

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE



WHAT REALLY MATTERS



Our Daily Bread

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE



WHAT REALLY
MATTERS



Discovery House.
from Our Daily Bread Ministries

What Really Matters: Faith, Hope, Love

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Introduction

What really matters in life?

That question could be answered in hundreds of ways.

Some seek fame, thinking that if everyone knows his or her name, life will take on new importance.

Others hold a political agenda tightly and seem ready to sacrifice everything for their way to become the norm.

Advertising encourages us to pursue a perfectly manicured lawn, the newest electronic devices, or just the right car, while the news shows us those searching for enough food to eat and a safe place to live.

What would you say really matters in your life? Are you striving for something that you feel will promise true happiness?

Although many things are important to us, Paul in 1 Corinthians 13 hinted that some things are more important than others. He explained to his readers that certain gifts from God eventually would no longer be needed. To contrast the temporary nature of those gifts, he mentioned three things that we will have with us always—even into the future kingdom of God.

What we will enjoy into eternity are faith, hope, and love. Our faith, by the power of the Holy Spirit, will never diminish. Our hope for the future glories the Father has in store for us will continue. And, of course, Jesus, who is love personified, will always be with us. God's love, which is unfathomable and unending, will shine on us forever.

In this collection of *Our Daily Bread* articles, we have focused on those three eternal traits of the redeemed. If they will serve us well as we enjoy the glories of heaven, they will definitely serve us well as we tread the pathways of earth.

Our faith is the anchor of our existence, for it tethers us to our wonderful Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our hope is the encouraging draw that moves us forward, for we know who gives us the strength to press through each day with confidence in Him.

And love is the basis of it all. It controls how we interact with others, how we treat those less fortunate, and how we stay in fellowship with our heavenly Father.

All three—faith, hope, and love—need to be hallmarks of our life, characteristics that control what is important to us—not just in the future but in our everyday lives.

Faith, hope, and love. That's what really matters in life.

DAVE BRANON, GENERAL EDITOR
AND *OUR DAILY BREAD* WRITER

Faith, Hope, Love

JANUARY

1

Faith, Love, and Hope

READ 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1–3

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. —1 THESSALONIANS 1:2

For ten years, my Aunt Kathy cared for her father (my grandfather) in her home. She cooked and cleaned for him when he was independent, and then took on the role of nurse when his health declined.

Her service is one modern example of the words of Paul, who wrote to the Thessalonians that he thanked God for “your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 1:3).

My aunt served in faith and love. Her daily, consistent care was the result of her belief that God called her to this important work. Her labor was borne out of love for God and her father.

She also endured in hope. My grandfather was a very kind man, but it was difficult to watch him decline. She gave up time with family and friends, and she limited her travels to care for him. She was able to endure because of the hope that God would strengthen her each day, along with the hope of heaven that awaited my grandfather.

Whether it is caring for a relative, helping a neighbor, or volunteering your time, be encouraged as you do the work God has called you to do. Your labor can be a powerful testimony of faith, hope, and love.

LISA SAMRA

The glory of life is to love, not to be loved; to give,
not to get; to serve, not to be served.

Faith

Will You Be Around?

READ JAMES 4:13–17

Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring. —PROVERBS 27:1

When the medical examination of a seventy-eight-year-old man was over, his doctor recommended that he come back in six months for another checkup. At this suggestion the patient shook his head and said, “Doctor, I don’t think I’ll be around then.”

“Nonsense!” replied the physician with a hearty, reassuring smile. “You’ll be around for years yet.”

The older man gave his doc an odd look, then nervously cleared his throat. “I mean,” he explained, “I’ll be in Florida in six months. I go there every January.”

Although this little anecdote may bring a smile, I’m more interested in the question it raises and the lesson it suggests. Is there any assurance that you will be around tomorrow, next month, next year? While it is right to make plans for the future, we must always do so with a consciousness of life’s uncertainty. Life, James reminds us is “a mist that . . . vanishes” (4:14). That’s why we depend on “the Lord’s will” (v. 15).

Look ahead six months. Will you be around? Let this question prompt you to live so faithfully that whether “here” or “there” it’ll make no difference!

RICHARD DEHAAN

Defer not till tomorrow to be wise;
tomorrow’s sun for you may never rise.

Hope Is Our Strategy

READ MICAH 7:1–7

But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me. —MICAH 7:7

My favorite football team has lost eight consecutive games as I write this. With each loss, it's harder to hope this season can be redeemed for them. The coach has made changes each week, but they haven't resulted in wins. Talking with my coworkers, I've joked that merely wanting a different outcome can't guarantee it. "Hope is not a strategy," I've quipped.

That's true in football. But in our spiritual lives, it's just the opposite. Not only is cultivating hope in God a strategy but clinging to Him in faith and trust is also the only strategy. This world often disappoints us, but hope can anchor us in God's truth and power during turbulent times.

Micah understood this reality. He was heartbroken by how Israel had turned away from God. "What misery is mine! . . . The faithful have been swept from the land; not one upright person remains" (7:1–2). But then he refocused on his true hope: "But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me" (v. 7).

What does it take to maintain hope in harsh times? Micah shows us: Watching. Waiting. Praying. Remembering. God hears our cries even when our circumstances are overwhelming. In these moments, clinging to and acting in response to our hope in God is our strategy, the only strategy that will help us weather life's storms.

ADAM HOLZ

What does it take to maintain hope in harsh times?

Watching. Waiting. Praying. Remembering.

Hope

This Could Be the Year

READ 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–18

We who are still alive and are left will . . . meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. —1 THESSALONIANS 4:17

My dad was a pastor, and on the first Sunday of each new year he preached about the return of Christ, often quoting from 1 Thessalonians 4. His point was always the same: “This could be the year Jesus will return. Are you ready to meet Him?” I’ll never forget hearing that sermon at age six, thinking, *If that’s true, I’m not sure I will be among those He’s coming for.* I felt certain my parents would be going to heaven, and I wanted to go too. So when my dad came home after church, I asked how I could be sure. He opened the Bible, read some verses to me, and talked to me about my need for a Savior. It didn’t take much to convince me of my sins. That day, my dad led me to Christ. I will be forever grateful to him for planting these truths in my heart.

In an increasingly chaotic world, what a hopeful thought that this could be the year Jesus returns! More comforting still is the anticipation that all who trust Him for salvation will be gathered together—relieved from this world’s suffering, sorrow, and fear. Best of all, we’ll be with the Lord forever!

JOE STOWELL

Perhaps today! —Dr. M. R. DeHaan

Chipmunk Chatter

READ ISAIAH 41:10–13

Do not fear; I will help you. —ISAIAH 41:13

I had laid out some landscape netting in my yard, upon which I was going to spread decorative stones. As I was preparing to finish the job, I noticed a chipmunk tangled up in the netting.

I put my gloves on and gingerly began clipping away at the netting. The little guy was not happy with me. He kicked his hind feet and tried to bite me. I calmly told him, “I’m not going to hurt you, buddy. Just relax.” But he didn’t understand, so in fear he resisted. I finally snipped the last restricting loop and sent him scampering home.

Sometimes humans feel entangled and react in fear of the Lord. Through the centuries, He has offered rescue and hope to people—yet we resist Him, not understanding the help He provides. In Isaiah 41, the prophet quotes the Lord as saying, “For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not; I will help you’” (v. 13 NKJV).

As you think about your situation, how do you see God’s role? Are you afraid to turn things over to Him—for fear that He might harm you? He is good and He is near, wanting to free you from life’s entanglements and give you hope. You can trust Him with your life.

DAVE BRANON

Faith is the best antidote for fear.

Love

Love Revealed

READ 1 JOHN 4:9–16

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. —1 JOHN 4:9

When a series of pink “I love you” signs mysteriously appeared in the town of Welland, Ontario, local reporter Maryanne Firth decided to investigate. Her sleuthing turned up nothing. Weeks later, new signs appeared featuring the name of a local park along with a date and time.

Accompanied by a crowd of curious townspeople, Firth went to the park at the appointed time. There she met a man wearing a suit, and he had cleverly concealed his face. Imagine her surprise when he handed her a bouquet and proposed marriage! The mystery man was Ryan St. Denis—her boyfriend. She happily accepted.

St. Denis’s expression of love toward his fiancée may seem a bit over-the-top, but God’s expression of love for us is nothing short of extravagant! “This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him” (1 John 4:9).

Jesus is not merely a token of love, like a rose passed from one person to another. He is the divine human who willingly gave up His life so that anyone who believes in Him for salvation can have an everlasting covenant relationship with God. Nothing can separate a Christian “from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39).

JENNIFER BENSON SCHULDT

We know how much God loves us because
He sent His Son to save us.

Are You Connected?

READ JOHN 4:1-14

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life." —REVELATION 21:6

For thirty-five years a hospital in the American Midwest relied on a firefighting sprinkler system for the safety of its patients. But then officials discovered that it had never been attached to the city's water main. The pipe that led from the building extended four feet underground—and stopped!

The medical staff and the patients had felt complete confidence in the system. They thought that if a blaze broke out, they could depend on a nearby hose to extinguish it. But theirs was a false security. Although the costly equipment with its polished valves and well-placed outlets was adequate for the building, it lacked the most important thing—WATER!

This illustrates the condition of many people regarding salvation. They have never been united to Jesus Christ—the source of Living Water! Although they are morally upright, deeply religious, or members of a church, they are lacking “the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith” (Philippians 3:9). This puts well-meaning people in eternal peril.

Have you accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior? Only the righteousness of God received by faith will give you the assurance of salvation. Be certain that you are united to Him. He alone can forgive your sins and supply you with “the water of life”!

PAUL VAN GORDER

Faith in Christ is the connecting link between
man's sin and Divine forgiveness.

Hope

Hope's Sure Foundation

READ HEBREWS 11:1–6

My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. —PHILIPPIANS 4:19

Lessons on faith can come from unexpected places—like the one I learned from my 110-pound, black Labrador retriever named Bear. Bear's large metal water bowl was located in a corner of the kitchen. Whenever it was empty, he wouldn't bark or paw at it. Instead, he would lie down quietly beside it and wait. Sometimes he would have to wait several minutes, but Bear had learned to trust that I would eventually walk into the room, see him there, and provide what he needed. His simple faith in me reminded me of my need to place more trust in God.

The Bible tells us that “faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). The foundation of this confidence and assurance is God himself, who “rewards those who earnestly seek him” (v. 6). God is faithful to keep His promises to all who believe and come to Him through Jesus.

Sometimes having faith in “what we do not see” isn't easy. But we can rest in God's goodness and His loving character, trusting that His wisdom is perfect in all things—even when we have to wait. He is always faithful to do what He says: to save our eternal souls and meet our deepest needs, now and forever.

JAMES BANKS

Don't worry about tomorrow—God is already there.

Too Much Love?

READ EPHESIANS 5:22–33

In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. —EPHESIANS 5:28

The apostle Paul suggested that the husband has the primary responsibility for fostering love in a marriage. He must show his wife that he deserves her trust and devotion. No one wants to submit to a tyrant or be controlled by a dictator, and Ephesians 5 doesn't ask a woman to do that. In these verses, the husband is told three times that his major task is to express Christlike love to his wife. Only as a husband patterns his actions after Christ's love for the church can he expect his wife to respect him, as verse 33 explains.

A young man once went to talk to well-known Bible teacher Harry Ironside (1876–1951). “I love my wife too much!” he said to Ironside. “In fact, I've put her on such a high plane, I fear it's sinful.” “Do you think you love your wife more than Christ loved the church?” inquired Ironside. The husband didn't dare say he did. “Well, that's the limit to which we may go,” Ironside explained, “for we read, ‘Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it’ (Ephesians 5:25 KJV). Every tender act of love expressed toward your life partner is proper and spiritual!”

The word *love* in Ephesians 5:28 doesn't refer merely to romantic affection but also to the highest relationship possible. It involves commitment, sacrifice, and even a willingness to die for the one loved. We can never show too much of this kind of love.

HENRY BOSCH

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times—but always with the same person.

Faith

Guidance in the Fog

READ PSALM 119:105–112

*Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light
on my path.* —PSALM 119:105

Some fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico had taken a small boat to their favorite spot about five miles from land. They enjoyed themselves and had no difficulty until late afternoon when a dense fog suddenly moved in. By the time they realized what was happening and got the motor running to head back, they were completely engulfed in the “soup” and could see only a few yards ahead. With hearts pounding, they tried to figure out the way to shore.

Then one of them remembered that he had a small compass. Even though its tiny pointer defied their sense of direction, they agreed to trust it. The men later admitted that periodically they would shout above the noise of the motor, “I don’t think the compass is working. I’m sure we’re headed the wrong way.” But they allowed its needle to be their guide. After a very long time, they finally saw the dry images of land emerging. With uncanny precision they had been guided out of the fog to within a few yards of the dock from which they started.

That’s the kind of confidence we can have in the Word of God. Like that compass, it shows us the way. It may not enable us to see as much as we would like to, but it will always enable us to see as much as we need.

MART DEHAAN

The Bible is like a compass—it always points
the believer in the right direction.

Our Daily Bread Writers

JAMES BANKS. Pastor of Peace Church in Durham, North Carolina, James has written several books for Discovery House, including *Praying the Prayers of the Bible* and *Prayers for Prodigals*.

JOHN BLASE. An editor for Multnomah Publishers, John has written several books, including *Touching Wonder: Recapturing the Awe of Christmas* and *All Is Grace: A Ragamuffin Memoir* with Brennan Manning. John's articles first appeared in *Our Daily Bread* in early 2019. He and his wife have three children.

HENRY BOSCH (1914–1995). Henry was the first managing editor of *Our Daily Bread* and one of its first writers. Throughout his life, he battled illness but turned his weaknesses into spiritual encouragement for others through his devotional writing.

MONICA BRANDS. Monica has a master of theological studies from Calvin Seminary in Grand Rapids. She has worked with children with special needs. Monica grew up in Minnesota in a family with eight children. She began writing for *Our Daily Bread* in 2017.

DAVE BRANON. An editor with Discovery House, Dave has been involved with *Our Daily Bread* since the 1980s. He earned his master of arts degree in English from Western Michigan University. Dave has written nearly twenty books, including *Beyond the Valley* and *Living the Psalms Life*, both Discovery House publications.

ANNE CETAS. After becoming a Christian in her late teens, Anne was introduced to *Our Daily Bread* right away and began reading it. Now she reads it for a living as senior content editor of *Our Daily Bread*. Anne began writing articles for ODB in 2004.

POH FANG CHIA. Like Anne Cetas, Poh Fang trusted Jesus Christ as Savior as a teenager. She is an editor and a part of the Chinese editorial review committee serving in the Our Daily Bread Ministries Singapore office.

WINN COLLIER. Pastor of All Souls Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, Winn has established a writing career with books such as *Restless Faith: Hanging On to a God Just Out of Reach* and *Holy Curiosity: Encountering Jesus' Provocative Questions*. His first *Our Daily Bread* articles appeared in early 2019. He and his wife, Miska, have two sons.

BILL CROWDER. A former pastor who is now vice president of ministry content for Our Daily Bread Ministries, Bill travels extensively as a Bible conference teacher, sharing God's truths with fellow believers in Malaysia and Singapore and other places where ODB Ministries has international offices. His Discovery House books include *Windows on Easter* and *Let's Talk*.

LAWRENCE DARMANI. A noted novelist and publisher in Ghana, Lawrence is editor of *Step* magazine and CEO of Step Publishers. He and his family live in Accra, Ghana. His book *Grief Child* earned him the Commonwealth Writers' Prize as best first book by a writer in Africa.

DENNIS DEHAAN (1932–2014). When Henry Bosch retired, Dennis became the second managing editor of *Our Daily Bread*. A former pastor, he loved preaching and teaching the Word of God.

KURT DEHAAN (1953–2003). Kurt was a vital part of the ministry founded by his grandfather Dr. M. R. DeHaan. Kurt faithfully led *Our Daily Bread* as the managing editor for many years, and often wrote for other ministry publications until his sudden death in 2003 of a heart attack while jogging. He and his wife Mary (who died in 2014) had four children: Katie, Anna, Claire, and Nathan.

MART DEHAAN. The former president of Our Daily Bread Ministries, Mart followed in the footsteps of his grandfather M. R. and his dad Richard in that capacity. Mart, who has long been associated with *Day of Discovery* as host of the program from Israel, is now senior content advisor for Our Daily Bread Ministries and co-host of *Discover the Word*.

RICHARD DEHAAN (1923–2002). Son of the founder of Our Daily Bread Ministries, Dr. M. R. DeHaan, Richard was responsible for the ministry's entrance into television. Under his leadership, *Day of Discovery* television made its debut in 1968.

XOCHITL DIXON. Xochitl (soh-cheel) equips and encourages readers to embrace God's grace and grow deeper in their personal relationships with Christ and others. Serving as an author, speaker, and blogger at xedixon.com, she enjoys singing, reading, motherhood, and being married to her best friend, Dr. W. Alan Dixon Sr.

DAVID EGNER. A retired Our Daily Bread Ministries editor and longtime *Our Daily Bread* writer, David was also a college professor during his working career. In fact, he was a writing instructor for both Anne Cetas and Julie Ackerman Link at Cornerstone University.

DENNIS FISHER. For many years, Dennis was senior research editor at Our Daily Bread Ministries, using his theological training to guarantee biblical accuracy. He is also an expert in C. S. Lewis studies. He and his wife, Janet, a former university professor, have retired to Northern California.

VERNON GROUNDS (1914–2010). A longtime college president (Denver Seminary) and board member for Our Daily Bread Ministries, Vernon's life story was told in the Discovery House book *Transformed by Love*. Dr. Grounds died at the age of 96.

TIM GUSTAFSON. Tim writes for *Our Daily Bread* and serves as an editor for Discovery Series. As the son of missionaries to Ghana, Tim has an unusual perspective on life in the West. He and his wife, Leisa, are the parents of one daughter and seven sons.

C. P. HIA. Hia Chek Phang and his wife, Lin Choo, reside in the island nation of Singapore in Southeast Asia. C. P. came to faith in Jesus Christ at the age of thirteen. During his early years as a believer, he was privileged to learn from excellent Bible teachers who instilled in him a love for God's Word. He is special assistant to the president of Our Daily Bread Ministries, and he helps with translating resources for the ministry. He and his wife have a son, daughter-in-law, grandson, and granddaughter.

KIRSTEN HOLMBERG. Kirsten has been a part of the *Our Daily Bread* writing team since March 2017. She lives in the northwest part of the United States, and in addition to her writing, she has a ministry of speaking to various church, business, and community groups. She is the author of *Advent with the Word: Approaching Christmas through the Inspired Language of God*.

ADAM HOLZ. Adam's first *Our Daily Bread* articles appeared in January 2018. His main job is as senior associate editor of Focus on the Family's media review website, *Plugged In*. He has written a Bible study called *Beating Busyness*. He and his wife, Jennifer, have three children.

ARTHUR JACKSON. Having grown up in Kansas City, Arthur returned home after spending nearly three decades in pastoral ministry in Chicago. He began writing for *Our Daily Bread* in 2017. He serves as director of two ministries—one that cares for pastors and one that seeks to plant churches worldwide. He and his wife, Shirley, have five grandsons.

CINDY HESS KASPER. An editor for the Our Daily Bread Ministries publication *Our Daily Journey* until her retirement in 2018, Cindy began writing for *Our Daily Bread* in 2006. She and her husband, Tom, have three children and seven grandchildren.

RANDY KILGORE. Randy spent most of his twenty-plus years in business as a senior human resource manager before returning to seminary. Since finishing his master of divinity in 2000, he has served as a writer and workplace chaplain. He is the author of *Made to Matter: Devotions for Working Christians*. Randy and his wife, Cheryl, and their two children live in Massachusetts.

LESLIE KOH. Born and raised in Singapore, Leslie spent more than fifteen years as a journalist in the busy newsroom of local newspaper *The Straits Times* before moving to Our Daily Bread Ministries. He has found moving from bad news to good news most rewarding, and he still believes that nothing reaches out to people better than a good, compelling story. He likes traveling, running, editing, and writing.

ALBERT LEE. Albert was director of international ministries for Our Daily Bread Ministries for many years. Albert's passion, vision, and energy expanded the work of the ministry around the world. Albert grew up in Singapore and took a variety of courses from Singapore Bible College, as well as serving with Singapore Youth for Christ from 1971–1999. Albert appreciates art and collects paintings. He and his wife, Catherine, live in Singapore and have two children.

JULIE ACKERMAN LINK (1950–2015). A book editor by profession, Julie began writing for *Our Daily Bread* in 2000. Her books *Above All, Love* and *100 Prayers Inspired by the Psalms* are available through Discovery House. Julie lost her long battle with cancer in April 2015.

DAVID MCCASLAND. Living in Colorado, David enjoys the beauty of God's grandeur as displayed in the Rocky Mountains. An accomplished biographer, David has written the award-winning *Oswald Chambers: Abandoned to God* and *Eric Liddell: Pure Gold*.

KEILA OCHOA. In addition to her work with *Our Daily Bread*, Keila assists with Media Associates International, a group that trains writers around the world to write about faith. She and her husband have two children.

AMY PETERSON. Amy has a BA in English Literature from Texas A&M and an MA in Intercultural Studies from Wheaton College. Amy taught English as a Second Language for two years in Southeast Asia before returning stateside to teach at Taylor University. She is now pursuing an M.Div. at Duke Divinity School. She is the author of the book *Dangerous Territory: My Misguided Quest to Save the World*.

AMY BOUCHER PYE. Amy is a writer, editor, and speaker. The author of *Finding Myself in Britain: Our Search for Faith, Home, and True Identity*, she runs the Woman Alive book club in the UK and enjoys life with her family in their English vicarage.

HADDON ROBINSON (1931–2017). Haddon, a renowned expert on preaching, served many years as a seminary professor. He wrote numerous books and hundreds of magazine articles. For a number of years he was a panelist on Our Daily Bread Ministries' radio program *Discover the Word*.

DAVID ROPER. David lives in Idaho, where he takes advantage of the natural beauty of his state. He has been writing for *Our Daily Bread* since 2000, and he has published several books with Discovery House, including *Psalms 23* and *Teach Us to Number Our Days*.

LISA SAMRA. Lisa calls Grand Rapids home after growing up and attending both college (University of Texas) and seminary (Dallas Theological Seminary) in the Lone Star State. A journalism major in college, she continues her love of writing through *Our Daily Bread*. She and her husband, Jim, who pastors the church founded by Dr. M. R. DeHaan, have four children.

JENNIFER BENSON SCHULDT. Jennifer, a Chicagoan, writes from the perspective of a mom of a growing family. She has written for *Our Daily Bread* since 2010.

JULIE SCHWAB. Julie plans to use her recently earned master of arts degree from Liberty University to continue her love of writing about God's Word and life in Christ. Julie's first *Our Daily Bread* articles appeared in the publication in 2017 when she was an intern from Cornerstone University.

JOE STOWELL. As president of Cornerstone University, Joe has stayed connected to today's young adults in a leadership role. A popular speaker and a former pastor, Joe has written a number of books over the years, including *Strength for the Journey* and *Jesus Nation*.

HERB VANDER LUGT (1920–2006). For many years, Herb was senior research editor at Our Daily Bread Ministries, responsible for checking the biblical accuracy of the booklets published by ODB Ministries. A World War II veteran, Herb spent several years as a pastor before his ODB tenure began.

PAUL VAN GORDER (1921–2009). A writer for *Our Daily Bread* in the 1980s and 1990s, Paul was a noted pastor and Bible teacher—both in the Atlanta area where he lived and through the *Day of Discovery* TV program.

MARVIN WILLIAMS. Marvin's first foray into Our Daily Bread Ministries came as a writer for *Our Daily Journey*. In 2007, he penned his first *Our Daily Bread* article. Marvin is senior teaching pastor at a church in Lansing, Michigan.

JOANIE YODER (1934–2004). For ten years, until her death, Joanie wrote for *Our Daily Bread*. In addition, she published the book *God Alone* with Discovery House.

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“AND NOW THESE THREE REMAIN:
faith, hope AND love. BUT THE
GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.”

—1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

From the writers of *Our Daily Bread* comes a yearlong devotional journey filled with inspiring meditations based on faith, hope, and love—with an emphasis on love, the central theme of God’s message to the world. Each day offers you confidence and encouragement through a combination of Scripture, engaging stories, and compelling quotes.

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