

Especially for

From

Date

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> This is the day the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. PSALM 118:24 NLT



Everyday Joy

The joy of the LORD is your strength. NEHEMIAH 8:10 KIV

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Is it really possible to have joy in your everyday life—even when the kids are crying and the bills are piling up? When you're overwhelmed with work or struggling with emotional problems? Can you truly "rejoice and be glad" in the midst of such trials? Of course you can! Rejoicing is a choice, and it's one the Lord hopes you'll make in every situation. His joy will give you the strength you need to make it through. So, rejoice, dear one. Rejoice!



DAY 2 Acceptance

To get wisdom is to love oneself; to keep understanding is to prosper. PROVERBS 19:8 NRSV

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If you can accept yourself, you will probably be more readily able to accept the idiosyncrasies of others. If you are patient with yourself, you will almost certainly be more tolerant toward your loved ones. If you have learned to forgive yourself, you're likely to find you can more easily forgive someone else. Self-respect increases as you stay committed to gaining a heart of wisdom. This attitude splashes onto your other relationships, and acceptance gradually becomes a way of life.

A Prayer for My Children

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." MATTHEW 21:22

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Just the other day, someone reminded me of how important it is to pray for my children. So here I am, Lord. Please protect my kids. Work in their lives so that they will want to serve You with body, mind, and soul. Provide the things they need, and fill them with contentment as they bask in the warmth of Your love.



I Will Follow You

Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me. PSALM 119:133

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My son leaves little footprints as he exits the pool and walks across the cement. Even as I follow him, they fade. Lord, You also left footprints. Yet because of the Bible, because of learned teachers, and because of an intense desire to follow You, we can still see Your footsteps—instead of fading, they become bolder.

Every Single One

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

Romans 12:6



God has blessed every person—every single one with some gift or ability with which to serve others and bring glory to His name. Some abilities are obvious—they shine brightly in front of everyone but others move below the radar. They include such things as the ability to pray effectively, love the unlovely, and listen attentively. Ask God to open your eyes to your special abilities. They are God's blessings to you.

Everyday Blessings

But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

PSALM 33:18



The Lord of all creation is watching our every moment and wants to fill us with His joy. He often interrupts our lives with His blessings: butterflies dancing in sunbeams, dew-touched spiderwebs, cotton-candy clouds, and glorious crimson sunsets. The beauty of His creation reassures us of His unfailing love and fills us with hope. But it is up to us to take the time to notice.

The God of All Comfort

"Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you." 2 CHRONICLES 20:17 NKIV



Adversity, calamity, hardship, misfortune, trouble no matter what you call it, painful episodes are part and parcel of the human experience. But you can choose not to let them bring you down, fill you with fear, and steal your attention from the blessings God has placed in your life. Look adversity square in the eye, and know that your God—the God of all comfort—has an answer.

Powerful Prayer

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you."

NUMBERS 6:24-25

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Want to pray for someone? This is a good way to do it. It's the blessing God gave Aaron and his sons to pronounce on Israel. What Christian wouldn't appreciate these words committing her to God's care and wanting her to draw closer to Him? Who would turn down the good things God has to offer? Can you bless your friends and family with these thoughts today?

Bubbling Joy

Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

JAMES 3:11



Can you feel it—that bubbling in your midsection? Can you sense it rising to the surface? Joy comes from the deepest place inside of us, so deep that we often forget it's there at all. Wonder of wonders! It rises up, up, up to the surface, and the most delightful thing happens. Troubles vanish. Sorrows disappear. Godly joy has the power to squelch negative emotions. So let the bubbling begin!

Beauty in You

Humans are satisfied with whatever looks good; GOD probes for what is good. PROVERES 16:2 MSG

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Like many women, you probably enjoy looking nice when you go out for a special occasion. You want a hairstyle that flatters your face, clothes that fit well, and a little makeup to enhance your eyes and cheeks. God likes it when you feel good about your appearance, but He cares more about the inner you. He wants to cultivate what's good about you socially, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. Join with Him in cultivating the beauty that's inside you.

God-Honoring Activities

May Jesus himself and God our Father, who reached out in love and surprised you with gifts of unending help and confidence, put a fresh heart in you, invigorate your work, enliven your speech. 2 THESSALONIANS 2:17 MSG

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There are many ways to be involved in my community, Father, and I ask You to show me what to do. I want to choose activities that will help others and bring glory to You. Help me to weigh the possibilities carefully and to make the best decisions. Thank You for these opportunities to honor You.



Rated

"Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve." JOSHUA 24:15

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The newspaper is spread out before us and opened to the movie listings. Have movies changed? Or have we changed? Most of the movies we've never heard of. The others are ones we don't want to see. Change is an interesting concept. We either run toward it or we never see it coming. In this case, age has made us not only older but wiser. Some of these movies do not deserve an audience. Thank You, Father, for letting us grow into the knowledge that we need to feed our minds with what is good and pure.

Fully Satisfied

The desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.

PROVERBS 13:4



It's a fact of life that you don't always get what you want. You've been learning that lesson since you were two and the floor wasn't too far away to stage a tantrum. But now that you are pretty far from the floor, you have to remember that there's a difference between having everything you want and being satisfied. God doesn't promise to fulfill your every craving, but if you live life in a relationship with Him, you will be satisfied—fully satisfied.

Smiling in the Darkness

"The hopes of the godless evaporate." JOB 8:13 NLT



Hope isn't just an emotion; it's a perspective, a discipline, a way of life. It's a journey of choice. We must learn to override those messages of discouragement, despair, and fear that assault us in times of trouble and press toward the light. Hope is smiling in the darkness. It's confidence that faith in God's sovereignty amounts to something—something life changing, life saving, and eternal.

Far Greater Measure

[Jesus said,] "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." LUKE 6:38

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If you want more, give more. That's God's way, and He invites you to make it your way too. He promises you abundance when you generously share your time, efforts, resources, and abilities. Do so without expecting a reward, knowing all along that God will reward you in far greater measure than you can imagine. Give His way a try, and find out for yourself.



Look to the Shepherd

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. PSALM 23:1



No matter what your physical circumstances, if Jesus is your Shepherd, you never have to want spiritually. No matter what the world throws at you, you can be at peace. No fear overcomes those who follow the Shepherd as their King. He guides them through every trial, leading them faithfully into an eternity with Him. Are you lacking contentment today? Look to the Shepherd for peace.

Joyful Obedience

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. . .

Jude 1:24 кју

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Our obedience makes God happy—and should make us happy too. In fact, the more difficult it is to obey, the more joyful we should be. Why? Because a big situation calls for a big God. And our God is bigger than anything we could ask or think. He alone can prevent us from falling. So if you're struggling in the area of obedience, surrender your will. Enter into joyful obedience.



Authenticity

The LORD looks deep inside people and searches through their thoughts. PROVER BS 20:27 NCV



If you're like most women who have participated in relationship surveys, you want someone to hear your heart and not run away. Although you may have been disappointed in relationships before, you still desire to be loved for who you really are. Good news! God is not surprised by what you feel, say, or think. He knows you inside and out and loves you just the way you are. So drop your guard and be authentic with Him. He isn't going anywhere.

Joshua's Example

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." MARK 9:23 NKJV

## KKK

Joshua faced a tough challenge, didn't he, Lord? He had to get a rather difficult group of people across a flooding river, and that was merely the beginning. But he didn't flinch. He trusted Your promises, and I can too. Thank You for reminding me of Joshua's example when I needed it most.