



Welcome

IT'S TIME TO DIG A LITTLE DEEPER INTO FACING INJUSTICE.

This 7-day devotional journal was created to complement our Facing Injustice: God Is On My Side blog post. Journaling is a great way to help you digest what you're learning through the written word. We hope you find this useful when you are facing injustice. Enjoy your journaling time!

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Table Of Contents

In The Middle Of Injustice	4
Journal Your Thoughts	5
When You Face Injustice	6
Journal Your Thoughts	7
Be A Peacemaker	8
Journal Your Thoughts	9
Encountering Criticism	10
Journal Your Thoughts	11
Imperfect Vision	12
Journal Your Thoughts	13
The Last One	14
Journal Your Thoughts	15
The Persistent Widow	16
Journal Your Thoughts	17



In The Middle Of Injustice

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. – Luke 23:34

One of the hardest parts of forgiving someone is coming to terms with the injustice of what's happened. Maybe it was a car accident that took your ability to walk while the other driver wasn't punished at all.

Maybe it was the conniving woman who destroyed your marriage, and she now has a beautiful family. Maybe it was the illness that slowly stole your beloved parent from you.

Jesus knows how injustice feels. He knows the pain and agony of watching those who hurt him. He's cried as the paramedics cut you free from the crumpled car, sat in that waiting room with you, and watched as someone you once loved slowly disappeared before your eyes.

He knows because He's been there. When no one stood up for him, when he had no defender, when evil was determined to crush him, he was alone. He felt utterly forsaken with no one to show him any kindness.

And in that moment, His only thought was of you. He chose the pain, the shame, the abuse, the humiliation, the torture, the mocking. He endured it all so that He could welcome you into the kingdom, dear one.

"Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed." – Isaiah 53:4-5

God, in the middle of injustice, remind me again that I am not alone. That Jesus paid the ultimate price so that I could know peace and comfort, no matter what my circumstances are. Thank You, Jesus for what You've done for me. I will love and serve You forever. In Your Matchless name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. What injustices have you faced?

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2. What would you say to someone going through a similar injustice?
3. When you're facing injustice, what lies are you tempted to believe?

When You Face Injustice

"But while Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden." – Genesis 39:20-21

Joseph's story is one of repeated injustice. First, his brothers throw him down into a dark pit. Can you imagine his thoughts as he heard his family casually deciding how to kill him? Panic and fear probably ran through him.

When he's pulled out of the pit, he's taken to a foreign land and forced into slavery. But Jacob works hard in Egypt. His work ethic catches his master's eye and it isn't long before he's second in command.

But unfortunately, his job comes with a complication. His master's wife now wants him. She purposely arranges time alone together and sexually harasses Joseph. It's not so much what she says as the way she acts, carefully draping herself over the desk to reveal a hint of cleavage. A pouting look sent his way as he leaves the office.

When Joseph rejects her, he's the one accused of wrongdoing! Now he's in prison, serving time for a crime that he never committed. At this point, no one would fault Joseph if he decided to become bitter. He's already endured so much injustice.

But through it all, Joseph trusts that God is working a plan. Years later when he meets with his brothers again, he explains:

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." (Genesis 50:20)

It's difficult when we're faced with injustices. Perhaps a co-worker lied about you. Maybe your spouse is verbally abusive when you're alone but charming to everyone else. Perhaps you were assaulted, and your rapist was allowed to go free.

Whatever your injustice, you can trust that God is still in control. He is not the author of evil, but He does promise to redeem these terrible moments and use them for your good and His glory.

God, I struggle. I want to be bitter and angry. This injustice isn't fair. It's like sandpaper against my heart and I can't take anymore. Don't let this consume me. Redeem the evil in my life and set me free from this pain. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. Have you ever been betrayed by frien

I. Have you ever been betrayed by friends or family?
2. Have you experienced sexual harassment at a job? How did you handle it?
3. How has God redeemed an injustice in your life for your good and His glory?

Be A Peacemaker

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." – Matthew 5:9

Anger surged through Bill as he thought about his co-worker's recent behavior. The other man had passed blame for an undone project onto Bill and now Bill's job was in question.

As he considered his response, he turned on the radio to hear a pastor reciting Matthew 5:9. He quickly shut off the radio then said aloud, "God, I don't want to be a peacemaker. I want to get even. I'm angry and this isn't fair."

Instantly, Bill's thought of Jesus on the Cross. "OK, God," He said softly, "That wasn't fair either and You used it for my good. Help me to be gracious with my co-worker. Give me peace as I do my job today."

When Bill encountered his co-worker the next day, he gave the man a genuine smile and asked how he was. The other man sheepishly explained that he'd forgotten about the project and asked Bill's forgiveness.

It's hard to be a peacemaker when you want to defend yourself or get even with the person who wronged you. But as God's child, you are called to walk in peace where possible.

God, help me to remember Matthew 5:9 when I encounter unfair situations. I want to be like Jesus and show mercy to the other person. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts

Encountering Criticism

"...A great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me." – 1 Corinthians 16:9

Andrea is a blogger who often shares about her experiences as she recovers from an eating disorder that nearly took her life several years ago. She loves getting to inspire other people in their recovery journey.

One day, Andrea went to support a friend at a local fashion show. She had a great time catching up with her friend and she posted the pictures she'd taken onto social media to share with her followers.

Andrea was dismayed when a few minutes after posting, someone direct messaged her. This person shamed Andrea for sharing the photos, insisting that she was promoting an unhealthy lifestyle and acting like a hypocrite.

Unfortunately, posting about your faith journey will open you up to criticism. People who don't actually know your heart will feel entitled to comment on various aspects of your life and your faith. While some of these people may mean well, their responses can be hurtful and unfair.

In these moments, it's important to remember that you are in good company. Many of the disciples encountered opposition, criticism, and persecution during their ministries. Yet this didn't stop them from sharing the message of Christ's love and you shouldn't let it stop you either.

Yes, the words may sting. You may be tempted to respond harshly and put this person in their place. But remember the grace that God pours over you daily and let it overflow into your response.

God, I don't like it when others criticize me unfairly. I don't like when they're mean and rude to me. But I know You see my heart. You know my true intentions. Help me to respond with grace and love in these moments. Fill me with compassion for those who throw stones at me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. Who has criticized you unfairly? How did you handle the situation? 2. Who have you criticized without cause? Have you gone back to apologize? 3. When someone leaves an unkind comment about you or your faith on social media, how do you deal with it?

Imperfect Vision

"Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity." – 1 Corinthians 13:12 (NLT)

In the popular teen drama, One Tree Hill, there was a scene in which one of the main female characters, Brooke, is beaten and robbed. When she sees her injuries in the mirror the next day, she grabs lipstick and outlines them.

Next to the injuries she writes words like "payback", "justice", and "avenge". Like many survivors of violent crimes, she no longer feels safe even in her own home. Ultimately, this affects how she sees herself.

But when Brooke goes back to the mirror a few days later, new words have appeared. A friend spotted her mirror and replaced her words with positive ones like "kind", "creative", and "strong".

The moment is a beautiful reminder that friends can and do shape how we see ourselves. Maybe there's a friend in your life that you could shower with positive affirmations to show her how much you care.

You can do this by writing a letter, decorating her mirror, or leaving a simple note on her desk at work. It doesn't matter how you do it – it just matters that you pour out love on your friend.

God, help me to be the person that always sees the best in my friends. Show me how to encourage, affirm, and strengthen those around me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. Have you been a victim of a crime? How did it affect how you saw yourself? 2. What words would you use to describe yourself right now?

3. Are the words you chose above true and Biblically accurate? Or are they lies from the enemy?	

The Last One

"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." - Matthew 20:16

Years later, Ethan could still remember how he felt that moment as the clock inside the gym ticked. He waited with a growing sense of dread as all the other kids in his class were picked for teams.

When the moment came, the captain of his team looked at him scornfully, "Try not to mess up the game for the rest of us, lardo."

The words cut deep into Ethan's heart. From that moment on, Ethan defined himself with a host of negative words: Unwanted. Last. Worthless.

He was already the victim of bullying by his older brother at home. His parents turned a blind eye because his brother was seen as "the good one". He got the right grades. He made the Dean's list. He earned a baseball scholarship.

Ethan struggled to do well in school. He had trouble reading and he slowly found himself slipping into a deep depression.

But William, the school's new Engineering teacher, noticed the boy. While Ethan struggled with most of his school assignments, he had a solid grasp on how to build things. He easily created a birdhouse, picture frames, and even a bookshelf.

William always paused to compliment Ethan's work and encourage him. He let Ethan stay after class to work on projects, so he didn't have to go home. He inspired him to seek a degree in engineering and even wrote a letter of recommendation on his behalf.

Years later, Ethan graduated from college at the top of his class. He smiles when he thinks of William. "If there's one person who changed my life, it was him. He was the first person to believe in me. He taught me that I could do more with my life."

God, give me eyes to see the people around me that need encouragement. Let me speak life and kindness over them. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. Have you let words from others define you? If so, what words? 2. In what ways do you feel you've been picked last? 3. Who has had a positive influence in your life and believed in you?

The Persistent Widow

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up." – Luke 18:1

When Jesus was with his disciples, he told them a story of a persistent widow. This one had been wrongfully treated and she sought justice from a local judge.

The judge in the case was a despicable man who didn't care about anyone but himself. He refused to grant her justice and ignored her cause for a considerable amount of time.

This widow had no one else to take up her cause. She had no lawyer. She had no husband or son to fight for her. Yet she faithfully brought her petition to the judge, each time asking for justice.

Finally, the judge granted her request. He did so not because he cared about what was right or because he had a sudden revelation. He simply wanted the woman gone.

Jesus concluded his story with a powerful question: "And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?" (Luke 18:7)

Sometimes, you may pray to receive justice in a situation and it feels like nothing is happening. But God is always working situations out for His glory (Jeremiah 29:11) and our good (Romans 8:28).

God, please grant me justice. You see my ca<mark>use and You know I'</mark>m seeking to do the right thing. Preserve me with Your care and be my Defender. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. Has someone refused to grant you ju

1. Has someone refused to grant you justice?
2. Have you ever taken up another's cause who wasn't granted justice? How did you defend them?
3. Write out a prayer asking that God's justice would be seen throughout the land.

Congratulations!

You completed the 7-day Facing Injustice: God Is On My Side devotional journal!

Our hope is that you will feel that God is on your side when your a facing injustice. He is with you and He loves you. Bless you.



Join Our Facebook Group For Friendly Accountability And Community



The Christian Women's Corner private
Facebook group was created with you in
mind. CWC's goal is to provide and facilitate
encouragement, accountability, and
community for Christian women.

The CWC private Facebook group includes both Christian Women's Corner and Good Morning Girls resources.

What is Good Morning Girls?

Good Morning Girls meets online daily to keep each other accountable in God's word and in prayer as we read through the Bible cover to cover just one chapter a day.

We're excited and hope you will join our private Facebook group to start reading the word of God daily and have the accountability to keep up this habit and read through the entire Bible with us.

To find out more about the Christian Women's Corner Facebook group, please click the green button below.



About The Author



Alicia Bowyer created Christian Women's Corner after talking to a good friend one day. They discussed how hard it was to keep up with daily prayer, Bible reading, and telling others about Jesus who didn't share their faith. She knew that some might not struggle with these three things, but many do.

She wanted to take the knowledge that she gained from over 40 years on her Christian walk and help others.

Alicia lives in Barrie, Ontario, Canada, with her family, whom she loves dearly.

To find out more, visit: www.ChristianWomensCorner.com