our obedient faith steps and God's revelation in our lives? Absolutely. As we walk intimately with Him, He reveals His heart and His ways to us. Upward and onward we go.

**LEARN** Read Genesis 22:1–18.

**FLOURISH** God has some great plans and good gifts up His sovereign sleeve, and they're assigned to you! He wants to give you insight into your story and your future. He wants to fill you with hope. He wants you to persevere. Do you believe Him enough to trust Him? What would reverence and obedience look like for you today? Don't delay. Trust and obey.

**PRAY**

*Nobody modeled trust, obedience, and faith like You. And Your life was marked by wisdom, power, and revelation. Give me a heart to do Your will. Please reveal Your heart and Your ways to me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*



# How to Lose Your Credibility

So Lot rushed out to tell his daughters' fiancés, "Quick, get out of the city! The LORD is about to destroy it." But the young men thought he was only joking.

Genesis 19:14

**A**braham interceded for the city of Sodom because God was about to destroy it. (His nephew lived there, and Abraham hoped to influence God's decision.) He begged God to promise not to destroy the city if He could find even a small remnant of righteous people still there—perhaps fifty people, or forty, or even ten. But Sodom's sins had piled so high, there weren't even *ten* individuals who feared God within its borders. Imagine! God sent angels to warn Lot about the coming destruction. But when Lot tried to warn his family, they thought he was joking. They didn't take him seriously. Lot had camped among the ungodly for so long, he lost his credibility. Lot didn't live a set-apart life, so his words didn't carry much weight. Most compromise happens subtly. A fallen pastor once explained it to me this way: "I kept changing the rules, a little at a time." We are drifters by nature, and the drift happens subtly. May God recapture your heart today.

## LEARN

Read Genesis 19.

## FLOURISH

Ask God to show you if you've blended with society in a way that's affected your testimony. Get with God and make things right again. Repent, reset your course, and ask God to fill you afresh with the convicting and assuring work of the Holy Spirit.

## PRAY

*Show me how my little compromises have affected my relationship with You. Show me how my justifications have diminished Your life-giving power in my life. Call me up higher with You. In Your name, I pray. Amen.*