



# Marvelous

The Binder Co. Devotionals  
February 2019

[www.emilyfurda.com/thebinderco](http://www.emilyfurda.com/thebinderco)

Welcome to The Binder Co.: a do-it-yourself devotional and journaling experience for women who desire to grow deeper in God's Word on a daily basis. All you need is a 3-ring binder and a printer to get started — for free!

#### ABOUT THE BINDER CO.

The Binder Co exists to help women dive deeper into their faith and connect with others through free monthly eBooks of devotionals written by women for women. Every aspect of The Binder Co. is run by volunteers. Once a month, we release a free ebook with daily devotionals, corresponding scriptures, and daily challenges to help put what we learn into action. These daily devotionals are free to read, download, and print anytime. You can use them for yourself, your small group, friend group, or church group!

#### GET INVOLVED

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#### A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Binder Co. (originally called Her Binder Project) was started in 2014 by Morgan Harper Nichols as a way to challenge herself to dig deeper into God's Word and put her faith into action on a daily basis. Even though she originally started writing and designing these for herself, she felt the Lord leading her to share it with others. It has grown more than anyone could imagine. You can learn more about Morgan at [morganharpernichols.com](https://morganharpernichols.com)

When I was 11 years old, my worship dance teacher gave all of the dancers a small hot pink booklet of devotionals for Christmas. That was my first devotional, and I fell in love with studying God's word and learning how to apply it to my life. I've rarely been without a daily devotional since then. When Morgan asked me to help with The Binder Co. in 2016, it was a dream come true to be able to write devotionals. This ministry and the women who read every day captured my heart. The more I became involved as a writer, editor, and project manager, the more it became a part of me.

In 2018, Morgan asked me if she could give me The Binder Co. I was speechless, which rarely happens. It was not an easy decision for her or one made lightly by myself. My joy comes when I see women come alive as they study each month. I'm studying and learning along with you. Today, thousands of women are joining this project each month, and I am so grateful for each one of you!

-Emily Furda Director, Editor In Chief [emilyfurda.com](https://emilyfurda.com) [instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://instagram.com/emilyfurda)

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The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

*I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
Marvelous are Your works,  
And that my soul knows very well.  
Psalm 139:14 NKJV*

3  
**Ephesians 2:10**  
Write today's Scripture in your own words.

4  
**Matthew 14:13-21**  
Make a list of 5 things you do well. It can be anything Do at least one thing from that list this week.

5  
**Zephaniah 3:17**  
Listen to "Beautiful" by Micah Tyler.  
[youtu.be/U8qx\\_HJU1I4](https://youtu.be/U8qx_HJU1I4)

6  
**1 John 4:16**  
What does it mean to rely on and abide in God's love? Journal your thoughts.

7  
**2 Corinthians 12:9**  
Listen to "Grace Wins" by Matthew West.  
[youtu.be/9JX11czvh7g](https://youtu.be/9JX11czvh7g)

1  
**Psalm 139:14**  
Write out today's scripture and place it where you'll see it all month. Also, journal about what it means to be marvelous and how you feel about being called marvelous.

2  
**Romans 8:37-39**  
Listen to "Come as You Are" by Crowder.  
[youtu.be/yjgioXrnEME](https://youtu.be/yjgioXrnEME)

8  
**1 John 1:9**  
Write out today's verse in your own words.

9  
**Matthew 6:33**  
Journal about what it means to seek God first. Then, make a list of 3-5 goals or dreams you have for your life, and journal about if you're seeking God first or your own plans.

10  
**Romans 15:7**  
Listen to "Love Somebody" by Francesca Battistelli.  
[youtu.be/vmc-Z6wDkOg](https://youtu.be/vmc-Z6wDkOg)

11  
**Romans 3:23-24**  
Memorize today's verse, and journal about how accepting God's grace changes how you feel about yourself.

12  
**Psalm 18:32-33 and 2 Peter 1:3**  
Are there any areas in your life where you're trying to do things on your own or are afraid to as God for help? Journal your thoughts and how today's scripture impacts you.

13  
**1 Timothy 4:12**  
What good things do you see in yourself? What good things do you think might be there, but are afraid to admit? Write a letter to yourself as if you were encouraging someone you love.

14  
**Isaiah 61:3**  
Listen to "Beauty for Ashes" by Crystal Lewis feat. Ron Kenoly.  
[youtu.be/C2aOnSJcDpw](https://youtu.be/C2aOnSJcDpw)

15  
**Galatians 3:13-14**  
What does it mean to you to be redeemed? What does it mean to live in freedom? How does that impact you seeing yourself as marvelous? Journal your thoughts.

16  
**Ecclesiastes 3:11**  
How does knowing God promises to make all things beautiful in its time affect how you feel about your life? Journal your thoughts.

17  
**Isaiah 62:3**  
Listen to "Diamonds" by Hawk Nelson.  
[youtu.be/Yf1ARbpB0gA](https://youtu.be/Yf1ARbpB0gA)

18  
**1 Samuel 16:7**  
What areas of your life are you tempted to compare to others? Journal and pray over those, asking God to show you what's exciting about where you are in your unique journey.

19  
**Matthew 6:29-30**  
How does today's reading impact how you see your worth in God's eyes? Journal your thoughts. Also, encourage a friend today who may not see her unique beauty.

20  
**2 Corinthians 1:3-4**  
Listen to "Be Loved" by Christy Nockels.  
[youtu.be/MbUPubPIQjg](https://youtu.be/MbUPubPIQjg)

21  
**Psalm 25:15**  
What perceived imperfections are distracting you from finding your worth in Christ? Journal about them asking God how He sees you.

22  
**2 Corinthians 4:7-9**  
Listen to "Shattered" by Blanca.  
[youtu.be/KmKoyNXL5WE](https://youtu.be/KmKoyNXL5WE)

23  
**Matthew 1:1-17**  
Using the further reading scriptures, choose at least one woman to read about and journal about how reading her story impacts your view of yourself.

24  
**Proverbs 31:30**  
Write today's verse in your own words and journal about how it applies to your daily life.

25  
**Isaiah 62:1**  
Make a list of at least 5 positive changes you have made in your lifetime.

26  
**James 5:16**  
Listen to "What if We Were Real" by Mandisa.  
[youtu.be/BcLYkUb5Kco](https://youtu.be/BcLYkUb5Kco)

27  
**Psalm 20:7**  
What areas in your life are you lacking confidence? Journal and pray over them, asking God to show you how He sees you.

28  
**Psalm 34:5**  
How has your view about being marvelous changed this month? Journal your thoughts and listen to "Radiate" by Hannah Kerr.  
[youtu.be/hO9LCmjm5f0](https://youtu.be/hO9LCmjm5f0)

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[emilyfurda.com/thebinderco](https://emilyfurda.com/thebinderco)*

*I will praise You, for  
I am fearfully and  
wonderfully made;  
Marvelous are  
Your works,  
And that my soul  
knows very well.  
Psalm 139:14 NKJV*

**Thursday, February 1**

*Devotional written by Emily Furda*

*Read Psalm 139:14*

Do you see yourself as marvelous?

At some point in our lives we all struggle with seeing ourselves as God sees us. Often, it's a lifelong battle that started when we were little girls. For some of us, we might not even know how it feels to even tolerate ourselves, let alone see ourselves as marvelous. Seeing ourselves as marvelous may feel odd or even uncomfortable. Sometimes, we even believe seeing ourselves as anything good is prideful and a sin, but it's not.

This month's scripture is a challenge to everything negative we, or others, think about us. Look closely at it. One short verse gives us three very important truths.

1. God made us
2. What God does is marvelous.
3. We can believe we are marvelous.

God created you. If everything God does is marvelous, that means you are marvelous.

Reading those words may feel completely foreign to you. Perhaps you can see the logic, but it just feels wrong or untrue about you. Maybe you can't even get to the point where the logic makes sense. That's okay. There's no condemnation for how you feel.

This month of devotionals is about the third lesson in the verse: knowing we are marvelous. We'll learn what God says about us and how we can silence the voices of others and ourselves that so often condemn us. We'll learn how to see ourselves as marvelous, not just okay or average, marvelous.

You are loved. You have immeasurable value. You were created for a good reason. You are marvelous. Now, it's time to learn just how marvelous you are.

**Daily Challenge**

Write out today's scripture and place it where you'll see it all month. Also, journal about what it means to be marvelous and how you feel about being called marvelous.

*Written by Emily Furda*

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**Saturday, February 2**

*Devotional written by Emily Furda*

*Read Romans 8:37-39*

When you're hurting, no matter what the reason, God's love can feel far away. On the inside, you can feel anything but beautiful. Do you feel as if something from your past is keeping you from being free and experiencing God's love? You are not alone. Everyone has parts of their lives they wish never happened. Sometimes you can't seem to let go of a mistake you made. Deep inside you wonder if it's that "one thing" God will always hold against you. You're afraid to tell anyone, especially God.

Things others have done to you can also hang like a heavy weight around you. Words spoken to you, bullying, or abuse has a way of making you feel unworthy even when you're innocent. Sometimes it's something someone said or did and they don't even remember. Others may dismiss it as trivial but to you it's a deep wound. The apostle Paul knew what it was like to be the one inflicting pain and the one receiving it. Before he became the man of God who wrote today's passage, he was known for persecuting Christians. Later, He was the one who was thrown in prison simply for preaching the gospel. Yet Paul was convinced of one thing: nothing could separate Him from God's love.

Paul knew He couldn't earn God's love. He knew that being declared as righteous and being set free was something only Jesus could do for him. Jesus wants to do that for you too, if you'll let Him. It was true for the Apostle Paul, and it's true for you today! God is not condemning you. You are marvelous whether or not you feel it. No matter what you've done or what's been done to you, always remember it cannot separate you from God's love.

**Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Come as You Are" by Crowder. [youtu.be/ygioXrnEME](https://youtu.be/ygioXrnEME)

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Sunday, February 3*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read Ephesians 2:10*

Never confuse your perception of yourself with the mystery that you really are accepted." Brennan Manning- The Ragamuffin Gospel

How do you perceive yourself? What kinds of thoughts do you whisper to yourself when no one is listening? Are you thinking about how much God loves you and all the amazing things He sees in you, or are you berating yourself with a list of reasons why you'll never measure up? Do you want to move forward, try something new, or even express your thoughts, but feel like you can't?

Many times, we don't need others to make hold us back or make us feel inferior. We do an amazing job at that all by ourselves. Often, our perceptions of ourselves don't line up with how God sees us. Today's reading tells us:

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

How does that verse line up with what you think about yourself? You are his precious and loved creation. You're marvelously priceless. There is no exception to that. No matter what you think about yourself, God made you a marvelous one of a kind because this world needs you. You belong here.

#### ***Daily Challenge***

Write today's Scripture in your own words.

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### *Monday, February 4*

*Devotional written by by Christine Perry  
Read Matthew 14:13-21*

Have you ever felt insignificant? As if your gifts and abilities weren't enough? Have you ever not tried because your attempt would be so minuscule?

If we are being honest, we have all been there at one time or another, but the amazing thing is that when we give God the little things that we have, He can use it. In fact, He can also multiply it.

Look at the boy who had the five loaves and two fish. God multiplied it to feed five thousand!

Do you have the gift of writing? God could use it to mend hearts. Do you have the gift of music? God could use it to encourage people whose hope has faded. Do you have the ability to make crafts? God could use that to be reminders for people that God's love never runs out. Your gift may seem minuscule to you, but the God who breathed the stars into place can use your gifts and talents to further his kingdom in ways you never thought possible.

So, whatever your gifts may be, allow God to use them. It will bring joy to His heart seeing you use what He's given to you that makes you marvelous.

#### ***Daily Challenge***

Make a list of 5 things you do well. It can be anything from organizing, to being excellent at finding information people need online, to something like singing. Do at least one thing from that list this week. It doesn't even have to be something spiritual. Just use your gift.

*Written by Christine Perry*  
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### *Tuesday, February 5*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read Zephaniah 3:17*

Have you ever heard a love song and thought it was so sweet how much someone loved another person? Even the most trivial of details or what someone may think of as flaws are celebrated and adored by another. That's exactly how God feels about you. He celebrates who you are. He sees every tiny detail about you. Matthew 10:30 tells us:

And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. NIV

He knows every hair on your head, even the ones that have turned grey, the ones that have fallen out, or the ones that stick up no matter how much hairspray you use. Your beauty and worth comes from how God, your creator, sees you. If He takes the time to number each hair, you can be sure He knows every detail about you. You're His daughter and His creation. If the God who created you sings over you, then surely your beauty is incomparable, and you are marvelous.

#### ***Daily Challenge***

Listen to "Beautiful" by Micah Tyler. [youtu.be/U8qx\\_HJU1I4](https://youtu.be/U8qx_HJU1I4)

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### Wednesday, February 6

Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read 1 John 4:16

The Lord doesn't stop loving you when other people do. He doesn't leave when other people leave. Let His love be your hope in both lonely and satisfactory moments of life. Let His love be what makes you marvelous. Through good and bad, He loves you.

He loves you when  
... the situation at work that has you feeling worthless.  
... there is a lack of a response about a scholarship or a job that has you feeling overlooked.  
... the seemingly uninteresting life of yours that has you feeling not good enough.  
... the loss relationship of friendship that has you feeling empty.  
... the night you stayed up worrying that has you tired and stressed.

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them 1 John 4:16 NIV

Hold onto His love today.

#### **Daily Challenge**

What does it mean to rely on and abide in God's love? Journal your thoughts.

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### Thursday, February 7

Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read 2 Corinthians 12:9

If you're feeling like you've messed up too many times, if you're feeling like your weaknesses and struggles are getting the best of you, remember these words of the Apostle Paul:

Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. 2 Corinthians 12:9 NLT

God knows we are weak. He knows that we fall short. He knows that we need rescuing, which is why He sent Jesus Christ to save us. Trying to deal with our battles on our own without acknowledging that we need His perfect grace will get us nowhere. We are all imperfect and we are all in need of His perfect grace. So, say goodbye to those worries that God can never use you for the ministry, or that you're not qualified to have a fulfilling career, or smart enough to have an enjoyable college experience. Don't let those things define your worth or the beauty inside you.

Say goodbye to thinking that you can't grow in your faith because you've never been able to get closer to God in the past. God isn't asking you to give Him perfection. He's asking you to give Him all of you: flaws, awkwardness, weakness, shame, sin, and all. You cannot be destroyed by your imperfections when you know that you are saved by perfect grace.

Give it all to Him. Let Him set you free in Jesus's name, wrapping you in His perfect grace.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Grace Wins" by Matthew West. [youtu.be/9jXl1czvh7g](https://youtu.be/9jXl1czvh7g)

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### Friday, February 8

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole  
Read 1 John 1:9

When we desire to see our true beauty, we must search for it in the right place. We could try to find it in our appearances, our success, or in what others think of us, but these things will never sustain. They will not lead us to where our true beauty is from and will quickly let us down. To find our true beauty and worth, we must look to our creator and what He says about us.

Our worth and value doesn't come from how we look but from God and who He created us to be. His love and grace for us is enough on its own to give us value. It doesn't matter what we have done in the past, or what we will do in the future, because He has already paid the price.

We need to realize, Christ gave His life for us, so we could be free from sin. He loved us so much, He made a way for us. This gives us and value and worth. It makes it possible for us to see the beauty within us which He created. He purifies us and all our unrighteousness, so we are no longer covered in ugly sin but wrapped in His grace and mercy.

We can know, even when all our eyes want to see in us is mistakes and failures, there is more to us because of Christ and what He has done. He's made it possible for us to see the beautiful creation we truly are.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Write out today's verse in your own words.

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

*Saturday, February 9*

*Devotional written by Diane Marie*

*Read Matthew 6:33*

Ever since hashtags have been popular, the word “goals” has been a common part of them. Goals, squad goals, relationships goals, outfit goals, and others are commonly tagged all over social media. We look at other people’s lives and want to be like them.

While it’s not wrong to see the good in others’ lives and want to have that same good in our own lives, there’s a right way and a wrong way to go about it.

Let’s look at Matthew 6:33: But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. NIV

In other words, our ultimate “goals” should be to seek the kingdom of God and live a righteous life.

Now, take for example, relationship goals. Imagine you have a friend who just found a great guy and is newly married. They met at a Christian college, dated intentionally, and had a storybook romance. Of course, that looks great to you, and you want the same for your life. Is that wrong? No! It’s a godly thing to desire a godly relationship. The problem happens when suddenly the goal to get married overshadows your goal to seek the kingdom and live righteously.

When we take our eyes off of Jesus and set them on other goals, no matter how biblical or worthwhile those goals are, we can stray from the path that God has put us on. The plans He has for you are not exactly the same plans He has for your friends. Don’t focus on what others have; focus on Jesus. It’s your relationship with Him that makes you marvelous, not achieving your goals

Will you stray at times? Of course you will! Every one of us does. When it happens, don’t beat yourself up about it, just set your eyes back on the kingdom and keep seeking the Lord. Believe it or not, God has goals for your life, too. He had things prepared for you long before social media ever existed, before you even existed! Keep seeking Him and you will find that that’s really the only goal you need!

Daily Challenge

Journal about what it means to seek God first. Then, make a list of 3-5 goals or dreams you have for your life, and journal about if you’re seeking God first or your own plans.

*Written by Diane Marie*

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What stood out to you the most this week?

Journal, draw, write a poem, or write a prayer about it below.

## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Sunday, February 10*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read Romans 15:7*

Have you ever compared yourself to someone else? Often, we make assumptions about others. We deem someone else as more beautiful or worthier than ourselves. Other times we use comparison as a way to make us feel better about ourselves. Either way, comparisons and assumptions are a dangerous thing. They rob us of the chance of having rich friendships, hurt others, and put our self-worth in an unhealthy and unsteady place.

What if the thin, toned woman who intimidates you at the gym is insecure about how she looks? What if the woman who seems too wealthy to hang out with you is longing for a friend money can't buy? The woman you think doesn't like you because she rarely talks to anyone may simply be shy and not know how to approach you because your outgoing nature intimidates her. The woman who seems disinterested in the photos of your children may be dealing with her own pain because she doesn't have children. What if the one you look down on because she moved back home with her parents is struggling physically. Maybe the woman with the old car and worn out clothes has other, more pressing needs. What we see isn't always what is real.

Our circumstances don't exclude us from belonging. Look at Jesus and His disciples. They came from drastically different backgrounds. Some were fisherman, one was a tax collector (tax collectors were basically considered some of the worst people at the time), and many have unknown backgrounds. \* Jesus knew what things looked like on the outside aren't always an accurate reflection of who a person is. Each disciple brought something special. Every one of them belonged.

The same truth still stands today. No one is too different to belong. That is true about others, and it's true about you.

Our assumptions often ruin what could be amazing friendships. Dare to let go of your preconceived ideas about others and yourself. When you love somebody, you could change her world and yours in the best way possible.

### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Love Somebody" by Francesca Battistelli.  
[youtu.be/vmc-Z6wDkOg](https://youtu.be/vmc-Z6wDkOg)

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\*Further reading: Matthew 4:18-22 and 9:9-13

### *Monday, February 11*

*Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols*  
*Read Romans 3:23-24*

There is no such thing as a perfect woman, but perhaps in some way, you feel this pressure to meet some unrealistic standard of what a proper woman should be. Whether it has to do with the shape of your body, the kind of career you choose, or your current relationship status, there is likely some standard in your life right now that is stacked high against you, and as much you try to act like it's not there, you find yourself wondering, "Am I getting closer to the standard? Am I almost there? Am I good enough?"

The truth is, none of us are good enough. We will all at some point in time fall short of some standard place before us. In fact, according to Scripture, we have already fallen short of God's standard with our sin, however, there is good news. Though we have fallen short of the standard, we have not fallen short of grace. The perfection myth is wiped away and replaced with redemption. The brick wall of meeting standards is replaced with an open door where Jesus is saying, "I know all about your sins, but I am still welcoming you in. I know you don't feel like you're good enough and I know you don't feel like you deserve this, but you do. Come on in. There's freedom in here."

Walk through that door and say goodbye to trying to be good enough. Say goodbye to trying to meet unrealistic standards, and say hello to Jesus, who welcomes you in, flaws and all.

### **Daily Challenge**

Memorize today's verse, and journal about how accepting God's grace changes how you feel about yourself.

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### *Tuesday, February 12*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda*  
*Read Psalm 18:32-33 and 2 Peter 1:3*

Have you ever watched a deer quickly dash across a road or up a hillside? Her feet are so small and legs so tiny it's amazing she can balance. It looks like she's rock climbing in stilettos. Yet, she does it, and she does it with grace.

Deer are often running for survival. They're to escape the oncoming car, flee a predator, or simply reach a safe place to sleep for the night. Do you feel like that, as if you're constantly on the run, only unlike that deer, you're not so graceful or surefooted? On the outside you try to look the part, right down to the cute shoes, but you feel empty inside. Instead of gracefully climbing mountains, you break a heel and fall headfirst into the mud.

We think we know what we need to walk in the plans God has for us, but we don't. We set out in flip flops when we really should be wearing boots. We sometimes feel as if going to God for help makes us less than worthy in His eyes. We feel as if we should be able to meet our needs by ourselves, but God doesn't think less of you because you need help. He created you to need Him. God is the one who makes you marvelous. He promises to give you strength to climb over the mountains in your life, if you let Him. He alone knows what you need, and only He can give it.

When it feels as if you're stumbling, remember the promise that He will make your feet like the feet of a deer. Remember He has what you need and wants you to come to Him. You will be able to stand on places in your life that seem impossible, if you let Him be the one who not only chooses your path, but also your shoes.

### **Daily Challenge**

Are there any areas in your life where you're trying to do things on your own or are afraid to ask God for help? Journal your thoughts and how today's scripture impacts how you feel.

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Wednesday, February 13*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read 1 Timothy 4:12*

Not enough. How many times do you think that about yourself? Not old enough. Not young enough. Not experienced enough. Not new enough. Not thin enough. Not curvy enough. Not creative enough. Not disciplined enough. Sometimes it seems as if you're never "enough."

What exactly is "enough" anyhow?

So often, in our minds we have a standard of what we think is enough, what we think is perfect, yet we never seem to meet it. Even if we finally feel as if we measure up in one area, we see a hundred other areas where we don't feel qualified. We want to step out and serve God with the gifts He's given us, but we just don't feel like we're enough.

In today's reading, Paul wanted Timothy to know he was enough. Timothy was young, but Paul wanted him to know it didn't matter. In fact, he told him to not listen to the opinions of others, and instead be an example. The same is true for you. Whatever you feel disqualifies you from serving God now, is no obstacle in His eyes. He wants you to shine for Him. God says you are enough.

#### **Daily Challenge**

What good things do you see in yourself? What good things do you think might be there, but are afraid to admit? Write a letter to yourself, encouraging yourself as if you were encouraging someone you love.

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### *Thursday, February 14*

*Devotional written by Danielle Nicole  
Read Isaiah 61:3*

Your beauty is not only found in how you look, but in the victories you carry from all the trials you've been through. When you fight through a hard time, it allows God to bring the beauty to your life you probably never expected to receive.

Even though you may feel like a mess while you are going through these obstacles, it's okay. Having true beauty doesn't mean you have everything together and in place. Beauty is found when you are in the hard times, and when you find yourself in a place of needing God to fill you with strength and courage.

We won't always see the beauty in the situation right away, but God will show it to you in His timing. It might take surrendering your situation to Him and after that, trust, but doing this won't take away from any of the beauty this time brings. For it is when we learn to trust God with our struggles, that the real beauty comes out.

So even as you walk through different seasons of your life, know that God can bring beauty out of every situation. You will see beauty in the courage and strength He gives you, and in all the ways He will lead you through these times, no matter how hard the season can be.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Beauty for Ashes" by Crystal Lewis feat. Ron Kenoly.  
<https://youtu.be/C2aOnSjcDpw>

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### *Friday, February 15*

*Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read Galatians 3:13-14*

Don't ever feel like you can't move forward because of what happened yesterday. Haven't you come to know Jesus now? Haven't you been redeemed? If so, you can move forward.

You might be feeling like you cannot be all you're supposed to be in Christ because you've made too many mistakes or because you're not outgoing or charming enough like the famous preachers and leaders you see on social media and television. Oh, but that's not true at all!

God loves to use those who are broken. He loves to use the Gentiles and Jews, alike (people from completely different backgrounds). So, even though you may still deal with the consequences of your past, you are no longer enslaved to them. Your worth is not tied to them. Christ has already paid the penalty. He redeemed you, and you're free now. It's time to move forward in freedom.

#### **Daily Challenge**

What does it mean to you to be redeemed? What does it mean to live in freedom? How does that impact you seeing yourself as marvelous? Journal your thoughts.

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**Saturday, February 16**

*Devotional written by Danielle Nicole*

*Read Ecclesiastes 3:11*

Maybe you are in a season that has been bringing you down and convincing you to believe you aren't beautiful. You might feel like you are nowhere near who you desire to be and failing to measure up to the perfect image you are imagining. You must know, even when this is how you feel, you don't need to allow it to define you. God tells us in today's scripture, He will make everything beautiful in its own timing. You are an unfinished human, and God is not done making who you will become.

One thing to remember is, we can't compare where we are on our journey to where others are on theirs. We know we will be made beautiful in His timing, but we also need to know we won't all be made beautiful at the same time. Where one person might be on their walk with God isn't always going to be the same as you. We can't compare ourselves to others or where others are because it will only lead to us thinking of ourselves as less. Just because someone else is at a different point in her life doesn't make you any less valued or loved.

When we have a mindset of knowing God will make us beautiful in His timing, even with our flaws and mistakes, we can start to live with more confidence in ourselves. We can see, who we are is found in God, and God alone. We can have the peace of knowing our stories are not over yet, and God will continue to use our lives to display His glory, if we allow Him to.

So, even though you may feel like you aren't who you desire to be or haven't reached a point of your life you wish you had, it is no reason to give up. There is still so much more to your story and who you will become. God will finish what He has started and won't just leave you hanging here. He is still writing your story, just trust He knows what is best for you right now, in the season you are in.

**Daily Challenge**

Is there a part of your life you thought would be different by now? How does knowing God promises to make all things beautiful in its time affect how you feel about your life? Journal your thoughts.

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What stood out to you the most this week?

Journal, draw, write a poem, or write a prayer about it below.

## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Sunday, February 17*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read Isaiah 62:3*

Have you ever admired a beautiful jewel? When you walk into a high-end jewelry store the jewelry is usually in a locked display case. It is beautiful and meant to be seen, but it's beauty also makes it valuable. So, it's carefully protected.

The thing about jewels is, they don't start off beautify cut, sparkling and clean. Jewels are often mined. They're found underground in the dirt where it's dark. It takes hard work to find those jewels, and unless you know what you're looking for, it's easy to miss them. After they're taken out of the dirt and darkness, they have to be cleaned. Even then, some color can be seen, but they don't look impressive. It takes an expert jeweler to know how to carefully cut out the perfect jewel from the stone. He knows there is beauty inside, where to find it, and how to best bring it out.

That's exactly what God does for us. He sees us when we're stumbling in the dark covered in the dirt of our sin. He knows underneath it all is something priceless. When we choose Him as our Savior and Lord, we begin to show our true beauty. Then, each and every day, if we choose to let Him, like a master jeweler, He chips away anything that hinders our marvelousness and true beauty from sparkling.

He knows what's inside of you. He knows exactly what priceless, unique beauty you have and exactly how to bring it out. Every time you lay down your will in exchange for His, you sparkle just a little more. So, keep sparkling. You are a marvelous, priceless jewel.

### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Diamonds" by Hawk Nelson. [youtu.be/Yf1ARbpB0gA](https://youtu.be/Yf1ARbpB0gA)

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### *Monday, February 18*

*Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read 1 Samuel 16:7*

As women who follow Christ, we must embrace who God has called each us to be and not give in to competition or comparison. You're not going to look just like the women you go to church with and that's okay. You're not going to have the same set of successes as the people you go to school with or work with, but you also won't have the same failures. Embrace who YOU are in Christ and don't let the temptation to compare or think you're better than someone else stay in the way of that.

Oftentimes, it seems like if we want to be worth something, we have to constantly stay in competition with everyone else. If we want to keep up with our friends or family members, we have to post certain things on social media just to show our lives are just as interesting and exciting as theirs. We even feel pressure to try and outdo ourselves.

But this is a dangerous state of mind to be in.

Sure, it's exciting to plan ahead and to expect great things for your career, your education, your relationship, or your family, but keep in mind that while this might make you appear to be the "woman who has it all" in the eyes of man, God is searching much deeper.

As women who follow Christ, we have to let our idea of what we believe beauty and worth is start here. It doesn't start when we get that dream career, nor does it start when we get our dream house, or at our dream wedding. It starts with who we are in Christ!

### **Daily Challenge**

What areas of your life are you tempted to compare to others? Journal and pray over those, asking God to show you what's exciting about where you are in your unique journey.

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### *Tuesday, February 19*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read Matthew 6:29-30*

When we look at ourselves, often all we see are imperfections. We notice how we look different from others and want to be like them. We want a different nose, less wrinkles, to be taller, shorter, curvier, or have less curves. We wish we were more outgoing or wish we were more reserved so we don't stick out so much. We feel like we talk too much, or we wish we had the courage to speak up. The list could go on forever.

What if the things we long to change were the very things God gave us and finds beautiful?

Think about a field of wildflowers. There are so many colors. No two flowers look exactly the same, even if they're the same type of flower. Their uniqueness is what makes them beautiful. They're even more beautiful when they're together. A rose, a daisy, and a lily look nothing alike, but when they're placed in a bouquet, it's a beautiful site.

If God created each flower to be unique, and lovingly tends to it, why wouldn't He see us the same way? He even sees the wildflowers growing where no human will ever see them and appreciate their beauty. He sees them, and that's enough. Just like those flowers, He sees every marvelous detail about us, even when others don't, even when we don't. If God finds us marvelous. Why can't we do the same?

Instead of being embarrassed about who we are, what if we embraced it? What would happen if we all came together and used our uniqueness to make the world a more beautiful place?

Never be embarrassed about who you are. God created you with a good purpose in mind. You are marvelously unique.

### **Daily Challenge**

How does today's reading impact how you see your worth in God's eyes? Journal your thoughts. Also, encourage a friend today who may not see her unique beauty.

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Wednesday, February 20*

*Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4*

Take a moment and think about what reminds of you God's comfort. Is it a particular passage of scripture that comes to mind, a sermon you've heard, or a reminder from a friend? It is through God's comfort that you have what you need to continue.

The moment you start feel like you aren't pretty enough, smart enough, not outgoing enough, or good enough, remember Jesus is more than enough. Let His love be your comfort for any ounce of insecurity. Don't take those little moments throughout the day where you are reminded of His comfort for granted. Hold tight to His comfort today when it comes to all of your troubles. Even when it comes to questioning your inner beauty or worth, don't take God's comfort for granted.

It's easy to slip into a habit of denying or suppressing insecurities, but that's not what God would have for us to do at all. He wants us to go to Jesus even when it comes to the little things. even when we're feeling insecure because we're always excluded from the cliques at school or work, even when we don't think are gifts are "polished" enough to be used at church or to be involved in ministry, and even when someone has made us feel that we aren't as attractive or interesting as someone else.

Go to Jesus about all of these things. Don't walk around carrying those burdens telling yourself it's not that big of deal. You have nothing to be embarrassed about at the feet of Jesus. Anything that distracts you from who God has called you to be is a big enough deal to go to Jesus about it. As the Apostle Paul told the church of Corinth in today's passage, God is the God of comfort for ALL troubles. Not just some of them, all of them. So, go to Him with every single ounce of insecurity you may have, big or small.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Be Loved" by Christy Nockels.  
[youtu.be/MbUPubPIQjg](https://youtu.be/MbUPubPIQjg)

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### *Thursday, February 21*

*Devotional written by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read Psalm 25:15*

Don't let your imperfections become a distraction today. Just because you didn't meet your fitness goal, or you're not satisfied with your appearance, don't forget God is there to bring you through it. Keep your eyes ever on the Lord.

The enemy wants your imperfections to become like snares, trapping your feet to the ground so you can't escape them. He wants to you be focused on accomplishments, so the goal of your entire life becomes centered on them and you start drifting away from God. He wants you to be a slave to your job, your education, your looks, and whatever else has your attention so you'll spend more time devoted to those than you spend with your Heavenly Father.

It's not wrong to invest time in your education, your career, your appearance, and other things you're passionate about, but the core of what makes you who you are should be who you are in Christ. So, don't let the enemy get you distracted. Don't let him get you thinking your worth is in anything but Jesus.

God wants to release you from those snares and give you freedom in Jesus!

#### **Daily Challenge**

What perceived imperfections are distracting you from finding your worth in Christ? Journal about them asking God how He sees you.

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### *Friday, February 22*

*Devotional written by by Morgan Harper Nichols  
Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-9*

It may be tempting to look at the broken pieces of your story and tell yourself, "I'm no good." but, because of who your Creator is, that is never the case. He knows you are marvelous.

Each one of His children, including the ones who have been broken and shattered, are His treasure. Scripture reminds us over and over that God loves the broken. He puts us back together when we've fallen and when our lives have shattered into a thousand pieces.

Remember this today when you find yourself thinking about your last birthday and how much you were "supposed" to accomplish by that point but did not. Remember this when you're applying for a job and, over and over, you are reminded your experience isn't good enough. Remember this when it seems like you're the only girl on your college campus who doesn't get attention from any of the guys.

You may feel like you're all alone, trying to pick up the pieces of what's left of your confidence and self-worth. You may feel completely abandoned by those who said they would be there for you yet are nowhere to be found when things turn for the worst. Know God has not abandoned you! Day by day and piece by piece, He is putting you, His beautiful daughter, back together.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "Shattered" by Blanca. [youtu.be/KmKoyNXL5WE](https://youtu.be/KmKoyNXL5WE)

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

**Saturday, February 23**

*Devotional written by by Emily Furda*

*Read Matthew 1:1-17*

Think about these women for a minute. What's your first impression of them? The first woman was married to an evil man, became a young widow, and was horribly mistreated by his family. One woman was a prostitute. Another woman was young widow. Yet, another woman became pregnant with a child of the king of Israel, who had her husband killed in war, to save his reputation. Shortly after the birth, the baby died. Finally, a teenager became pregnant with a baby who was not her fiancé's.

Who are these women? They're Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary. Their stories are ones of heartache, bold choices, and hope. Tamar was forced to pretend to be a prostitute so her father-in-law would make sure her Biblical right to have a son would be fulfilled. Rahab risked death by helping the Israelite spies as they entered the promised land. Ruth chose to move to a foreign land and embrace God's commandments. Bathsheba taught her other son, Solomon, the importance of learning and applying God's teaching. Mary chose to risk public ridicule, even death by stoning, to be the mother of Jesus. They all had lives filled with pain or bad choices. They also held onto hope and made bold choices to follow God. He knew their worth wasn't defined by their circumstances or choices.

They have another thing in common. They're the only women mentioned in the lineage of Jesus. Generations before He was born, God knew these five women would play a crucial role in the birth of the Messiah.

Do you ever feel as if the hope you had of doing great things for God is gone because of your past? Do you feel as if you can't be marvelous because of your past? The stories of those women are something to remember and gain hope from because they're stories of redemption. It doesn't matter what your past is like. Jesus came so you can have the gift of redemption as well. When you make the choice to follow God with all your heart, you can change the world just like these five brave women. You too, play a crucial role in bringing Jesus to the lives of others.

### **Daily Challenge**

Using the further reading scriptures, choose at least one woman to read about and journal about how reading her story impacts your view of yourself.

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\*Further reading- Tamar: Genesis 38, Rahab: Joshua 2, 6:17, Ruth: Ruth 1, Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11-12, Mary: Luke 1:26-38

What stood out to you the most this week?

Journal, draw, write a poem, or write a prayer about it below.

## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Sunday, February 24*

*Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton  
Read Proverbs 31:30*

When we glance at ourselves in the mirror, it is difficult not to look the reflection through the world's lens. We may pose silent questions. "Am I pretty enough? Am I smart enough? Will I ever be enough?" As these questions echo in our minds, they begin to invite our souls to compare ourselves to visions of perfection on social media or those fostered from within our communities. Occasionally, we may even become fixated on the applause of the world rather than pleasing our Maker. These are the crucial moments that we must lean in close and breathe in a fresh understanding of God's Word and allow God to become our priority again.

As children of God, we need Him to reset our vision, to help us value what He values. There is no shame in outward beauty that grabs the world's attention. Having a magnetic personality can also be a beautiful thing; however, God views our yielding to Him and our relationship with Him as paramount. Our youthful, exterior may fade away as we age. Our glittering charm may be dulled by the stresses of our journey in life. Thankfully, a life surrendered to God and reliant upon His will, is a life that is valued in His kingdom.

If we have a healthy fear, or awe, of our creator God, we begin to see ourselves in ways that He views us. We can also begin to be formed more every day into the image of our Creator. Very little in life could be more praiseworthy than being a person whose highest purpose is to bring honor to her God.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Write today's verse in your own words and journal about how it applies to your daily life.

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### *Monday, February 25*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read Isaiah 62:1*

Sometimes change is easy to see. You dye your hair from black to bright purple and people notice. Other times, change isn't so obvious, even when you want it to be.

Has God saved you from something or changed something in you? Maybe your reputation, when it came to romantic relationships wasn't one you were proud of, but, because of Jesus, you're different. Maybe you decided to study hard, but even your professors are waiting for your grades to drop. Perhaps you've learned to let God control your emotions instead of exploding in anger, but people are still scared around you. Maybe you've overcome an addiction, but everyone is waiting for you to relapse. All you want to do is shout for everyone to hear how Jesus has changed you, how He has saved you, not just from your sins, but from your old way of life and habits, but no one believes you.

In today's passage, God says He will not remain quiet until your salvation can be seen "like a blazing torch." NIV Think about what that means for a minute. He is the one who makes sure your salvation shines, not you. The light coming from a torch is bright and powerful. It can be used to illuminate even the darkest of nights and light the way on a dangerous path.

While it's nice to have people notice your changes and congratulate you, what brings real satisfaction is when God takes you and makes you shine like a torch to give others light. Jesus doesn't just save you from your past so you can be new. One of the reasons He saves you so you can help others and show who God is. Keep growing and keep your eyes on Jesus. Let Him tell you how marvelous you are instead of looking for others for affirmation. You aren't marvelous because of what you do. You're marvelous simply because He created you. Your worth isn't tied to your actions. Even if you slip up, it doesn't change your value. Spend time daily reading His word, praying, and worshipping. Before you know it, your salvation will shine the light of Jesus and light the way for others.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Make a list of at least 5 positive changes you have made in your lifetime.

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### *Tuesday, February 26*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda  
Read James 5:16*

Are there parts of your life you want to hide because you're certain no one would love you if they saw them? Maybe it's shame about something you've done, something done to you, or sin you find yourself currently trapped in. Deep down you know you cannot escape this dungeon in your soul alone but letting a anyone in is terrifying.

Maybe you've tried before, and the person walked away leaving you with a gaping wound, or instead of helping you find your way, she controlled you. In self-defense, you haven't just built a wall around your heart, you've built a fortress complete with a moat filled with hungry alligators.

In today's reading, we see the power of talking about things we'd rather hide. Our hearts can be healed from anything, but we can't do it alone. Healing comes when secrets are shared in safe places where the light of Jesus' love can shine. Healing comes when we tear away the façade of perfection and be real.

If you find yourself needing a someone who can be a safe place, pray about it. Ask God to bring someone into your life who can help you and shine His light of unconditional love in your dark places. Also, pray about if it's time to find a licensed counselor you can talk with. Sometimes it's good to have someone who is on the outside to help see what you don't.

Pray about it, even if you're afraid God might not care enough to help. He will answer that prayer when He knows you're ready. It's scary to let someone in, but you don't have to do it all at once. Little by little get to know this friend or counselor. If she's willing to take a raft across your moat filled with alligators, she just may care about you enough to shine Jesus' s light without judgment and walk with you. You just might find out what you feel embarrassed about is something many people deal with. Maybe it's time for you to call off the alligators in the moat, or at least feed them so they don't attack someone God sends your way.

#### **Daily Challenge**

Listen to "What if We Were Real" by Mandisa.  
[youtu.be/BcLYkUb5Kco](https://youtu.be/BcLYkUb5Kco)

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## The Binder Co Devotionals February 2019 Marvelous

### *Wednesday, February 27*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda*  
*Read Psalm 20:7*

Do ever wish you had more confidence? Even if you're pretty sure of yourself and comfortable with who you are, there is likely at least one area where you don't feel so sure. When confidence is shaken, it's easy to feel unworthy and anything but marvelous.

We do all kinds of things to give ourselves more confidence. We make playlists to bolster our mood, obsess over our makeup, spend hours choosing the right outfit, and give ourselves a pep talk while looking in the mirror. We take 27 selfies just to get the perfect angle. Then, we add a filter because we still see our flaws. Nothing masks imperfections like a Snapchat filter that turns our faces into a bunny or a panda.

There is nothing wrong with trying to look our best or fill our minds with good, Godly wisdom, but we try to do it on our own, we will always come up empty. Our confidence will be as fleeting as non-waterproof mascara.

Today's verse shows us the only way we will have lasting confidence.

Confidence comes from God alone. You won't find it at the gym or a new pair of shoes. Yes, things can make us feel good but real, unshakable confidence is a gift from God.

So, instead of doing something trying to find confidence, let yourself find rest in God's arms. Talk to Him and listen. Instead of staring at your closet wondering what to wear, pause to hear what He has to say to you. Then, play with a filter if you want to, because it's fun to be a panda, not because you want to mask who you are. The King of the world created you and loves you. Let His love be where your confidence is found.

### ***Daily Challenge***

What areas in your life are you lacking confidence? Journal and pray over them, asking God to show you how He sees you.

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### *Thursday, February 28*

*Devotional written by Emily Furda*  
*Read Psalm 34:5*

It's a lifelong journey to see ourselves as God sees us, to see ourselves as marvelous. We will make mistakes. There will be days when we doubt if we really are marvelous, but our doubt is no match for the love and power of God.

As we close out this month, we see today's verse comes with a promise. If we look to God for our worth, we will never be covered with shame. Each one of us was designed to radiate who He made us to be in our own unique way. We can only radiate if we're secure in who God has made us to be and know our true worth and beauty come from Him. When we allow God to continue to define who we are and how we see ourselves, we will see our unique beauty, we will know our worth, and we will see just how marvelous we are. That's a promise for everyone, including you.

### ***Daily Challenge***

How has your view about being marvelous changed this month? Journal your thoughts and listen to "Radiate" by Hannah Kerr.  
[youtu.be/hO9LCmjm5f0](https://youtu.be/hO9LCmjm5f0)

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What stood out to you the most this month?

Journal, draw, write a poem, or write a prayer about it below.