

# GET OUT *of that* PIT

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A 40-DAY DEVOTIONAL  
JOURNAL

BETH MOORE



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*Get Out of That Pit: A 40-Day Devotional Journal*

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To Kendall, Courtney, Claire, and Kelly—

When God first awakened a very special place in my heart for you, darling Kendall, I had no idea how much I'd come to love all three of your little sisters too. All four of you are bright sunshine on a Sunday morning at church and heaping helpings of strawberry shortcake at lunch. Never let life talk you into a pit. God has too wonderful a plan for each of you to waste a moment of it in defeat. Thank you for bringing so many smiles into my life.

I'm crazy about you!

*Miss Beth*



# CONTENTS

<i>Acknowledgments</i> . . . . .	1
<i>Introduction</i> . . . . .	3
Section 1: Life in the Pit . . . . .	7
Section 2: When You're Thrown into a Pit . . . . .	23
Section 3: When You Slip into a Pit . . . . .	39
Section 4: When You Jump into a Pit . . . . .	55
Section 5: Getting Out of Your Pit . . . . .	71
Section 6: The Three Steps Out of Your Pit . . . . .	87
Section 7: Waiting on God for Deliverance . . . . .	103
Section 8: Make Up Your Mind . . . . .	119
Section 9: Singing a New Song . . . . .	135
Section 10: Our Pit-Less Future . . . . .	151
<i>Notes</i> . . . . .	167
<i>About the Author</i> . . . . .	169



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## INTRODUCTION

Life can be excruciating. Crushing, in fact. The sheer magnitude of our worries can press down on our heads until we unknowingly descend into a pit of despair one inch at a time. Something so horrible can happen that we conclude we'll never be okay again. We can blow it so badly we think God would just as soon we stayed under the dirt and out of His sight. But, if we're willing to let truth speak louder than our feelings, and long enough that our feelings finally agree, we can be far more than okay. We can be delivered to a place where the air is crisp, the Enemy is whipped, and the view is magnificent.

And not just for a day or two. We're talking about living the rest of our lives out of the pit and in the fresh air and bright light of God's will.

Perhaps you've been in a hole so long you can't imagine escaping and never returning. Truth be told, you'd just settle for a few days of relief. You see, if you're like me, somewhere along the way, pit-dwelling became habitual. Homey. But former pit-dwellers like me have to form a new habit that leads to a new place to call home.

That's exactly where the book you hold in your hands comes

## INTRODUCTION

into play. A life of consistent victory happens one day at a time. I'd love to have the privilege of walking you through forty of them. Biblically speaking, forty days is time enough to have endured some periods of testing and proven yourself victorious. And by the time they're complete, I pray you'll have a new habit you intend never to give up.

Each section of this devotional corresponds to a chapter in the original book. And each devotional day in this book contains four parts: a devotional reading, a reflection question, a personal application question, and a page for prayer journaling. The "Reflection Question" page will highlight the main point of the day while the "Personal Application" page will relate the material to your own life and circumstances. Since writing out your answers can reinforce what God is showing you, space is provided for you to put on paper the answer to each question.

The journal page, "Reaching Up," is a place for you to pen your prayers to God. Each day when you arrive at this crucial conclusion, picture this metaphor: every time you cry out to God and you agree to cooperate with His great work of deliverance, you are reaching up your hand to grab hold of His strong arm. That, beloved, is the way out of the pit. If we could see with spiritual eyes, we'd probably see years of accumulated dirt underneath our fingernails from trying to claw our way out of the pit. Give it up. God is already reaching His hand into that hole. Learn how to reach up and grab on for dear life.

If you're willing to hear, God has much to say to you through

## INTRODUCTION

the pages of this book. Remember, though, the essence of relationship is two-way communication. He'll speak to you if you'll let Him, but He'll also want you to speak to Him. The most glorious outcome of your journey from the pit will be the new relationship you've formed with the Deliverer. The deliverance is the means to a far greater end.

You and I won't find a perfect place to live on this planet, but never let anybody tell you life can't be lived *well*. We can live the rest of our days out of a pit. Our problems won't disappear. Nor will our temptations vanish. But Psalm 27:5–6 can be just as true of us as it was of the psalmist. In the day of trouble, God can set us high upon a rock where our heads are exalted above the enemies who surround us, and, right there amid our circumstances, we can overcome every assault with shouts of joy, making music to the Lord.

Life can be different, beloved, but not if we keep putting change off until tomorrow. A day has to come when we're ready to say, "Today." How about this one?

I'll meet you on Day One . . .

*Love, Beth*



## SECTION 1: Life in the Pit

### DAY 1

# Come, Follow Me

*From the ends of the earth I call to you,  
I call as my heart grows faint;  
lead me to the rock that is higher than I.*

—PSALM 61:2

**Y**ou don't have to stay in the pit. Even if you deserve it. Even if you've known nothing else. Just call it a day. Maybe you're wondering why you can't get satisfied there. After all, didn't Paul say we should learn to be content in any circumstance?

A pit is one place you're not supposed to be content. Quit trying to make the best of it. It's time to get out. When Christ said, "Come, follow me," inherent in His invitation to come was the equivalent invitation to leave. The laws of physics tell you that if you try to get one place without leaving another, you're in for a pretty severe stretch. And you can only do the splits so long.







## DAY 2

# Bondage Blended In

*Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”*

—JOHN 5:3-6

**N**o matter where we go, a pit can always fit. On any path we can spin our wheels and throw mud until we dig a ditch right into the middle of an otherwise decent job or relationship. Soon our hearts sink with the dismal realization that we’re no better off in our new situation. The scenery around us may have changed, but we’re still living in that same old pit. We start scrambling to figure out how we’re going to dump an unpleasant person or position when the real solution may be to dump that pit we dragged in. The problem is the pit can be so close we can’t see it.







## DAY 3

# A New Home

*“No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.”*

—MATTHEW 9:16-17

**W**e can grow so accustomed to the surroundings of our pit that we wouldn't think of moving on without it. Imagine you've been living in an old RV so small you can't stand up straight. There's clutter everywhere. The lavatory smells, but you've gotten used to it.

Now, imagine that you've been offered a brand-new home on a solid foundation with big closets and wide-open spaces. You rev up the motor of the old RV and plow it right into the new living room. A new place to call home! You settle back in your RV seat, take a deep breath, and poise yourself to feel something fresh.

But that breath tasted a lot like that old lavatory.





