



DAY 1

## REST SECURE

*I keep my eyes always on the LORD.  
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.  
Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure.*

PSALM 16:8-9 NIV

No matter where you are, God is there also. While there may be times when we ache to hide from him in our shame, he is a constant presence. The beautiful thing about his omnipresence is that we have a steady and consistent companion who is always ready to help in times of trouble.

We have no reason to fear the things that the world may throw our way. We've got the best protector of all at our side! Are you asking for his help in times of worry and woe, or are you turning inward to try to solve your problems? Let God be your refuge. Nothing is too big or too small for him. Even in your darkest hours, you can know true joy because he is your guardian.

*God, I cast my cares and distress on you. Thank you that you can handle them, and I don't have to.*



DAY 2

## SET APART

*"Before you were born I set you apart."*

JEREMIAH 1:5 NIV

Nobody was an accident or an afterthought. The Lord has carefully crafted every person uniquely. He loved each of us before we were even born because he planned in his heart and mind exactly how we were meant to be.

Sometimes we try to deviate away from how the Lord created us and the calling he has placed on our lives, but as we search for peace to accept who we are and how we were formed, we can have confidence that the Lord truly knows us. He knew us before the world began to hurt and influence us, and he knows how to restore us as well.

*Thank you, Father, for setting me apart. You know me perfectly because you made me.*



DAY 3

## DIFFERENT GIFTS

*In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.*

ROMANS 12:6 NLT

Of what benefit is it if someone were to give a child a gift, but that child never opened it or used it? God has given each of us natural abilities, talents, and spiritual gifts. He wants to teach us how to use them and what they are for. With the faith that we have, he asks us to step out in our gifts. In time our faith will grow.

Imagine if the child who received the gift only wanted to play by himself. God's great plans for giving gifts includes serving and encouraging the entire body of believers. He has given each of us a special position in his family and the tools we need to play our part well. Our gifts are not for us alone but should be used to help others.

*God, give me the faith I need to step out and use my gifts. I know you have placed them there for me to bless others.*



DAY 4

## CHOSEN ONES

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

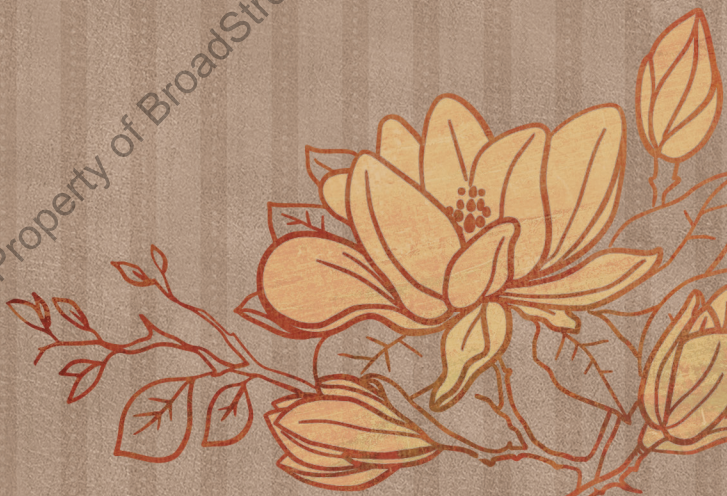
1 PETER 2:9 CSB

On occasion, we need a little nudge for all the pieces of our disposition to fall into alignment with God's. Today's nudge is a grand reminder of our identity as a Christian body. We are each holy priests serving the Living God! He is risen, and we are singly and corporately his. Because of this, we each walk in his light, and we shepherd others into the light as well.

Sometimes, it is difficult to get rid of the grumpy feelings of the day. It seems okay to have a lower opinion of ourselves and our circumstances (and maybe other people). But the truth is that God's opinion is our opinion, and we are to shout that in everything we do. Priests carry a message to the people. What message are you carrying today?

*God, help me to carry the message of your good news everywhere I go. I want to be ready to share your love with everyone I meet.*

God loved you before  
you were born; he  
planned exactly how  
you were meant to be.



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DAY 5

## A GENUINE LOVE

*Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other.*

ROMANS 12:10 NLT

One of the most difficult things to do is to love someone who doesn't want to be loved. To love those who push you away every time you try to help, those who are difficult, and those who are maybe even a little mean is discouraging, defeating, even costly.

Genuine love keeps showing up. It continues to extend a hand of grace. It serves in every capacity possible. It sees the whole person. Sometimes the hardness of a person is just a mask. Often those difficult people need to know deep down inside that they are worth the effort.

*God, there are people in my life who are difficult to love. Help me to reach out to them and let them know that they are seen and loved by you.*