

God's Abundant Faithfulness

The Binder Co. Devotionals April 2019



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Welcome to The Binder Co. Devotionals, a free monthly printable eBook for women of all ages who desire to grow deeper in God's Word on a daily basis.

About The Binder Co. Devotionals

Every aspect of The Binder Co. is run by volunteers. Once a month, we release a free printable eBook with daily devotionals, corresponding scriptures, and daily challenges to help you put your faith into action. These daily devotionals are free to read, download, and print. You can print each eBook and place it in a three ring binder or use an eReader. If you use a digital copy, be sure to have a journal or notebook handy. You can use them for yourself, your small group, friend group, or church group! You can access the free archives of eBooks at emilyfurda.com/thebinderco and in our Facebook Group.

Get Involved

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Follow us on Instagram: instagram.com/thebinderco

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Follow the Pinterest Board: pinterest.com/thebinderco

Use the hashtag [#thebinderco](https://instagram.com/hashtag/thebinderco) on Instagram to connect with others and to possibly have your photo featured on our page.

Write for us: Most months we accept submissions from guest writers. To learn how you can be a guest writer, visit our Facebook Group. You don't need to be a blogger or author to submit. It's open to any woman from teenagers and up.

A Note From the Director

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.

The Binder Co. Devotionals (originally called Her Binder Project) was started in 2014 by Morgan Harper Nichols. It has grown more than anyone could imagine. You can learn more about Morgan at morganharpnichols.com

I started as a writer in 2016. 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 my heart.

In 2018, Morgan asked me if she could give me The Binder Co. Devotionals. I was speechless, which rarely happens. It was not an easy decision for either of us or one made lightly. My joy comes when I see women come alive as they study. I'm 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 instagram.com/emilyfurda

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This Month's Contributors

Victoria Carrington: Guest Writer

facebook.com/encouragemom

instagram.com/encouragemom

Twitter: [@encouragereom](https://twitter.com/encouragereom)

victoriacarrington.com

Emily Williams: Guest Writer

instagram.com/fresh.huesblog

Twitter [@fresh_hues](https://twitter.com/fresh_hues)

freshhuesblog.wordpress.com

Heather Golden Horton: Writer

facebook.com/Horton.snapshots

instagram.com/heatherghorton

Twitter [@gidge1992](https://twitter.com/gidge1992)

partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com

Diane Marie: Writer

instagram.com/crazymom2eight_dianemarie

Danielle Nicole: Writer

instagram.com/its.daniellenicole

herhopeisbuilt.wordpress.com

Christine Perry: Writer

learningtobefearless.org

Emily Furda: Writer, Director, Editor In Chief

facebook.com/emilyfurda

instagram.com/emilyfurda

Twitter [@emilyfurda](https://twitter.com/emilyfurda)

emilyfurda.com

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God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Lamentations 3:21-24 Write out today's scripture and place where you'll see it often.	2 James 1:17 Listen to "In Every Way" by Christy Nockels youtu.be/GMhL7GSRHbU	3 Isaiah 43:25 How does knowing God not only forgives your sins, but also forgets them, impact you see yourself and how you go about your daily life? Journal your thoughts.	4 Matthew 28:20 Write out today's verse in your own words and place it where you'll see it often to remind you God is always with you.	5 Deuteronomy 31:8 Listen to "I Will" by Citizen Way. youtu.be/k_bHd2-QhuQ	6 Isaiah 30:18 See today's devotional for the daily challenge.
7 Isaiah 30:21 Listen to "Lead the Way" by Ryan Stevenson youtu.be/M4x-5CKdhD4	8 Matthew 11:28-29 Write out today's scripture in your own words	9 Psalms 46:5 Listen to "Waiting in the Wings" by Point of Grace. youtu.be/jr1yOpJ0Y_c	10 Psalms 34:1 Why is it important to worship God in both good and difficult times? Journal your thoughts, and make a playlist of songs you can use to worship when days are difficult.	11 Hebrews 13:5 Listen to "Nothin on You" by Hollyn. youtu.be/-9KxF1vVEmk	12 1 John 1:9 Memorize today's scripture	13 Matthew 21:1-11 Have you ever found yourself in a difficult, situation because you wrongly assumed God's plan? Journal your thoughts about how what you've learned today impact how you feel about it.
14 Isaiah 55 Listen to "King of the World" by Natalie Grant. youtu.be/VQmysKhww_l	15 1 Corinthians 1:9 Listen to "Never Stop" by Urban Rescue. youtu.be/ukiY0XLJD1k	16 Psalms 46:1-5 Are there any areas in your life where you're prone to do things in your own strength? Journal about how things would change if you relied on God's help instead.	17 Hebrews 4:16 Listen to "Throne of Grace" by Sheila Walsh. youtu.be/ydoqmmH0pLY	18 Matthew 26:36-46 How does knowing even Jesus struggled with wanting to follow God's will impact you? Journal your thoughts or write a prayer.	19 John 19:25-27 How does knowing Jesus faithfully cared for His mother, even when He was dying, impact your view of how Jesus cares for you? Journal your thoughts.	20 John 14:27-29 Look back at the scriptures from this month so far and find at least one that gives you comfort. Then, memorize it.
21 Ephesians 1:18-21 Listen to "Same Power" by Jeremy Camp. youtu.be/InsifiZxVXu	22 Psalms 63:3 What does it mean to embrace God's faithful love, and how does it give you confidence? Journal your thoughts.	23 Psalms 18:3-7 Listen to "Strong Enough to Save" by Tenth Avenue North. youtu.be/3iPKj69QP8	24 Exodus 14:14 What does it mean to be still while God fights for you? With that in mind, write out today's verse in your own words.	25 Psalms 139:1-12 Listen to "Faithful" by Erik Nieder. youtu.be/ctz4F3JUnQ	26 Psalms 86:5 What does it mean to embrace God's faithful love, and how does it give you confidence? Journal your thoughts	27 Mark 14:8-9 Listen to "Lord of My Life" by Greg and Rebecca Sparks. youtu.be/cjJbAEcClc
28 Genesis 16 Do you feel as if God always faithfully and lovingly watches over you? Journal your thoughts.	29 Philippians 4:19-20 Listen to "God Provides" by Tameka Mann. youtu.be/d8BwydIR-r0	30 2 Timothy 2:13 Do you believe God will always be faithful to you? Why or why not? Journal your thoughts.	<p><i>But this I call to mind; therefore I have hope: The Lord's loyal kindness never ceases; his compassions never end. They are fresh every morning; your faithfulness is abundant! "My portion is the Lord," I have said to myself, so I will put my hope in him. Lamentations 3:21-24 NET</i></p>			

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Monday, April 1 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Lamentations 3:21-24

But this I call to mind;
therefore I have hope:
The Lord's loyal kindness
never ceases;
his compassions never end.
They are fresh every morning;
your faithfulness is abundant!
"My portion is the Lord,"
I have said to myself,
so I will put my hope in him.
Lamentations 3:21-24 NET

We all have people in our lives we expect to be faithful. We expect a parent to faithfully love and care for her children. We expect clergy members to faithfully serve God and the people He brings into their lives. We expect law enforcement and military members to faithfully serve their communities and countries. We expect friends to be faithfully love us. We expect ourselves to be faithful.

At some point, we all will disappoint people. Sometimes we are intentionally unfaithful. Other times, we make mistakes that may seem as if we're unfaithful when we're not. If flawed humans are our only example of faithfulness, how do we grasp the unfailing, abundant faithfulness of God?

This month's theme verses are from the book of Lamentations and likely written by the prophet Jeremiah right before or during the time Babylon took the people of Israel into captivity for 70 years. He was so deeply grieved that he was lamenting the state of his fellow Jewish people. He knew they had sinned, he knew they had been unfaithful, and he knew the immense pain they were in. In these verses Jeremiah is reminding himself of God's compassion and faithfulness, no matter what happened.

We need those same reminders in our lives. The more we learn about who God is, the easier it is to trust His unfailing, abundant faithfulness. God is faithful to every one of us in every circumstance, no matter the cause. It was true in Jeremiah's time, and it's still true today.

Daily Challenge

Write out today's scripture and place where you'll see it often. It can be something as simple as writing it on an ordinary piece of paper or as elaborate as a painting. Write it our in a way that makes it come alive to you.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

Tuesday, April 2 2019

Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton
Read James 1:17

Swirling torrents of trouble often grab our attention and threaten to stir up anxiety in the hearts of even the most committed Christ-followers. During these stormy seasons, we must rely heavily on the faithful nature of God to bring steadiness to our souls. Directing our gaze to our unchanging God can be essential for our survival through momentary shifts in our environment.

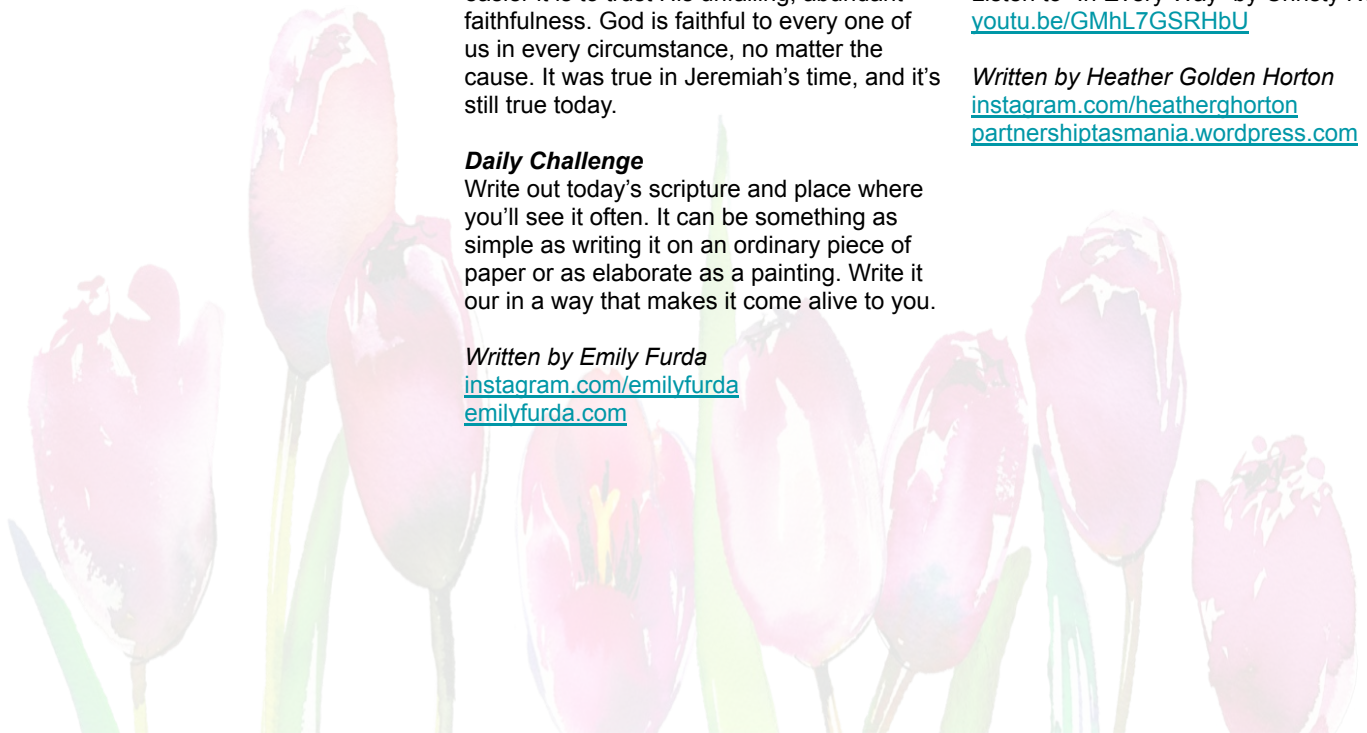
God has not changed over time. He has been eternally solid and true. He does what He says He will do, despite changes in culture and political climate. World events do not shake Him. His heart does not waver in the face of our uncertainties. In fact, His faithfulness is often even more dazzling in the presence of life's inconsistencies. We have a Father who is with us throughout the struggle. Simply knowing He is a God of unending stability can bring our hearts overflowing peace.

The faithfulness of God is wrapped in the fact that God's nature is unchanging in the midst of ever-changing circumstances. We can lean in to our ever-present God when a fast-paced life gives us whiplash. We can whisper His name in prayer, assured of His nearness. We can sing in the darkness to our faithful God, confident He is the constant we need in the middle of turmoil.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "In Every Way" by Christy Nockels.
youtu.be/GMhL7GSRHbU

Written by Heather Golden Horton
[instagram.com/heatherghorton](https://www.instagram.com/heatherghorton)
partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com



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Wednesday, April 3 2019

Devotional written by Diane Marie
Read Isaiah 43:25

Being a Christian is not about being perfect; it's about being forgiven. Our God is faithful to forgive, and thankfully, there is nothing we can do to change that.

As we walk with God, we find that we often stumble. We struggle and we sin, allowing ourselves to be polluted by the world. We feel broken, dirty, and unworthy. How can God forgive us, again? Yet, Isaiah 43:25 assures us He is faithful to forgive us. He doesn't hide our sin or cover it up; He removes every last trace of it as though it never was, and He then forgets it! All we need to do is confess our sin, and He is faithful to make us clean.

Our God is faithful. He can be trusted. Nothing you have done will cause Him to forsake you. Take a moment to examine yourself and confess your sins. Then thank Him for his everlasting faithfulness.

Daily Challenge

How does knowing God not only forgives your sins, but also forgets them, impact how you see yourself and how you go about your daily life? Journal your thoughts.

Written by Diane Marie

[instagram.com/crazymom2eight_dianemarie](https://www.instagram.com/crazymom2eight_dianemarie)

Thursday, April 5 2019

Devotional written by Victoria Carrington
Read Matthew 28:20

You start a new job and are assigned a task you have never done before. How would you feel if your employer left you alone in the office and never returned? What if you had a question or concern? How should you react if the job is difficult with many obstacles?

As a Christian, Jesus has a job for you to do. You are to teach others to obey all the commands that Jesus gave you. Everything you learn about Jesus and His teachings are to be shared with others so they too can learn how to live for Jesus and teach others about Him. That's a challenging order.

You may have objections to Jesus' command right away. Perhaps you have no experience or interest in teaching. Maybe you have a hard time remembering Bible verses and the instructions of Jesus. You may not feel qualified to teach about Jesus. Yet, Jesus calls you to teach.

This command comes with a beautiful promise of faithfulness. Jesus says that He will be with you "always". In times of despair or difficulty, persecution or praise, Jesus will never leave you as you work for Him. When you have questions, He is there. If you need encouragement, He is there. Jesus is a wise and loving Master. What He tells you to do, He will see you through, "...to the very end of the age". Matthew 28:20 NIV

How will Jesus empower you to teach despite your shortcomings? With the promise of His faithful presence as you obey Him. What a comfort to know you will never be alone struggling in your Kingdom job! Carry out the teaching work Jesus appointed for you with confidence and joy because of His faithfulness.

Daily Challenge

Write out today's verse in your own words and place it where you'll see it often to remind you God is always with you.

Written by Victoria Carrington

[instagram.com/encouragemom](https://www.instagram.com/encouragemom)
victoriacarrington.com

Friday, April 6 2019

Devotional written by Emily Williams
Read Deuteronomy 31:8

Many things happen in our lives that can raise questions or leave us in a position of never understanding the why and how. We go through trial after trial wanting the quickest way out. Oftentimes, we feel lonely, heartbroken, and defeated, especially from situations involving those closest to us. Whether it be a loss of a loved one, an abusive relationship, difficult situations at work or home, or a hard time a close friend is going through, our earthly situations can make it hard to see God's faithfulness.

Gratefully, we have access to the one who understands, Jesus. The one who is perfect in every way understands every fear, heartbreak, emotion, and trial. The Heavenly Father knows all of our days and will not forsake us, even when people do. When friendships fade and when relationships suddenly end, the King of Kings is there to bring redemption.

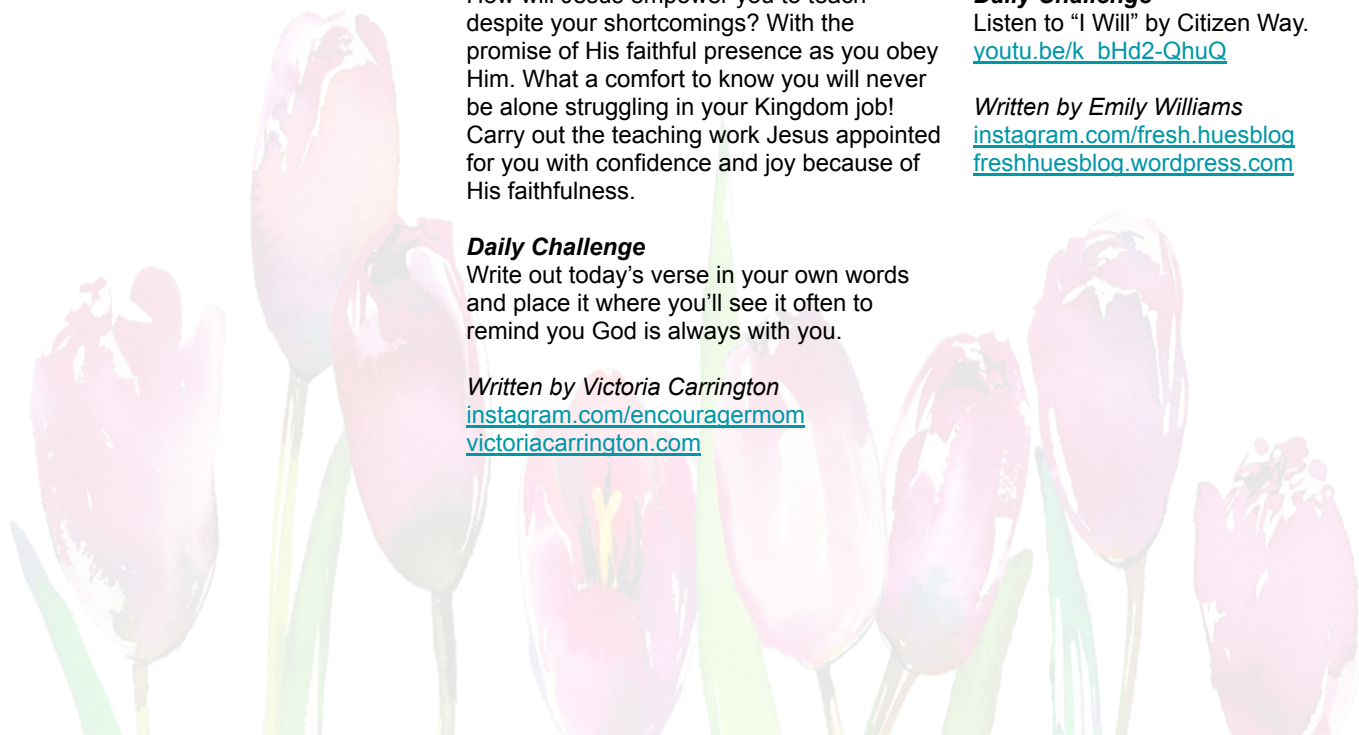
We can express our hurt, our anger, and disappointments honestly to Him, and He will still have His arms open wide towards us. We can crawl into his lap and cry at any time. The Lord never sleeps or puts His back towards His children. Our Creator is there with us for every earthly situation and everything we do not understand. God is faithful in His perfect love, grace and mercy towards His daughters.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "I Will" by Citizen Way.
[youtu.be/k_bHd2-QhuQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHd2-QhuQ)

Written by Emily Williams

[instagram.com/fresh.huesblog](https://www.instagram.com/fresh.huesblog)
freshhuesblog.wordpress.com



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Saturday, April 6 2019

Devotional written by Christine Perry
Read Isaiah 30:18

What have you learned about God's abundant faithfulness this week?
Journal, draw, write a poem, or write a prayer about it below.

Have you ever felt so torn apart by someone that you forgot who you were? Have you questioned what God was really like in the face of an abusive or toxic spiritual leader? Maybe instead of a God of grace, you saw a legalistic God. Instead of mercy you only saw judgment.

Where is God in the midst of all of that? What are His thoughts?

This side of eternity, things, people and circumstances won't always make sense. But God's character doesn't change! In Isaiah 30:18 says:

"Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion." NIV

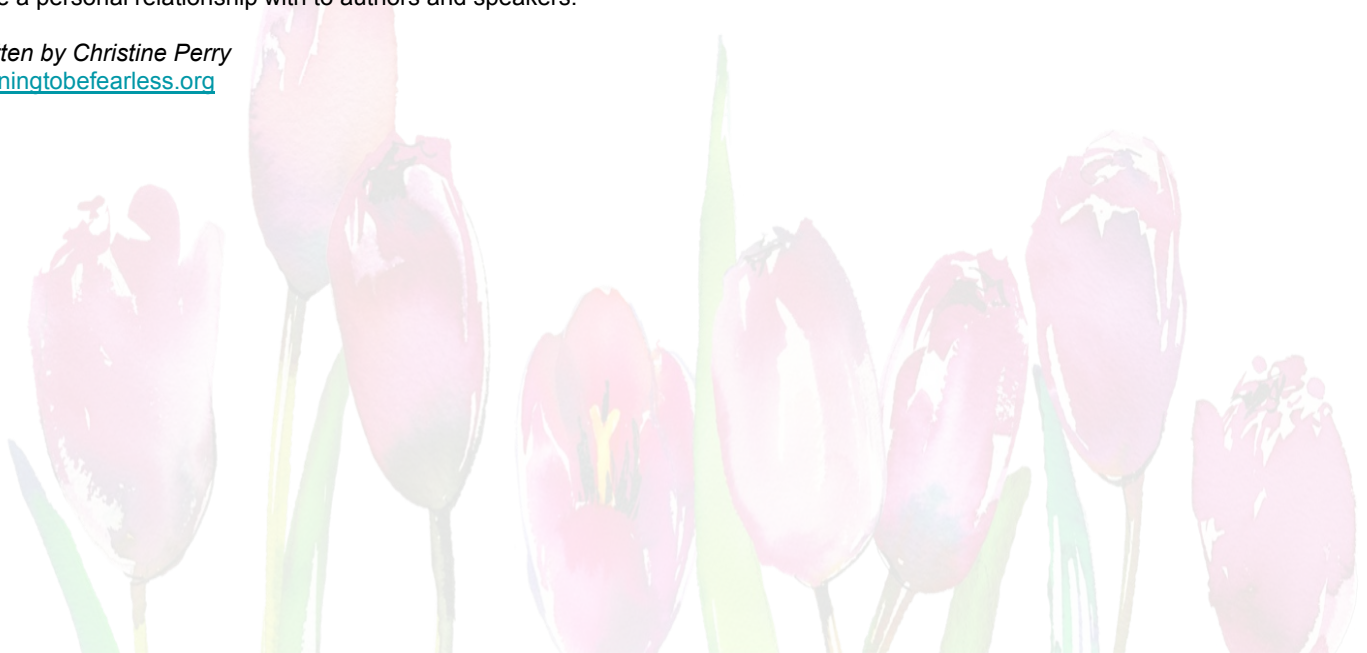
Wounds by a spiritually abusive or toxic leader don't go away in a month. It often takes years to allow God's truth wash out the toxicity out of your heart, mind and soul. It can feel lonely and dark. Maybe you keep thinking, "All I wanted was to serve God and you end up walking away devastated and lost."

But God is faithfully there. He is with you in the darkness, in the confusion and in the pain. He is for you and not against you. Friends, He is weeping with you. He knows what it's like to be persecuted by religious leaders. He knows what it's like to have your reputation smeared through the mud. Jesus is gentle and kind, slow to anger and abounding in love. His yoke is easy, and His burden is light. Fasten yourself to Him. He will help you walk towards healing, for by His stripes we are healed.

Daily Challenge

Healing from deep wounds, like ones from a spiritual leader, is a process and needs to be done in God's timing. It's okay if you're not ready. If you have been wounded by a spiritual leader, pray, asking God if now is the time to begin the journey or how to continue if you're already on it. Also, pray for spiritual leaders who currently influence you. They can be anyone, from someone you have a personal relationship with to authors and speakers.

Written by Christine Perry
learningtobefearless.org



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Sunday, April 7 2019

Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton
Read Isaiah 30:21

Life can leave us with some pretty huge question marks on the journey. Questions about the future may loom in our heads, leaving us wondering which path to take next. There is solace in knowing we have a God who loves us and can be known by us. He is our faithful guide through the known territories of the mundane and is just as present to guide us through our off-road adventures in question mark seasons.

It can be tempting to listen to every voice in our world as we try to determine our next step. However, when we are diligently seeking the best path, we must realize God is truly a trustworthy and faithful guide. If we are committed to following His path, if we follow closely, He will lead us. We can know the paths God is guiding us on by creating space in our lives to communicate with God in prayer, quietly soaking in what He is teaching us from the Bible and having open eyes to His opportunities around us. Equally important, our hearts must be surrendered enough to pause our own plans when He leads us to a place of waiting and restoration.

Having faith in God as our guide means taking the role of a willing follower. God will faithfully lead us down many bending paths but has promised us His presence will not leave. As our guide He has never promised easy travel or avoiding dark valleys, but He is a faithful guide who is aware of the terrain up ahead. If we choose to trust, His path will eventually lead to places beyond anything we could dream. The most beautiful moments of the journey will be spent with Him close by.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Lead the Way" by Ryan Stevenson
youtu.be/M4x-5CKdhD4

Written by Heather Golden Horton
[instagram.com/heatherghorton](https://www.instagram.com/heatherghorton)
partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com

Monday, April 8 2019

Devotional written by Diane Marie
Read Matthew 11:28-29

Worry. It's part of life. We worry about little things, like whether we are having a good hair day or if we'll gain another pound if we eat that second brownie, and we worry about big things, like will we ever find the right man to marry or will our chronically sick child ever get better. It can seem like we will never find that perfect peace we are supposed to have as followers of Christ.

The Bible is filled with verses that tell us not to worry. When we worry, it means that we are not fully trusting in the Lord. We might say that we have given our worries over to the Lord, but as soon as we do, it often seems like the fear of the unknown creeps back in almost immediately. How do we find that peace?

Jesus says, "Come to me." It's difficult, yet so simple. Take your burdens to Christ. Take them again and again if you need to. Jesus says, "Take my yoke." A yoke is something used by a farmer to guide an animal. When we take Jesus' yoke, we allow Him to guide us. He knows best where we need to go, both in the natural and in the spiritual. Jesus says, "Learn from me." Don't just mentally take your burdens and dump them in front of Him. Take the time to sit at His feet and learn. Read, study, and pray. Spend time with Him!

We are human, and we likely will find ourselves worrying over and over again as we navigate this life, but if we can learn to go to Jesus, let him guide us, and learn from Him, we will find we truly can know peace.

Daily Challenge

Write out today's scripture in your own words.

Written by Diane Marie
[instagram.com/crazymom2eight_dianemarie](https://www.instagram.com/crazymom2eight_dianemarie)

Tuesday, April 9 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Psalm 46:5

Sometimes it seems as if the darkness will never end. We feel as if we're in the middle of a moonless, starless night. It's in those moments we have to keep trusting God. When it's hard to trust, that's when we need to remember God's faithfulness. He knows what is weighing on your heart. Is it health, finances, family, relationships, or something else? No matter what it is, God sees you, and He loves you.

When it's nighttime, the sun hasn't stopped giving light. It just can't be seen at that moment. Some nights stretch on when we're afraid or depressed, but the sun always rises. Just like the sun never stops giving light, God never stops loving you. Even when you can't see Him, even when it feels as if evil has won, God sees you and is faithfully loving you.

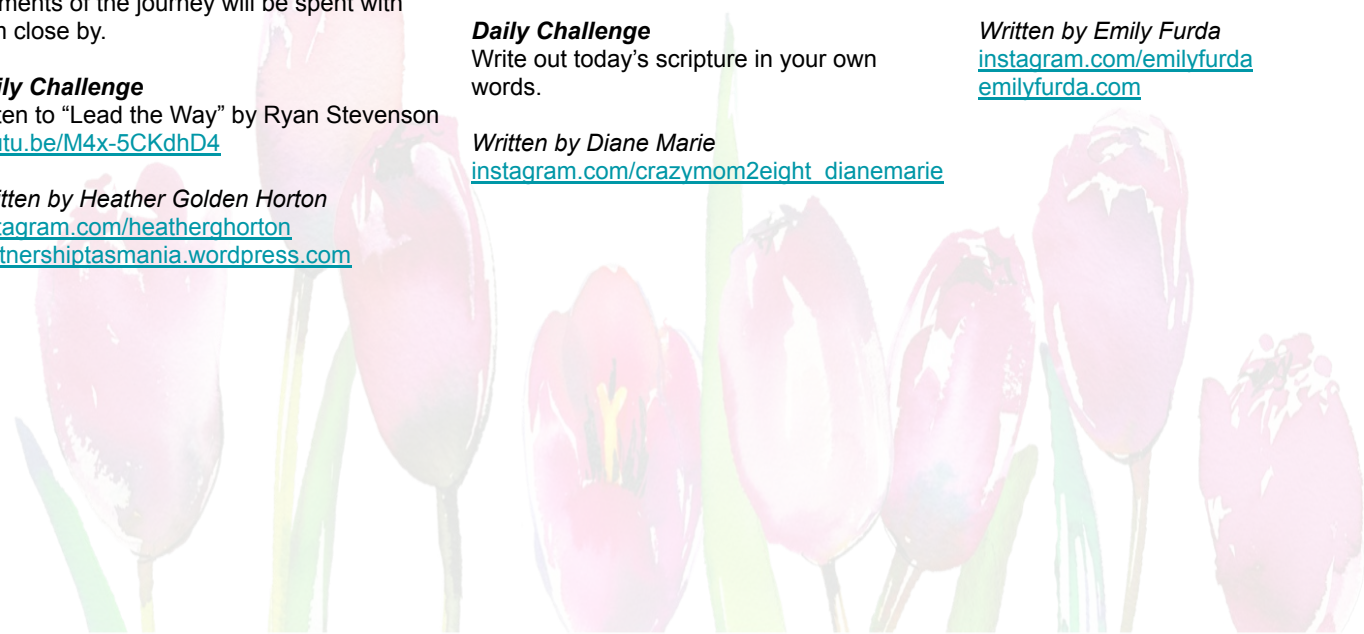
Whenever you find yourself wondering if circumstances or your emotions will ever change, remember the promise in today's verse: God is within her, she will not fall: God will help her at break of day. Psalm 46:5 NIV

With God, you will not fall, no matter how crushing circumstances feel. He will help you. Keep holding on to Him. Pour out your heart to God and ask Him to show you the faithful love He has for you. He will hear you, and He will answer you. Your sunrise will come.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Waiting in the Wings" by Point of Grace. youtu.be/jr1yOpJ0Y_c

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Wednesday, April 10 2019

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole
Read Psalm 34:1

It's easier to praise God during the joyful seasons than it is in the hard ones. When we are dealing with a difficult time, worshipping might sound like one of the last things we'd want to do, but it shouldn't be. We should praise God no matter the season we're in.

To be able to praise God in the hard times, we must move our focus from on our problems to Him. When we do this, we are able to trust Him with our situations, instead of worrying about them. When our eyes are set on Him and only Him, we can worship Him for all He has done and is doing in our lives.

Even when things aren't going too well in our lives, He is forever faithful to us, and we can always worship Him. We can't rely on everything always being okay in order to praise God, because things aren't always going to be okay. We will always enter hard times, but it's no reason to not worship. He doesn't love us just in the good seasons but in all seasons, so why should we stop worshipping Him in the hard ones?

It may be hard at times to worship God in the difficult times or on the hard days, but we must continue to praise His name. He is a faithful God and is continuously faithful to us, so let's be faithful to Him.

Daily Challenge

Why is it important to worship God in both good and difficult times? Journal your thoughts, and make a playlist of songs you can use to worship when days are difficult.

Written by Danielle Nicole
[instagram.com/its.daniellenicole](https://www.instagram.com/its.daniellenicole)
herhopeisbuilt.wordpress.com

Thursday, April 11 2019

Devotional written by Diane Marie
Read Hebrews 13:5

At first glance, the above scripture appears to be about money, but being content with what you have is about so much more than money and material things. Checking Facebook, Instagram, and other social media sites can be depressing at times. We see our friends, or maybe people we thought were our friends, hanging out and have fun while we sit at home feeling left out. We suddenly don't feel content with the life we're living.

Never before have we been exposed to so much of other people's private lives, but what we must realize is people only post what they want us to see. When we see someone smiling and laughing, we are only seeing part of a bigger picture. Chances are, those very same people have felt the exact same way you do at a different time in their lives. Maybe they've even envied you!

We need to read the entire verse. Not only are we called to be content, but we are reminded Jesus, our faithful friend, will never leave or forsake us. What a wonderful promise! When we stop scrolling, and take a moment to reflect, we can take comfort in knowing we are really never sitting home alone. Jesus never leaves our side.

It's okay to want friends, and if you do find you aren't getting out as much as you'd like to, it's perfectly fine to pursue friendships; however, know you already have a best friend who loved you so much that He died for you. You can't find a better or more faithful friend than that!

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Nothin on You" by Hollyn.
[youtu.be/-9KxF1vVEmk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9KxF1vVEmk)

Written by Diane Marie
[instagram.com/crazymom2eight_diane_marie](https://www.instagram.com/crazymom2eight_diane_marie)

Friday, April 12 2019

Devotional written by Victoria Carrington
Read 1 John 1:9

You sinned...again? You love Jesus and you know that He died on the cross for the forgiveness of your sin. After repenting, turned away from your old life. You know that you are a new creation Christ. Yet, you still sin. So, you wonder, "What do I do when I sin after I give my life to Jesus? Will God keep forgiving me?"

There is good news for you, and it comes from God's promise about His faithfulness. If you are willing to confess your sins, God will forgive you and cleanse you from all unrighteousness or impurity. Why does God do this for you? Because His character demands it.

You are God's child now, and He is coforming you to the image of Christ. God is faithful and just. He can not lie, and He always keeps His word. God's commitment to your spiritual growth is seen in His faithfulness to keep you forgiven and cleansed of sin. God wants your heart pure so you can enjoy full fellowship with Him.

Don't stay focused on how bad your sin is but on how good God's faithfulness is. He will not fail you even though you may fail Him. God's faithful forgiveness will keep you in right standing before Him and His holiness. Don't let Satan make you think you are too far gone or that you have sinned too many times and God is finished with you.

Remember today's verse when you hear the accusing voice in your head. Take your sin to your faithful Father in Heaven, knowing that if you confess, you will be forgiven.

Daily Challenge

Memorize today's scripture.

Written by Victoria Carrington
[instagram.com/encouragemom](https://www.instagram.com/encouragemom)
victoriacarrington.com

God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Saturday, April 13 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Matthew 21:1-11

What have you learned about God's abundant faithfulness this week?

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

Tomorrow we celebrate Palm Sunday. It often means waving palm branches as we sing, but have you ever wondered why specific things happened that day as Jesus entered Jerusalem? Every detail was important and had a special meaning.

Why did Jesus ride a donkey instead of a horse? In biblical times, a horse was often seen as a symbol of war, but a donkey was a symbol of peace. Jesus wasn't coming to start a war. He was coming to bring peace. Why did they wave palm branches? In Roman times, palm branches were waved during a time of victory. The procession was a foretelling of His coming victory. Why did people spread their cloaks on the ground? That may have originated as a sign of respect for King Jehu in 2 Kings 9:13. They also served to protect Jesus from a thick haze of dust as people lined the dirt road. Everything was something usually reserved for the procession of a king, including what the people shouted in the streets.

They shouted "Hosanna" as Jesus passed them. Hosanna means "save us".* This expression is used several times throughout the Bible. Originally "save us" was a cry of desperation, begging for help. On Palm Sunday, it was shouted as a declaration and celebration. They cried out with joyful shouts knowing Jesus would save them.

There was just one problem, a big problem.

The people lining the streets assumed Jesus came to be their earthly king and rescue them from the oppressive Roman rule. After all, He was given a king's welcome. Many of these same people demanded His death just days later when they realized they were wrong. They saw the signs of honor reserved for an earthly king but completely missed that the spiritual kingdom Jesus reigns over is so much greater than any earthly kingdom.

Sometimes, we assume things we see mean something different than what God is trying to show us. We make up our minds without ever asking God to show us what it all means. When things don't work out the way we think they will, or the way we want them to, it's easy to think we're wrong about the character of God and His promises. He remains our faithful savior, even when we find ourselves distraught because of our wrong assumptions. In the tearful moments when all we can manage is a silent prayer asking God to save us, He hears us. In the celebratory moments, He hears our praise as we declare His salvation. Jesus is always our faithful savior, no matter what happens.

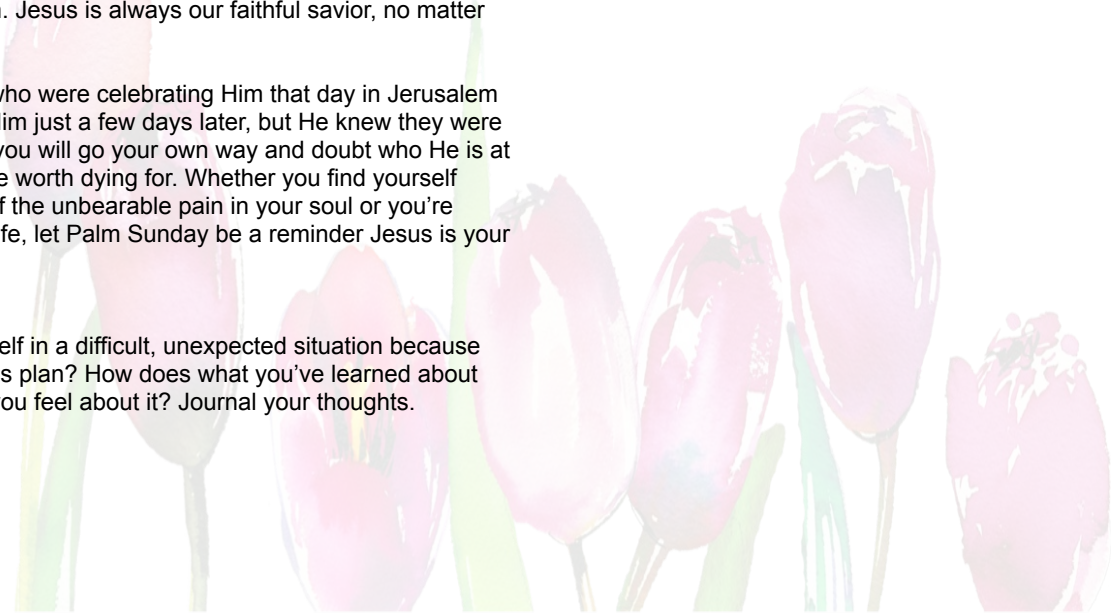
Jesus knew those people who were celebrating Him that day in Jerusalem would turn their backs on Him just a few days later, but He knew they were worth dying for. He knows you will go your own way and doubt who He is at times, and He knew you are worth dying for. Whether you find yourself unable to speak because of the unbearable pain in your soul or you're celebrating victory in your life, let Palm Sunday be a reminder Jesus is your faithful savior and king.

Daily Challenge

Have you ever found yourself in a difficult, unexpected situation because you wrongly assumed God's plan? How does what you've learned about Palm Sunday impact how you feel about it? Journal your thoughts.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

*Strong's 5614



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Sunday, April 14 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Isaiah 55

The people lining the streets, cheering for Jesus on Palm Sunday as He passed by had problems they needed solved. One of the biggest was Israel was under Roman rule. and the Jewish people often suffered greatly. When they saw Jesus that day, they believed He was their earthly king who had come to set them free from Rome. In doing so, they completely underestimated His divine, unmatched power and authority.

We're not so different from the people who lined the street waving palm branches 2,000 years ago. We have problems that need solved. Often, we see what we think is a solution right in front of us and we go after it without stopping to consider if maybe the that solution isn't what we need. We limit who God is and try to control our lives as if we are the ones who know best. At first, that may seem like pride, but what if it's not?

Perhaps the real issue is this side of heaven, with our human, finite minds, we will never be able to fully grasp how wise, powerful, and loving Jesus is. His perspective and ways are different and better than ours. We see dust under our furniture turning into dust bunnies and wonder if we really need to clean or if it can wait until they multiply into a mini bunny army. In Genesis, God saw dust on the ground and decided it was exactly what He needed to create a complex human being, made in His image.

God knows how limited our human understanding is because He created us. He knows we're prone to take matters into our own hands because we can't fully understand His unmatched power. We will never understand the scope of who Jesus is this side of heaven, but He knows who we are. Even when we tried to take control yet again, He will always faithfully and lovingly care for us, after all, He is our king.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "King of the World" by Natalie Grant. youtu.be/VQmysKhww_I

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

Monday, April 15 2019

Devotional written by Christine Perry
Read 1 Corinthians 1:9

Have you found yourself wishing God wasn't faithful? For instance, think of a time when you found yourself as a prodigal or you found yourself hurt by life's circumstances. Have you ever tried to distance yourself from God because You knew you'd have to face the "hard thing" in your life that you've been avoiding?

Have you ever wondered why God kept pursuing you? Maybe it was through people or maybe through favor. Yet, all you wanted was space or to sit in self-pity. God is faithful even when we are not. He is loving even when we are not. He is kind even when we are not. God is who He says He is. He will not and does not change— no matter what. If you're in a mountaintop season, God's thoughts towards you are the same as in your valley season.

God often wants to do more with our lives than we want to. He allows hard seasons to shape us, and then, through those lessons, He uses us, even if we didn't want those seasons to begin with.

God is faithful because God is faithful. He cannot and will not change. So, instead of running or pushing Him away, turn back to Him and let Him mold you and make you into something new, even if you still don't understand. That is where faith comes in.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Never Stop" by Urban Rescue.
youtu.be/ukiY0XLJD1k

Written by Christine Perry
learningtobefearless.org

Tuesday, April 16 2019

Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton
Read Psalm 46:1-5

With each new sunrise we often awaken to a new set of questions and conflicts. Our minds race to the nearest search engine for answers or to social media, hunting for opinions on how to solve the issues that plague us. While technology and the voices of the masses can be quite handy, we must always remember the most reliable and faithful helper is our God. It is God who designed us and everything in the world. Because God knows us so intricately, He is more than able to direct us when we are out of answers. He also has the perspective to help us find our way when there are so many roads and we must choose the right path. He is our helper to steady us when life gets so steep that we are off-balance.

Our hearts may dart here and there, looking for someone to save us from our situation, but we can remind ourselves of His truth by focusing on of the identity of God as our faithful helper. God hears his children when we yelp out a faint, "Help!" We can trust Him to stand with us, providing the help we need at that very instant. Thankfully, He is never unaware of our circumstances and knows the precise help we need, before we even ask.

Though the world places value on those who are self-sufficient and independent, the life of a Christ-follower should be marked by daily dependence upon the help that only comes from God. A lifestyle of consistent communication with God makes us more aware of His help. We can keep climbing life's rocky places in confident faith because God is our faithful helper.

Daily Challenge

Are there any areas in your life where you're prone to do things in your own strength? Journal about how things would change if you relied on God's help instead.

Written by Heather Golden Horton
[instagram.com/heatherghorton](https://www.instagram.com/heatherghorton)
partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com

God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Wednesday, April 17 2019

Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton
Read Hebrews 4:16

On days when we have greatly missed our goal of holy living and we need to restart, the faithfulness of God is a comfort to our weary souls. We are not tied to shame. We are not required to live burdened by guilt. We are offered a promise that God is consistently forgiving of our repentant hearts. We must only turn to His forgiveness and toward obedient living.

We may see ourselves as permanently broken or tarnished, but God's faithfulness ensures that He is a cleanser. It is totally within His power to make us better than new by the power of His Holy Spirit. We can count on the grace of His forgiveness, because it is part of His nature. He can be trusted with our honest stories. He is already aware of our choices and chooses to transform us from disobedience into His likeness. He is the one who brings righteousness to our wandering hearts. He stays steady, drawing us back to His forgiveness when we veer from His path. Though we may face consequences and the pain of our poor choices, God is never absent from our situation when we allow Him to set things back in balance.

It is important to apply the principles from The Word of God, The Bible, to our lives, so that we can see our choices more clearly. God often nudges our hearts to help us know when we should realign our hearts to His own. An intimate relationship with our faithful, holy God in prayer makes coming to Him for forgiveness as natural as breathing because our hearts will begin to desire a closeness with God, with no sin standing in between.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Throne of Grace" by Sheila Walsh.
youtu.be/ydoqmmHopLY

Written by Heather Golden Horton
[instagram.com/heatherghorton](https://www.instagram.com/heatherghorton)
partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com

Thursday, April 18 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Matthew 26:36-46

Sometimes, God asks us to do things that are painful beyond belief. He asked the same of Jesus. We often forget Jesus had a human body when He walked this earth, which meant He could feel unfathomable physical and emotional pain. When we know something painful may come, we often ask God if there is some other way His will can be accomplished, just like Jesus did.

The night before He was crucified, Jesus knew it would happen the next day. He knew exactly what it would feel like, and He didn't want to do it. He didn't just pray once asking God if it was possible for things to change, He asked three times. Jesus wanted to escape the torture He would endure, but He chose to faithfully lay down His will for the will of His father, God. Being faithful didn't mean it wouldn't be painful, but He willingly chose to suffer beyond our comprehension.

Just because you don't want to do something doesn't mean you aren't faithful. Just because Jesus asked for His asking for circumstances to change, it didn't mean He wasn't faithful. He empathizes with you because He knows what it feels like to be asked to do what will be painful. He is here to walk with you as you face what feels impossible. He knows how hard it is to be faithful, and He also knows the unfathomable joy that is on the other side of the unbearable pain when you remain faithful.

Daily Challenge

How does knowing even Jesus struggled with wanting to follow God's will impact you when you think about what may happen when you follow God's will? Journal your thoughts or write a prayer.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

Friday, April 19 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read John 19:25-27

Even in the middle of dying a horrific death on the cross, Jesus never stopped faithfully meeting the needs of others, including His mother, Mary.

So when Jesus looked down and saw the disciple he loved standing with her, he said, "Mother, look—John will be a son to you." Then he said, "John, look—she will be a mother to you!" From that day on, John accepted Mary into his home as one of his own family. Matthew 19:26-27 TPT

It's believed that at some point before Jesus's crucifixion Joseph, Mary's husband, passed away. During that time, women had very little power and usually couldn't be self-sufficient. If a woman became a widow, her firstborn son was to care for her. If he passed away, the second born brother would assume the role. Jesus was Mary's firstborn son, but Mary and Joseph had other sons. So, why did Jesus tell John to take care for His mother instead of one of His brothers? Jesus saw not just Mary's physical needs but also her emotional and spiritual needs. Jesus's brothers didn't believe He was the Messiah (John 7:5). After His resurrection, Jesus's brothers did come to believe in Him, but Jesus knew Mary needed someone in that moment to care for her as well as after He ascended into Heaven. That person was His disciple, John who also gained a mother figure. Mary was someone who John could trust and confide in, especially when it came to his faith.

It may not have made sense in that moment why John was to assume the role of Mary's son, but Jesus had a good reason. If Jesus could see Mary and all of her needs in the middle of unimaginable physical, emotional, and spiritual pain, He can surely see all of our needs now. Sometimes, when Jesus provides for us, it doesn't make sense at first, but He will always faithfully provide for all of our needs, even the ones we don't know we have.

Daily Challenge

How does knowing Jesus faithfully cared for His mother, even when He was dying, impact your view of how Jesus cares for you? Journal your thoughts.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Saturday, April 20 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read John 14:27-29

What have you learned about God's abundant faithfulness this week?

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

Has anyone ever told you something and you forget it right away? You're not alone; even Jesus's followers did the same thing. Just hours before He was crucified, Jesus told them:

"I am going away and I am coming back to you." John 14:28 NIV

The day after Jesus's death was the Sabbath, a day of rest. While it may have provided a day without physical activity, it was likely far from a relaxing day. Many of His followers, including His disciples were hiding from the rest of the world. They were afraid they too would be crucified because they had been His followers. Some of Jesus's disciples even denied ever knowing Jesus. Their beloved friend and teacher was gone. Yet, Jesus knew what would happen and offered comfort in advance.

Judging by what we learn about the disciples in Luke 24, it's likely they forgot the comforting words Jesus told them just a few days earlier. We all have days when we feel as if we need to hide before another bad thing happens to us as well as moments when guilt over our sin sets in. In that way, we're not so different from His early followers.

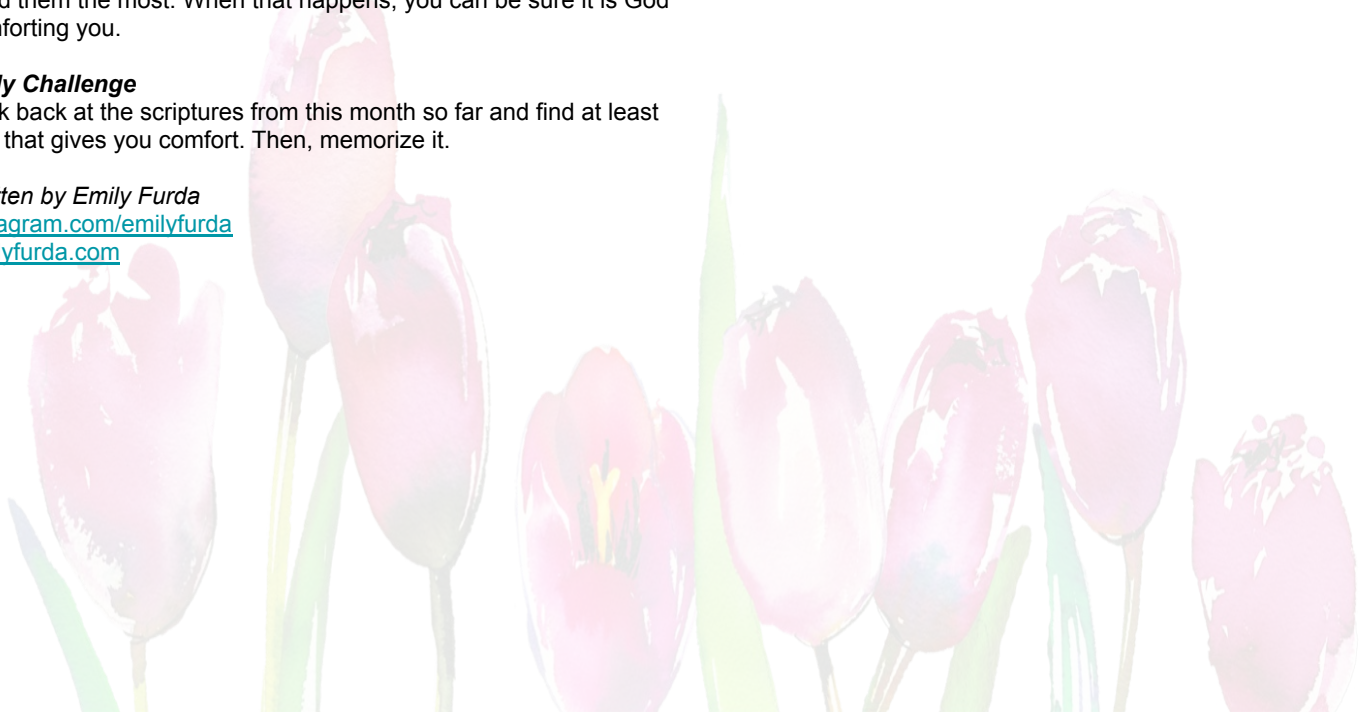
God wants to comfort us just like Jesus wanted to comfort His disciples, but it's easy to forget God's faithful promises when our world is crumbling. The Bible is filled with promises of comfort, but we often forget them or never take the time to read them. Taking the time to tuck His promises deep in our hearts means they're preparing us in advance for when we need them most.

Jesus knew His disciples would need some serious comfort when He was crucified, and He knows you need comfort as well. He has already faithfully provided comfort for you in the Bible. Spend some time alone, reading the Bible and memorize God's promises. Then, hang on to them. You'll remember God's promises to you when you need them the most. When that happens, you can be sure it is God comforting you.

Daily Challenge

Look back at the scriptures from this month so far and find at least one that gives you comfort. Then, memorize it.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Sunday, April 21 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Ephesians 1:18-21

When Jesus rose from the dead, He conquered death and the powers of hell. What He did in the natural realm was unheard of. It was the ultimate insurmountable obstacle, until Jesus conquered it, but that's not all. When He rose from the dead, it wasn't just a physical marvel. It was a spiritual one. He rose to life, so we too could experience that kind of power in our lives.

Maybe we're not trying to physically rise from the dead, but every day we face what seem like insurmountable obstacles holding us back. We want to go to college, but no one in our family has ever done it before. We dream of a certain career, but believe those are dreams come true for others, not us. We want a Godly relationship but feel as if we can never overcome our past to have one. Maybe we want to learn a new skill such as how to draw, play an instrument, photography, or cooking, but we're too afraid of being embarrassed, so we never try. We want to write a blog, start a ministry, or lead worship, but feel too inadequate. We feel trapped and as if we'll never be free to be who we really are.

In all our fears and insecurities, we forget one thing, because Christ rose from the dead, we too have His power in us to help us accomplish anything He calls us to! In every situation, He is faithfully there with His mighty power for us.

What would happen if you truly believed you always had the power of Jesus living in you and acted on it? What freedom would you experience? What would you try? What would you do? Who would you be? Only you can answer that.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Same Power" by Jeremy Camp.
youtu.be/InsifiZxVXU

Written by Emily Furda
instagram.com/emilyfurda
emilyfurda.com

Monday, April 22 2019

Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton
Read Psalm 63:3

There is a stability we can find in the love of our Maker. God's abounding love for us can help us gain our footing when we are tempted to battle for popularity in the world. Knowing God's mercy cannot be bought or earned, can help us breathe deeply when we are suffocated by our own internal drive to pull ahead of our neighbors or coworkers. It is this knowledge that God offers unmerited love to His children which leads us toward a security nothing else can provide.

Certainly, we will have moments when we feel alone or unloved. We may not see His hand move each moment. In dark times, we may not even sense His presence as we travel weaving, lonely roads. Throughout these complex days, our hearts should remember God's faithful love for those who reach out to Him. God is not distant in the loneliness. Our loving God still sees and hears us. His overflowing love for us is true.

While earning man's approval may be toxic, planting our feet in the truth of God's overflowing love is life-giving. We can whisper to ourselves the timely reminder that our loving God is attentive to our needs and eager to pour out mercy into the empty spaces of our lives. The love of God is ever-present with those who trust Him. We can embrace this faithful love with quiet confidence.

Daily Challenge

What does it mean to embrace God's faithful love, and how does it give you confidence? Journal your thoughts.

Written by Heather Golden Horton
instagram.com/heatherghorton
partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com

Tuesday, April 23 2019

Devotional written by Diane Marie
Read Psalm 18:3-7

Sometimes life gets hard, really hard. We know we need to take our burdens to the Lord, and we have every intention of taking our troubles to Him, but sometimes our prayers take a very negative turn. We find ourselves whining and complaining to God about everything that's wrong and questioning His ways. We find ourselves pleading Him to make things right in our own way and in our own timing, instead of waiting on His.

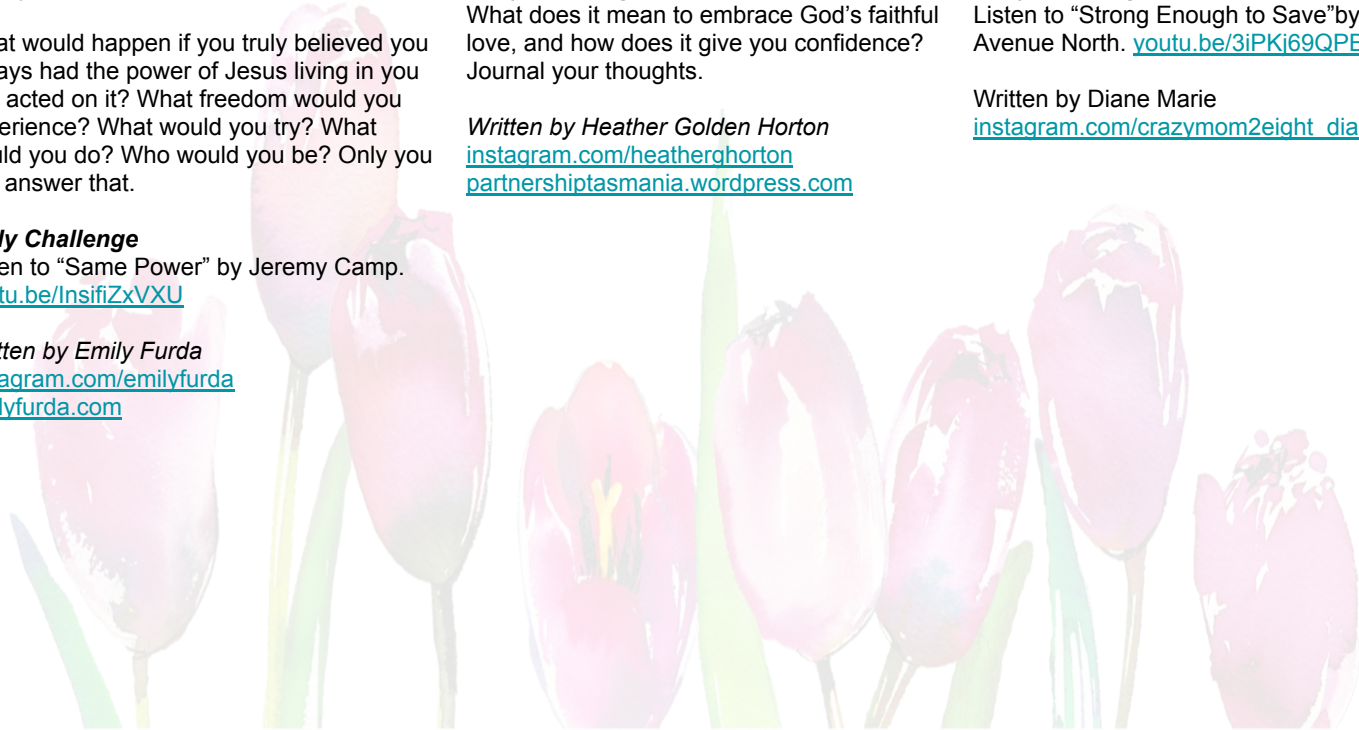
When we read the Psalms, we can take heart that we are not alone. David, the one who was called a man after God's own heart, had a tendency to do this too. Yes, even David, the one who killed Goliath, the one who led armies, and was the king of Israel. He was a man after God's own heart, but sometimes his life was hard, really hard. Sometimes his prayers took a negative turn.

So, what did David do when he found himself in this situation? He reminded himself to put his hope in God! He chose to take his eyes off the situation and praise Him. When we find ourselves feeling downcast, we can do the same. When we choose to have hope and choose to praise God, we will find that suddenly we can face our trials, trusting that our strong, faithful God will deal with them in His way, and in His timing. That will give us peace.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Strong Enough to Save" by Tenth Avenue North. youtu.be/3iPKi69QPB8

Written by Diane Marie
instagram.com/crazymom2eight_dianemarie



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Wednesday, April 24 2019

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole
Read Exodus 14:14

Have you ever been in a time when you felt too weak to fight or maybe you felt like you were all alone in this war? Well, this is when you need to hold on to God's promises for your life. No matter what the fight is, God promises if we will be still, He will faithfully fight for us.

When in a fight, there might be many different options of what we could do. We could try and figure things out by ourselves and go our own ways or we can look to God for help. The world can promise us many things, many different ways we can get to the other side of our problems, but these things will lead us farther from God. When we open up His word and read the promises, He has for us, we will find the answers and guidance for the season we are walking through.

God faithfully promises He will fight for us, if we will be still. To be still, means to trust Him with your situation. It means to have peace, knowing He is in control. Though it can be a challenge to be still when the world around you is moving in this way and that, when we hold to His promises for us, we can find rest in this crazy life.

The world's promises will always fail us, but God's promises are faithful. They have never failed and never will fail. So, even if you are fighting the hardest fight of your life, you can trust that if you hold to Him and follow His instructions, you will be victorious over every trial.

Daily Challenge

What does it mean to be still while God fights for you? With that in mind, write out today's verse in your own words.

Written by Danielle Nicole
[instagram.com/its.daniellenicole](https://www.instagram.com/its.daniellenicole)
herhopeisbuilt.wordpress.com

Thursday, April 25 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Psalm 139:1-12

In the middle of our busy and sometimes messy lives, we often forget God is omnipresent. He never leaves us.

God is with you right now and with the woman reading this on the opposite side of the world. There is nowhere in heaven or earth where He does not exist at all times. That kind of presence is something too great for human minds to fully grasp. Being present and attentive everywhere, all the time, seems impossible. It is, for anyone but God.

Today's scripture talks about how God is present no matter where we go physically or how far our hearts wander from Him. He is always faithfully with us.

He doesn't leave once you close your Bible after you're done reading or say Amen at the end of a prayer. His love, hope, guidance, victory, and refuge are ever present with you. When you are washing dishes, in the car, at work, at the doctor's, or playing with your kids, He is with you. When you're happy, burned out, feeling at peace, or ready to quit, He is with you. He is always faithfully with you.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Faithful" by Erik Nieder.
youtu.be/ctz4F3Ju0nQ

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

Friday, April 26 2019

Devotional written by Heather Golden Horton
Read Psalm 86:5

There is a stability we can find in the love of our Maker. God's abounding love for us can help us gain our footing when we are tempted to battle for popularity in the world. Knowing God's mercy cannot be bought or earned, can help us breathe deeply when we are suffocated by our own internal drive to pull ahead of our neighbors or coworkers. It is this knowledge that God offers unmerited love to His children which leads us toward a security nothing else can provide.

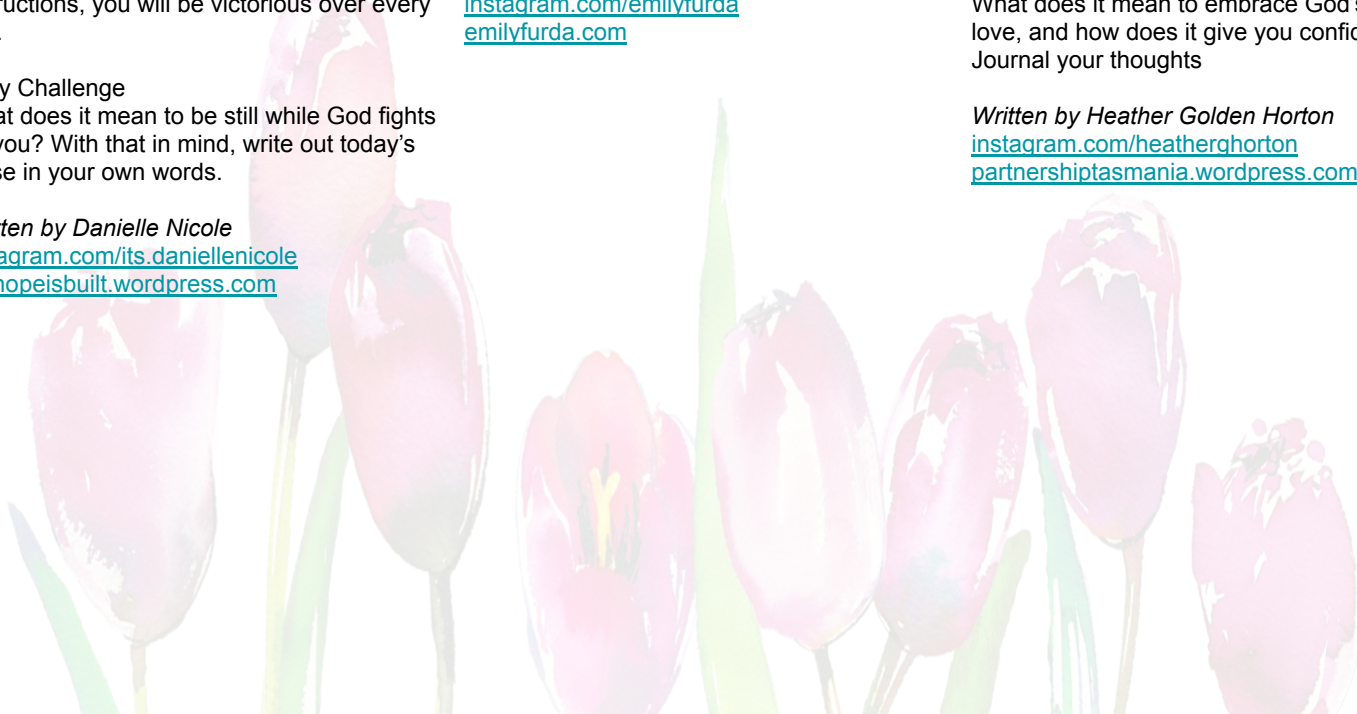
Certainly, we will have moments when we feel alone or unloved. We may not see His hand move each moment. In dark times, we may not even sense His presence as we travel weaving, lonely roads. Throughout these complex days, our hearts should remember God's faithful love for those who reach out to Him. God is not distant in the loneliness. Our loving God still sees and hears us. His overflowing love for us is true.

While earning man's approval may be toxic, planting our feet in the truth of God's overflowing love is life-giving. We can whisper to ourselves the timely reminder that our loving God is attentive to our needs and eager to pour out mercy into the empty spaces of our lives. The love of God is ever-present with those who trust Him. We can embrace this faithful love with quiet confidence.

Daily Challenge

What does it mean to embrace God's faithful love, and how does it give you confidence? Journal your thoughts

Written by Heather Golden Horton
[instagram.com/heatherghorton](https://www.instagram.com/heatherghorton)
partnershiptasmania.wordpress.com



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Saturday, April 27 2019

Devotional written by Christine Perry
Read Mark 14:8-9

What have you learned about God's abundant faithfulness this week?

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

Have you ever been waiting for God to answer? Maybe it's for something you believe He's called you to or a relationship. What do you do when you've been waiting years for it to come to pass?

This is a very hard place to be. It's a place where you have to live surrendered. It's a place where you have to keep telling yourself, "This is something I cannot control, and I cannot make anything happen."

As humans we want to make things happen, but when it comes to a calling — we do our part and God has to do the rest.

So, what do we do in the meantime? We do what the woman in Mark 14 did. We pour out what we have in service and worship to Jesus. We cannot control our circumstances, but we can control how we choose to live while waiting for those promises to be fulfilled. Imagine when we get to heaven, through faith in Jesus Christ, and Jesus says to us, "You did what you could. What you have done will be spoken of in your memory." Just because we haven't received all God has promised yet doesn't mean we can't be building a legacy now.

So, while you are waiting, remember God's faithfulness and see how you can serve. Sometimes, when we serve others, we are reminded of God's faithfulness through the ones we are serving.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Lord of My Life" by Greg and Rebecca Sparks.

youtu.be/cjJbAEcClic

Written by Christine Perry

learningtobefearless.org



God's Abundant Faithfulness The Binder Co Devotionals April 2019

Sunday, April 28 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Genesis 16

Have you ever felt invisible? Have you ever felt as if so much was going wrong in your life that God must've turned His eyes from you? In today's passage we see Hagar felt that way.

She was a slave of Sarai who was Abram's wife (who later become known as Sarah and Abraham). God promised them Sarah would have a child, but instead of waiting for God's plan, they decided Hagar would have their child. She was pregnant, had no rights of her own, and was severely mistreated by Sarah, so she ran away.

All alone, in the middle of the desert, she must've felt invisible. It was then God sent an angel to her. In that moment her situation didn't change, but she did. She knew she was seen by God. In the middle of her pain, He was faithfully watching over her, and He was with her. He gave her the strength to keep going.

Do you feel as if you've been taken captive by circumstances? Maybe horrible things have happened to you through no fault of your own. God sees you. Even when you're in a mess because of something you have done, God sees you.

He's faithfully looking over you today in love. He knows your pain and has a plan for you. So, instead of running away, run to Him. Stop for a minute and talk to Him. Let Him show you His promises for your life. You are seen, you are known, and you are loved by the God who sees.

Daily Challenge

Do you feel as if God always faithfully and lovingly watches over you? Journal your thoughts. It's even okay to admit you're angry with God.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

Monday, April 29 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read Philippians 4:19-20

What do you need right now?

When you hear that question all kinds of things can come to mind including financial, physical, emotional, and relationship needs. Today's reading can easily become a like a cliché that's lost its meaning, but it's powerful when you take the time to really think about it.

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19 NIV

Paul makes an interesting statement here. He says, "My God." He wanted the people of the church in Philippi to know the same God who has faithfully met his needs is the same God who will faithfully meet theirs. He didn't see the apostle Paul as worthier than the local shopkeeper. The same is true for you. Paul was an apostle who wrote much of the New Testament, but in God's eyes, you are just as important as he was.

Paul was also reminding his readers how God faithfully met his needs in the past. It's easy to get focused on your present needs and forget God has always met every need you've ever had. It's easy to pray about something and focus only on the solution you want like a specific job, a person to love you, a school you want to attend, or a new medication that will bring relief.

Remember, God is not limited to your way of working, and that's a good thing! He faithfully meets your needs with power and resources not limited to human means.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "God Provides" by Tamela Mann.
youtu.be/d8BwydIR-r0

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

Tuesday, April 30 2019

Devotional written by Emily Furda
Read 2 Timothy 2:13

Sometimes, no matter how much you know about God's faithfulness, there is still a nagging voice in your heads causing you to question. you look at yourself with your imperfections and wonder why a perfect God would be faithful to you. It's easy to think those promises are for other people instead of yourself. You wonder if who you are, what's been done to you, or what you've done makes you the exception to the rule.

It's time to silence that voice once and for all.

If Jesus is your Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit of God lives in you. Today's verse says God is incapable of disowning Himself. Because God's spirit lives in you, being unfaithful to you would mean God is unfaithful to Himself. That is why God is always faithful to you. It's not because of anything you do, it's because He lives in you.

No matter what you have done or what has been done to you, God's promise to be faithful to you stands forever. You cannot out-sin it, you cannot doubt it away, and you cannot earn it. He will always be faithful to you, His beloved daughter.

Daily Challenge

Do you believe God will always be faithful to you? Why or why not? Journal your thoughts. Don't be afraid to dig deep and let out all of your thoughts and emotions.

Written by Emily Furda
[instagram.com/emilyfurda](https://www.instagram.com/emilyfurda)
emilyfurda.com

