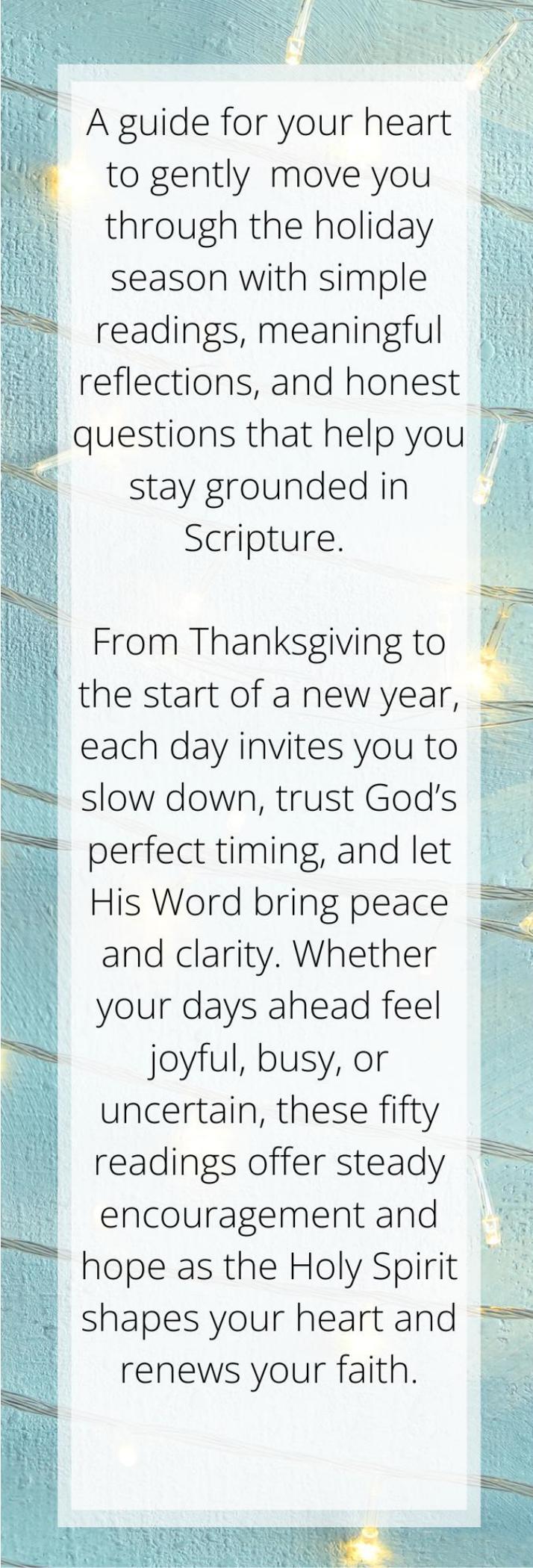


a Dwelling Richly Devotional

God's Perfect Timing

50-Days of Hope, Trust, &
Steady Joy through the Holidays

Jennifer Garrett Richmond



A guide for your heart
to gently move you
through the holiday
season with simple
readings, meaningful
reflections, and honest
questions that help you
stay grounded in
Scripture.

From Thanksgiving to
the start of a new year,
each day invites you to
slow down, trust God's
perfect timing, and let
His Word bring peace
and clarity. Whether
your days ahead feel
joyful, busy, or
uncertain, these fifty
readings offer steady
encouragement and
hope as the Holy Spirit
shapes your heart and
renews your faith.

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50-Days of Hope, Trust, &
Steady Joy through the Holidays

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a Dwelling Richly devotional

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For more resources, visit **JenniferGRichmond.com** or the **Dwelling Richly** podcast.

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This devotional journal is meant to be enjoyed together in the Dwelling Richly community. Watch the weekly videos or listen on the Dwelling Richly podcast for encouragement and connection to the Word. All resources are available on my website:

www.JenniferGRichmond.com Search: "God's Perfect Timing Devotional"





INTRODUCTION

50-DAYS OF HOPE, TRUST, & STEADY JOY THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

MY HEART TO YOURS,

As we begin this devotional journey together, I want to acknowledge something we often feel but rarely say out loud. Trusting God can be beautiful, but it can also be hard. There are moments when our hearts do not understand His timing, and our prayers feel small compared to the weight we carry. Twila Paris wrote, “Sometimes my little heart can’t understand what is in Your will, what is in Your plan,” and I think all of us have felt that ache at one time or another.

Scripture understands this tension. David cried out, “When I am afraid, I trust in You” (Psalm 56:3). Job declared, “Though He slay me, yet I will trust Him” (Job 13:15). The psalmist confessed, “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart” (Psalm 73:26). Trust is not a feeling we manufacture. It is a posture we return to again and again through tears, questions, and quiet surrender.

My deepest hope is that this devotional does not replace your time in Scripture, but leads you into it. I want you to taste the Word for yourself, not rely on someone else’s meal. These pages are meant to stir your appetite for more of God, especially during a season when life grows full and emotions run deep.

If your heart finds it hard to trust, you are in the right place. If you know doctrine and theology, yet still feel small or shaken, you are not alone. This devotional is meant to guide you gently back to the One who knows your heart and reads your mind, who has been faithful before and will never change. Each reading will help you reflect on God’s perfect timing, remember His faithfulness, and rest in the hope that Christ brings.

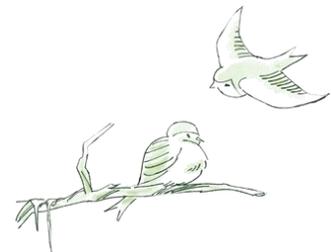
As you journey from Thanksgiving into a new year, my prayer is that these pages help you whisper again, “I will trust You, Lord,” even when life feels cloudy or painful. The Holy Spirit is with you. The Father delights in you. Christ holds you fast.

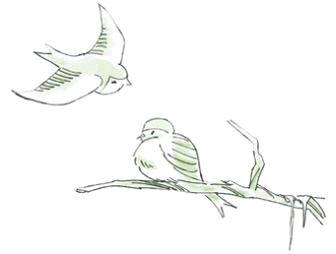
May peace rise where anxiety once lived. May hope grow where worry once settled. And may you walk these next fifty days with a heart steady in the truth that God can be trusted in every season.

I am praying for you as you open the pages of Scripture. Let His Word steady you and fill you with joy as you “let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.”

Dwelling well...eyes on Him,

Jennifer





LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL
IN YOU RICHLY, TEACHING AND
ADMONISHING ONE ANOTHER IN
ALL WISDOM, SINGING PSALMS AND
HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS,
WITH THANKFULNESS IN YOUR
HEARTS TO GOD.



WEEK 1 ...THANKSGIVING WEEK

THEME: A HEART OF TRUE THANKFULNESS

Thanksgiving invites us to pause and remember God's steady faithfulness. Before the holidays grow full and busy, this week helps us slow down and root our hearts in gratitude. As you read, recall the ways God has carried you and let His past faithfulness strengthen your trust for the days ahead.

DAY 1 - PSALM 100

Read: Psalm 100

Reflect:

Thanksgiving begins not with our circumstances but with God's unchanging goodness. The psalmist doesn't say "Come into His gates when life is smooth," but simply, "*Enter.*" God's faithfulness doesn't shift with seasons ...it anchors us through them.

Respond:

What attribute of God's goodness do you need to remember today?

DAY 2 - PSALM 103:1-14

Read: Psalm 103:1-14

Reflect:

David calls his own heart to bless the Lord *by remembering*. Gratitude grows in soil watered by remembrance. God has forgiven, redeemed, crowned, and renewed ...and He did all of it in His perfect timing, not ours. His compassion toward you is deeper than your fears.

Respond:

Which of God's "benefits" listed in this psalm is especially meaningful to you right now?



DAY 3 - DEUTERONOMY 8:1-10

Read: Deuteronomy 8:1–10

Reflect:

Israel learned to trust God in the wilderness by remembering what He had done. They were fed every day “according to need,” not abundance ...so they would know Him as the source of life. Gratitude reshapes our trust when we feel stretched thin.

Respond:

Where has God provided “just enough” for you this year?

DAY 4 - PSALM 136

Read: Psalm 136

Reflect:

This psalm is a rhythmic reminder that God’s steadfast love does not flicker or fade. In every season ...plenty and want, celebration and sorrow ...His love endures. When anxious thoughts rise, God’s enduring love is the truth that steadies us.

Respond:

Which repeated line (“His steadfast love endures forever”) do you most need to pray into your situation?

DAY 5 - PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

Read: Philippians 4:4–7

Reflect:

Gratitude is not denial; it is declaration. Paul teaches us that thanksgiving is part of how God guards our hearts from anxiety. Gratitude opens our hands, loosening the grip of fear because “the Lord is near.”

Respond:

What is one anxiety you can release to God today through prayer and thanksgiving?



WEEK 2 ...ADVENT WEEK 1

THEME: WAITING ON GOD'S TIMING: PROMISES GIVEN

This week centers on God's earliest promises. Advent begins in longing. Before the manger, before the angels, before Bethlehem, there was a promise spoken into a world full of waiting. God's people learned to hope in what He had said, not in what they saw. Waiting is not the absence of God. Waiting is the classroom where trust grows.

DAY 8 - GENESIS 3:1-15

Read: Genesis 3:1-15

Reflect:

The first promise of redemption came in the middle of heartbreak. God spoke hope into a world that had fallen into fear and shame. His plan for salvation began long before anyone could see its fulfillment. This reminds us that His timing always begins with His Word.

Respond:

Where do you need to let God's promise speak louder than what you feel?

DAY 9 - GENESIS 12:1-4 AND GALATIANS 3:6-9

Read: Genesis 12:1-4; Galatians 3:6-9

Reflect:

God called Abraham into a future he could not yet imagine. Promise came before clarity. Faith came before sight. Paul reminds us that God's promise to bless the nations through Abraham is fulfilled in Christ and continues in us. This is the steady work of God across generations.

Respond:

What step of faith is God inviting you to take while you wait for clarity?



DAY 10 - ISAIAH 9:1-7

Read: Isaiah 9:1-7

Reflect:

Isaiah spoke to weary people who felt forgotten. Into that darkness came the promise of a Child, a Counselor, a Mighty God, a Prince of Peace. God gives promises before He gives answers so that our hope rests in Him and not in our circumstances.

Respond:

Which name of Christ in this passage brings you comfort today?

DAY 11 - ISAIAH 40:1-11

Read: Isaiah 40:1-11

Reflect:

Comfort was God's first word to His people after long silence. He reminded them of His strength and His tenderness. He carries His people like a shepherd and leads them patiently. The God who guides the stars is the God who guides your days.

Respond:

How does remembering God's tender strength encourage you in your waiting?

DAY 12 - LUKE 1:26-38

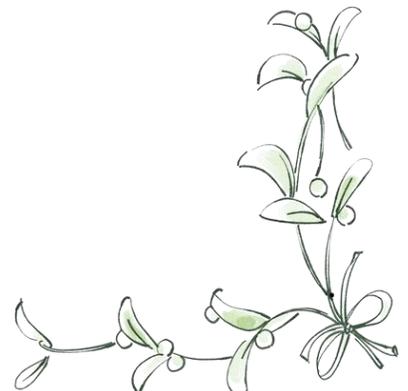
Read: Luke 1:26-38

Reflect:

Mary received a promise she could not explain yet she responded with trust. Her story teaches us that waiting is not passive. Waiting is faith in motion. God's perfect timing came to her quietly and personally, just as He often comes to us.

Respond:

What would it look like for you to respond, as Mary did, with "Let it be to me according to Your word"?



WEEK 3 ...ADVENT WEEK 2

THEME: PREPARING IN GOD'S TIMING: HEARTS MADE READY

Before Christ came, God prepared the hearts of His people. Preparation is not wasted time. It is holy time. God often forms us in the space between promise and fulfillment.

DAY 15 - MALACHI 3:1-4

Read: Malachi 3:1-4

Reflect:

God promised to send a messenger who would prepare the way. Preparation involved refining and purifying. God prepares us the same way, patiently shaping our hearts to reflect His holiness.

Respond: Where might God be refining or softening your heart right now?

DAY 16 - LUKE 1:5-25

Read: Luke 1:5-25

Reflect:

Zechariah and Elizabeth waited for years. God's timing surprised them but it was perfect. The preparation of their faith became the soil in which their joy grew.

Respond:

What long-standing prayer of yours might God be preparing to answer in a surprising way? Talk to God about that. Let it go into His hands and His perfect timing.



DAY 17 - LUKE 1:39-56

Read: Luke 1:39-56

Reflect:

Mary and Elizabeth encouraged each other as God prepared their hearts for what was ahead. Sometimes God prepares us through community. Sometimes He prepares us through worship.

Respond:

Who encourages you to trust God's timing and how can you thank them or pray for them today?

DAY 18 - MARK 1:1-8

Read: Mark 1:1-8

Reflect:

John the Baptist's entire ministry focused on preparing people to receive Christ. Preparation still matters for us. Our hearts grow ready for Christ when we repent, listen, and make room for Him.

Respond:

Is there anything in your life that needs to be set aside so you can better hear God?

DAY 19 - PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11

Read: Philippians 1:9-11

Reflect:

Paul prayed that love would abound so that believers would be prepared for the day of Christ. Preparation is not passive. It is a growing love that seeks truth and righteousness.

Respond:

How is God growing your love, discernment, or righteousness in this season?



WEEK 4 ...ADVENT WEEK 3

THEME: REJOICING IN GOD'S TIMING: HOPE ARRIVES

Advent joy is more than a feeling. It rises from confidence that God keeps His promises.

This week invites you to rejoice in the God who steps into ordinary places with extraordinary grace. As you read, let your heart rest in the hope that Christ brings and allow His faithfulness to renew your joy.

DAY 22 - ISAIAH 52:7-10

Read: Isaiah 52:7-10

Reflect:

Isaiah paints a picture of joy rooted in good news. God's salvation brings peace and comfort. Joy grows when we remember the victories God has already won.

Respond:

What victory of God in your life brings you joy today?

DAY 23 - LUKE 2:1-14

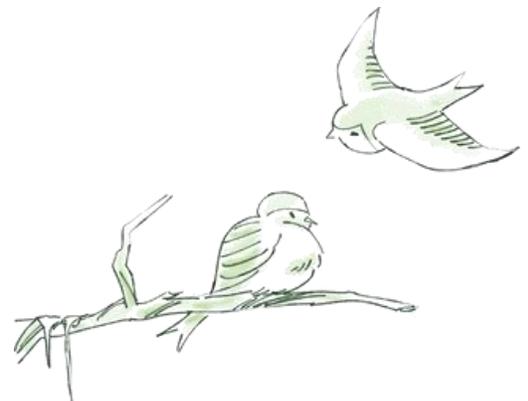
Read: Luke 2:1-14

Reflect:

The angels announced good news of great joy for all people. Joy came quietly to a manger and loudly to the heavens. Joy often meets us in unexpected places.

Respond:

Where has God brought joy into your life in an unexpected way?



DAY 24 - LUKE 2:15-20

Read: Luke 2:15-20

Reflect:

The shepherds responded to God's revelation with action and worship. Joy is not only felt. It is expressed. It moves us to share and to glorify God.

Respond:

How might you express joy and gratitude to God today?

DAY 25 - JOHN 15:9-11

Read: John 15:9-11

Reflect:

Jesus teaches that joy grows when we abide in His love and obey His word. Joy is not an emotional spike. It is the fruit of a steady life with Christ.

Respond:

What practice helps you abide in Christ most faithfully?

DAY 26 - PHILIPPIANS 4:4 TO 5

Read: Philippians 4:4-5

Reflect:

Paul commands believers to rejoice always because the Lord is near. Joy does not come from control or comfort. It comes from nearness to Christ.

Respond:

Where do you need to choose joy by remembering that Christ is near?



WEEK 5 ...ADVENT WEEK 4

THEME: FULFILLMENT IN GOD'S TIMING: CHRIST HAS COME

Christmas reminds us that God fulfills His promises at the perfect moment. Christ entered the world in complete alignment with the Father's plan, bringing light, mercy, and redemption. This week invites you to marvel at the wonder of God with us. As you read, let your heart rest in the truth that God never forgets or delays His promises.

DAY 29 - MICAH 5:2-5

Read: Micah 5:2-5

Reflect:

Bethlehem was small, but God delights in working through what the world overlooks. Fulfillment does not depend on human strength. It depends on God's sovereign choice.

Respond:

Where might God be working through something small or unnoticed in your life?

DAY 30 - LUKE 1:67-79

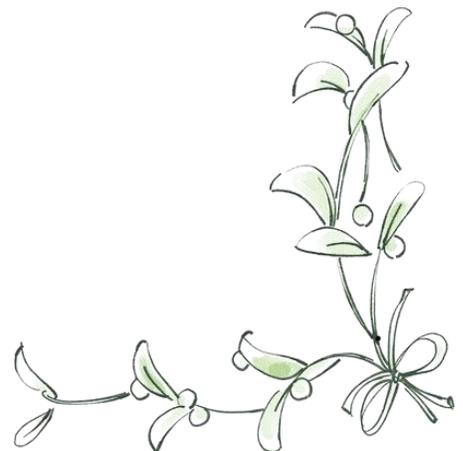
Read: Luke 1:67-79

Reflect:

Zechariah praises God for His faithful fulfillment. He sees God's mercy woven through generations. Christ's coming is the dawn that breaks through darkness.

Respond:

What darkness in your life needs the light of Christ today?



DAY 31 - JOHN 1:1-14

Read: John 1:1-14

Reflect:

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. God's fullness came near. Grace upon grace. This is the heart of Christmas. God with us. God for us.

Respond:

How does the nearness of Christ strengthen your faith today?

DAY 32 - GALATIANS 4:4-7

Read: Galatians 4:4-7

Reflect:

"In the fullness of time" Christ came. Not early. Not late. God's perfect timing brought our adoption and freedom. We are no longer slaves. We are beloved children.

Respond:

Where do you need to rest in your identity as a child of God?

DAY 33 - MATTHEW 1:18-25

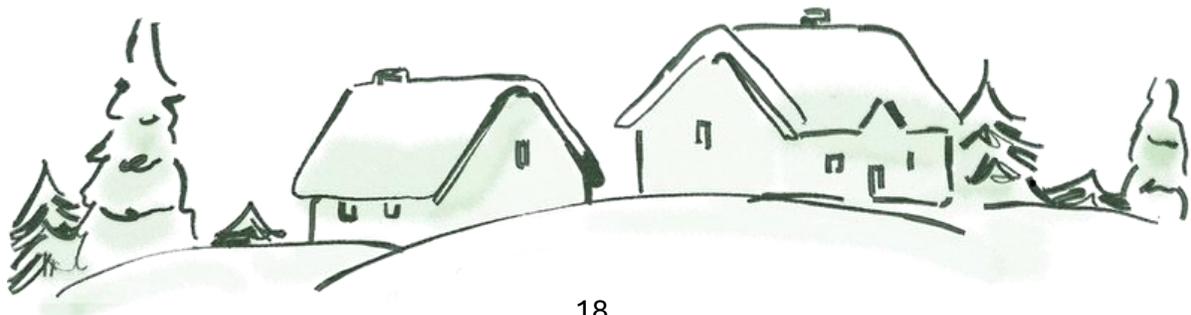
Read: Matthew 1:18-25

Reflect:

Joseph trusted God's timing even when he did not understand the path ahead. His obedience brought him into the heart of God's plan for redemption.

Respond:

What step of obedience is God inviting you to take this week?



WEEK 6

THEME: TRUSTING GOD'S TIMING: STRENGTH FOR THE NEXT STEP

As the year draws to a close, we often carry a mix of hope, weariness, and questions. This week helps us pause and remember that God's mercies are renewed each morning, including the ones that greet a new year. As you read, allow His faithfulness to strengthen you and give you courage for whatever step comes next.

DAY 36 - LAMENTATIONS 3:19-26

Read: Lamentations 3:19-26

Reflect:

Even in grief and uncertainty, Jeremiah recalls God's steadfast love. Hope rises when we wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Respond:

What truth about God do you need to recall in moments of worry?

DAY 37 - PSALM 90

Read: Psalm 90

Reflect:

Moses reminds us that God is our dwelling place through all generations. Our lives feel fragile, but His strength is steady. Numbering our days helps us live with wisdom.

Respond:

How does remembering the brevity of life shape your priorities?



DAY 38 - PHILIPPIANS 3:12-16

Read: Philippians 3:12-16

Reflect:

Paul presses on with purpose. He forgets what lies behind and strains forward to what lies ahead. This is the posture of a new year. Hopeful. Focused. Steady.

Respond:

What is one thing you need to release as you enter the new year?

DAY 39 - HEBREWS 12:1-3

Read: Hebrews 12:1-3

Reflect:

We run with endurance by fixing our eyes on Jesus. He endured the cross for the joy set before Him. He strengthens our steps when we grow weary.

Respond:

Where do you need fresh endurance, and how can you fix your eyes on Christ in that area?

DAY 40 - PROVERBS 3:5-6

Read: Proverbs 3:5-6

Reflect:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Acknowledge Him in all your ways. He promises to make your paths straight. This is the perfect prayer for a new year.

Respond:

What path in your life needs the clarity and direction only God can provide?



WEEK 7

THEME: STEPPING INTO GOD'S TIMING

A new year invites fresh beginnings, yet true renewal comes from walking closely with Christ. This week encourages you to step forward with confidence, knowing that your life is hidden in Him. As you read, invite God to shape your priorities, direct your path, and help you begin this year rooted in His truth and steady in His love.

DAY 43 - JOSHUA 1:1-9

Read: Joshua 1:1-9

Reflect:

God calls Joshua into a new season with strength and courage. The key is simple. Do not turn from the Word. Meditate on it. Walk forward with confidence.

Respond:

What new step is God calling you to take with courage?

DAY 44 - PSALM 37:1-9

Read: Psalm 37:1-9

Reflect:

Trust. Delight. Commit. Be still. These help us walk steadily. God promises that those who trust in Him will not be shaken.

Respond:

Which of these actions do you need most today: trust, delight, commit, or be still?



DAY 45 - ROMANS 12:1-2

Read: Romans 12:1-2

Reflect:

Transformation begins with surrender. Renewal begins with a mind shaped by Scripture. God's will becomes clear as we offer our lives fully to Him.

Respond:

Where is God inviting you to surrender something old so He can bring something new?

DAY 46 - COLOSSIANS 3:1-17

Read: Colossians 3:1-17

Reflect:

Paul calls us to set our minds on things above, put off the old, put on the new, and let the Word dwell richly. This passage prepares our hearts for the upcoming study through Colossians.

Respond:

Which part of your life most needs the Word of Christ to dwell richly this year?

DAY 47 - PHILIPPIANS 4:6-9

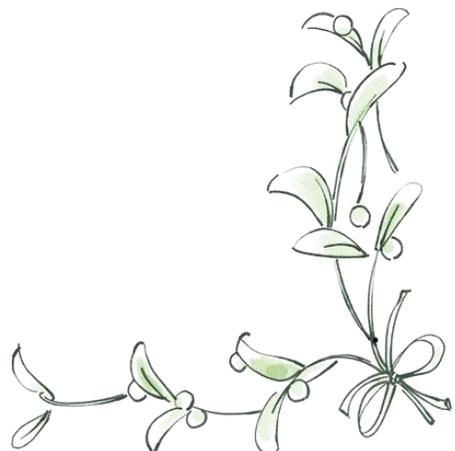
Read: Philippians 4:6-9

Reflect:

We return to the call to refuse anxious thoughts and embrace the peace of Christ. Steadiness comes from prayer, truth, purity, and obedience.

Respond:

What practice from Philippians will you carry forward into 2026?



WEEK 8 - DAY 50

THEME: LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING AHEAD: GOD HOLDS IT ALL

As you arrive at this final day of the devotional, take a quiet moment to look back at the path you have walked. These weeks have carried you from Thanksgiving to a new year, tracing the faithfulness of God through every season. You have remembered His goodness, waited on His promises, rejoiced in His timing, and renewed your heart in His truth. Today's reading invites you to lift your eyes to the God who has held every step behind you and holds every step ahead. Let this final reflection help you rest in His steady care and trust His loving guidance for all that is to come.

Read: Psalm 121

Reflect:

The Lord watches over your going out and your coming in. Your past, present, and future rest securely in His care. Nothing escapes His watchful eye.

Respond:

What have you learned about God's timing, and how will it shape the way you walk forward?



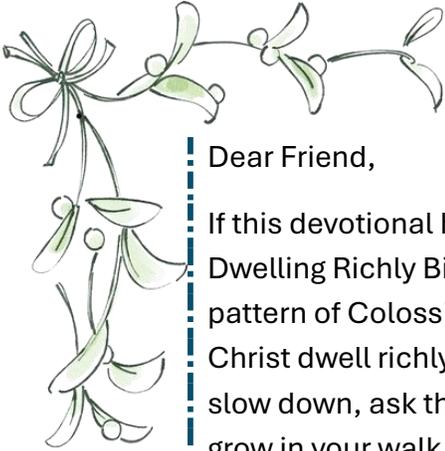
You have completed fifty days of reading, reflecting, and responding, and I pray your heart feels steadier because of it. These Scriptures have reminded us of a God who keeps His promises, directs our steps with wisdom, and meets us in every moment with compassion. Through seasons of gratitude, waiting, preparation, joy, fulfillment, and renewal, He has shown that His timing is always perfect.

This rhythm you have practiced is not meant to end here. Dwelling richly in the Word is a daily invitation. It is a posture of both dependence and delight. As you continue to read, study, and pray, remember that you do not walk alone. The Holy Spirit lives within you, guiding you into truth, renewing your mind, and giving you strength to live with hope and faithfulness.

Carry forward what you have learned. Keep seeking the Lord in the quiet moments. Stay rooted in truth when life becomes full or uncertain. And trust that God, who has held your past and your present, will lead you through every day ahead with the same faithful love.

May the peace of Christ guard your heart, may the Word of Christ dwell richly in you, and may the Spirit of God empower you to walk in steady hope until we meet again in our next study dwelling in His Living Word.





Dear Friend,

If this devotional has encouraged your heart, you will love the full Dwelling Richly Bible studies. Each study follows the beautiful pattern of Colossians 3:16, where we are called to let the Word of Christ dwell richly in us. The Dwelling Richly approach invites you to slow down, ask thoughtful questions, explore Scripture deeply, and grow in your walk with Jesus in a way that is both gentle and transformative.

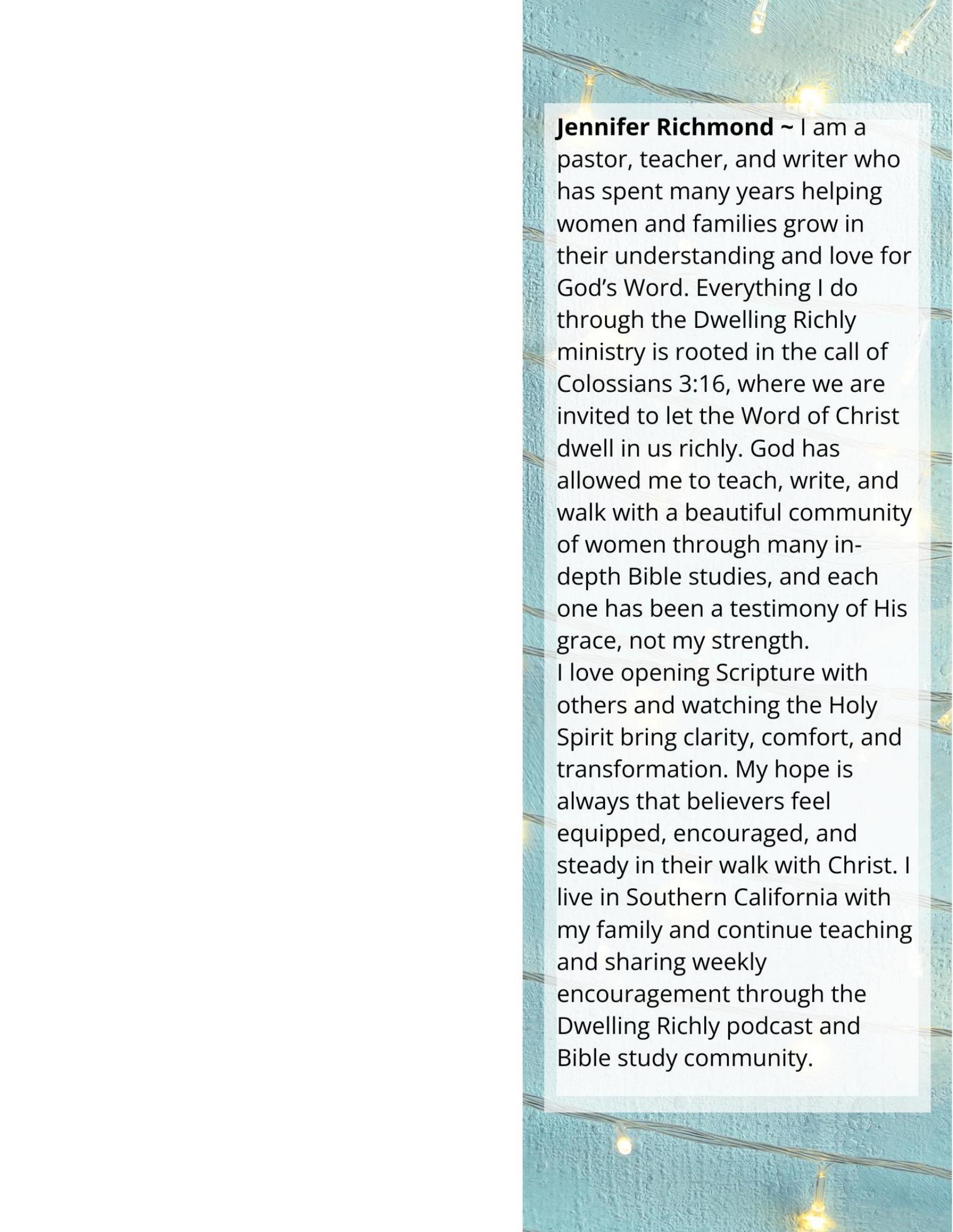
There are many in-depth studies to choose from, including Genesis through Joshua, Ruth, Esther, Psalms, Luke, Romans, Galatians, Philippians, and more to come. Every study is designed to help you engage the Bible with confidence and joy, whether you are new to Bible study or ready to go deeper than ever before.

If your heart is hungry for truth and you long to grow in wisdom, steadiness, and love for God's Word, the Dwelling Richly series will encourage and equip you. Come join us as we continue to dwell richly in the Word and let it shape every part of our lives.

Connect with the Dwelling Richly Community

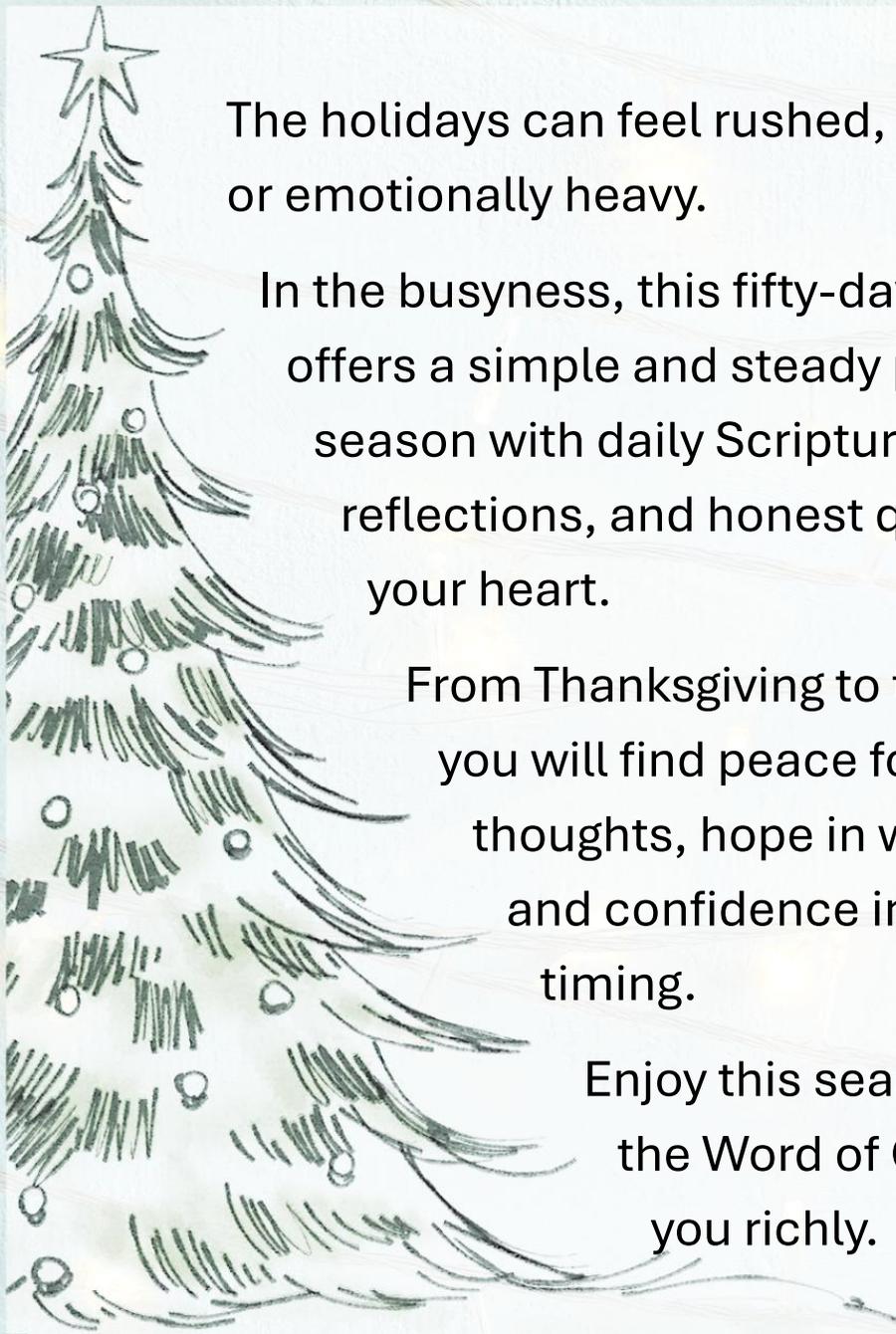
www.JenniferGRichmond.com





Jennifer Richmond ~ I am a pastor, teacher, and writer who has spent many years helping women and families grow in their understanding and love for God's Word. Everything I do through the Dwelling Richly ministry is rooted in the call of Colossians 3:16, where we are invited to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly. God has allowed me to teach, write, and walk with a beautiful community of women through many in-depth Bible studies, and each one has been a testimony of His grace, not my strength.

I love opening Scripture with others and watching the Holy Spirit bring clarity, comfort, and transformation. My hope is always that believers feel equipped, encouraged, and steady in their walk with Christ. I live in Southern California with my family and continue teaching and sharing weekly encouragement through the Dwelling Richly podcast and Bible study community.



The holidays can feel rushed, overwhelming, or emotionally heavy.

In the busyness, this fifty-day devotional offers a simple and steady path through the season with daily Scripture, gentle reflections, and honest questions for your heart.

From Thanksgiving to the New Year, you will find peace for anxious thoughts, hope in waiting seasons, and confidence in God's perfect timing.

Enjoy this season as you let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.