

YOUR  
PATH TO  
PURPOSE,  
PASSION,  
AND PEACE

90 Days of Timeless Wisdom

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*Since 1798*

ZONDERVAN BOOKS

*Your Path to Purpose, Passion, and Peace*

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Portions of this book adapted from *On Holy Ground* (ISBN: 9780785276623, © 1999).

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ISBN 9780310179214 (print)

ISBN 9780310179238(audio)

ISBN 9780310179221 (ebook)

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HarperCollins Publishers, Macken House, 39/40 Mayor Street Upper,  
Dublin 1, D01 C9W8, Ireland (<https://www.harpercollins.com>)

*Printed in the United States of America*

\$PrintCode

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# INTRODUCTION

No one wants an unfulfilling life. This is because God created you for an exciting spiritual journey that results in passion, purpose, and peace. But experiencing that kind of existence doesn't happen by accident. You cannot simply drift toward a fulfilling goal or an abundantly meaningful life. You must deliberately choose the path the Lord has mapped out for you and avoid pitfalls along the way.

This is where most of us wonder where we should even begin. This is why King David prayed, "Make me know Your ways, Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation, for You I wait all the day" (Ps. 25:4–5 NASB). David understood that if he wanted to experience life at its best, the first step would be to seek God and follow Him. It would be wise for you to do so as well.

Therefore, for the next ninety days, *Your Path to Purpose, Passion, and Peace* will take you on a tour of the lives of several biblical saints who lived the kind of life you long for. They didn't get everything right, and they made plenty of mistakes along the way. But they learned from their missteps, stayed on the path, and pursued God's will for their lives. And they discovered as David did: "You will make known to me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever" (Ps. 16:11 NASB).

Naturally, before you start on a long journey, it's always a good idea to ensure you have all you need. The good news is that the Lord has already supplied you with everything essential for your spiritual

## YOUR PATH TO PURPOSE, PASSION, AND PEACE

journey. Second Peter 1:3 promises, “His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.” Indeed, your passport—the blood of Jesus—was secured for you at Calvary. Your trustworthy Guide is the Holy Spirit, who will faithfully teach you as you go. And your guidebook—the Bible—has all the information you’ll require along the way.

Nothing has been left out or forgotten; you are fully equipped for the adventure ahead and to embrace the life God has for you. Indeed, it’s when you face your greatest needs—when you come to the end of your ability and feel the most lost—that you’ll realize the absolute abundance and wisdom of His provision.

So set out with full confidence in the God who leads you. Trust Him and enjoy your journey.

DAY 1

# THE PATHWAY TO PURPOSE

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 4

KEY VERSE: Romans 4:18

*Who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."*

**H**annah Whitall Smith once wrote, "Sight is not faith, and hearing is not faith, neither is feeling faith; but believing when we neither see, hear, nor feel is faith . . . Therefore, we must believe before we feel, and often against our feelings if we would honor God by our faith."<sup>1</sup>

When you read the account of Abram's life, you realize he was a man of faith. God asked him to do something most of us would find very difficult, and that was to leave his family and friends and go to an unfamiliar land.

Yet God's reassuring words lessened Abram's fear: "I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you" (Gen. 12:2-3 NASB).

Abram, or Abraham as he was later called by God, gave little thought to the fact that his name would be made great. The most important thing to him was the exercise of his faith through obedience.

Anytime God calls you to step out in faith, He will provide the

reassurance you need to go forward by faith. Your only responsibility is to obey and follow Him. Abraham left everything simply because God said, “Go.”

### Goals for the Day

- Read Romans 4.
- Spend some time thinking about how Paul pointed to the life of Abraham to show that righteousness is credited through faith in God’s promises, not through human effort.

### Faith in Action

Write down Romans 4:3 or another passage that stood out to you in today’s Bible reading. Is there a circumstance in your life where you need to exercise faith? Write down the details below.

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*Heavenly Father, help me to believe, even when I do not see. Help me to trust when I do not hear Your voice. Give me the reassurance to step out in faith, even if it means letting go of something I care for dearly.*

DAY 2

# DEFINING FAITH

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 24

KEY VERSE: Hebrews 11:1

*Faith is the substance of things hoped for,  
the evidence of things not seen.*

**W**hat is faith? Faith is not a power or force that we can use to manipulate God to fit into our agenda. We're not that smart. Faith is not just confidence. It is not believing in yourself or feeling sure about the outcome of a certain event.

For example, you could visit the bleachers in a ball game, and each side would be confident its team would win. This is not biblical faith.

Faith is not confusing or complicated. It is not only the domain of educated people but is meant to be sought and applied by everyday folk in everyday life. Faith is not connected to circumstance. When all is well, we often think our faith is intact. But when foul conditions set in, what happens to our trust? As long as our faith is no deeper than our circumstance, we're set up for failure.

Authentic faith is simply this: God is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do. Our faith is in the person of Jesus Christ, in His character and attributes. It is completely trusting in the faithfulness of God to do what is right.

## Goals for the Day

- Read Psalm 24.
- Make a timeline of your faith journey. What notable events have happened along the way? What would you like your faith to look like one year from now? Five years? Ten?

## Faith in Action

Today's reading said, "Authentic faith is simply this: God is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do." How does this truth apply to your current circumstances?

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*Dear Lord, give me authentic faith. I believe You are who You say You are, and You will do what You say You will do. My faith rests in Your faithfulness to do what is right in my life.*

DAY 3

## GETTING GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 4:7–12

KEY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 4:7

*We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.*

If you have ever flown in an airplane and peered out the window, you were probably enraptured with the view. In clear weather, you can see a vast landscape in one quick glance, allowing you to momentarily transcend the restrictive barriers of earthbound living.

It is but a minute portrait of how our omniscient, omnipotent God views the life of the believer. He sees all. He knows all. He is aware of every detail of your life from birth (even before you were conceived) until death.

Since God knows your future perfectly and how today's ordinary events fit into His plan, you can rely on Him every moment. The timeless principles of Scripture help you make wise decisions from God's viewpoint.

We are related to the all-seeing, all-knowing God who has given us resources to face life's challenges and obstacles from His perspective. We don't have to be limited by our own strength or wisdom.

We are hemmed in too often by our circumstances, unable to see through the fog of our finiteness. But if we seek God prayerfully and consistently, regularly digesting His Word, we can break through barriers with His insight.

## Goals for the Day

- Read 2 Corinthians 4:7–12.
- Identify your biggest challenges in this season of your life. Ask God to help you confront these difficulties with biblical wisdom.

## Faith in Action

Pick a passage from Scripture that speaks to the challenges you're facing. Write it below, on a notecard, or on your phone. Throughout the day, make it a point to pray the passage and ask God to apply the truths of Scripture to your current situation.

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*Father, You see all, know all, and are aware of every detail of my life. You have planned today's ordinary events to fit into Your long-range purpose for my life. As I travel through this day, help me break through barriers with Your insight.*

DAY 4

# THE CALL OF FAITH

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 12:1–9

KEY VERSE: Hebrews 10:23

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without  
wavering, for He who promised is faithful.*

Suppose you plan a wonderful surprise vacation for your family or friends. The big day finally comes. The car is loaded, everyone has taken care of all those last-minute details, and your tank is full of gas. Everyone piles in the car and fastens seat belts in anticipation.

Finally someone asks the fateful question, “Hey, where are we going?” And you say with great authority, “Well, I don’t know exactly.” After the bewildered looks and cries of dismay, probably the only one left in the car with you is the dog, and he isn’t looking too certain either. People simply don’t make big trips without knowing where they’re going—unless God asks them to. And that is precisely what God asked of Abram and his family: “Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father’s house, to the land which I will show you; and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great” (Gen. 12:1–2 NASB).

God gave them some very important information, but He did not hand them a road map. Why? He wanted them to trust Him for the journey. Abram did not know where they were headed, but he knew their future was blessed, more than he could conceive.

## Goals for the Day

- Read Genesis 12:1–9.
- Spend a few moments in prayer asking God to reveal any areas you might be off track. Ask Him to direct your steps and guide you on His paths.

## Faith in Action

Make a list of goals you'd like to accomplish. Do these goals bring glory to God? If you achieve your goals, will the outcome serve other people well?

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*Lord, take me in Your direction. Help me learn to walk by faith. I know my future will be blessed, more than I can imagine. No travel plan is necessary for my journey—I need only You as my Guide.*

DAY 5

## FAITH VS. REASON

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18–29

KEY VERSE: Hebrews 10:38

*Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, my soul has no pleasure in him.*

From humanity's point of view, not everything God does seems logical. There are times when we know what God is doing. Other times, all we can do is scratch our heads and think, *Lord, I don't understand, but I trust You because You know what is best.*

The basis of faith is not in knowing, but in trusting. Many people are tripped up in their faith at this point. When we insist on seeing and understanding where God is leading us before making a commitment to trust Him, we are living by human reason and not by faith.

Yet God calls each of us to live a life of faith. He said, "My righteous one shall live by faith" (Heb. 10:38 NASB). The author of Hebrews continued by writing: "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1 NASB).

Are you trusting God or reasoning your way through life? When you live by faith, things may not always turn out the way you think they will. God answers our prayers according to His will and timing. He knows some of what we ask for would lead only to heartache and grief. Therefore, He protects us by giving us the things He knows will bring blessing to us and honor to Himself.

## Goals for the Day

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:18–29.
- Confess any areas you might be lacking in faith and ask God to give you faith that is pleasing to Him.

## Faith in Action

Have you been waiting for a long time to see God work in a specific circumstance? If so, write down ways to rekindle your faith as you wait.

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*O God, there are times when I do not understand what You are doing. Let me learn to trust that You know what is best. Thank You for protecting me by answering my prayers according to Your will and perfect timing.*