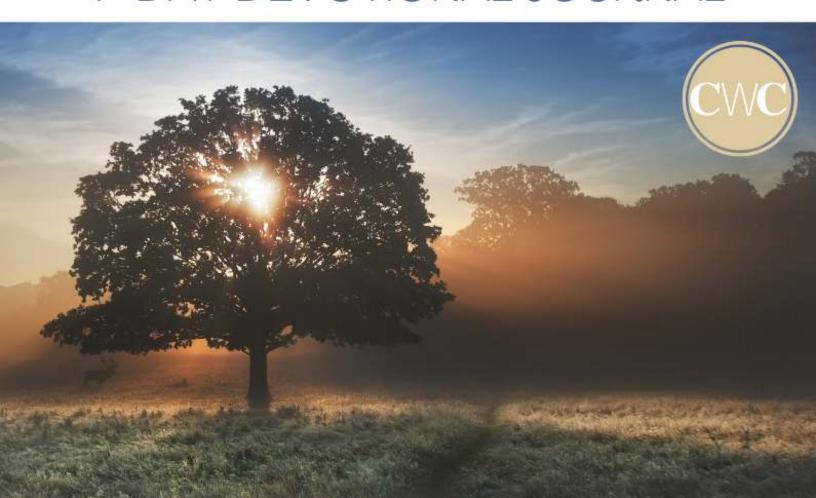
God Is Doing A New Thing

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CORNER 7-DAY DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL



Welcome

IT'S TIME TO DIG A LITTLE DEEPER INTO WHEN GOD IS DOING A NEW THING.

This 7-day devotional journal was created to complement our blog post God Is Doing A New Thing. Journaling is a great way to help you digest what you're learning through the written word. We hope you find this useful while learning about God doing a new thing. Enjoy your journaling time!

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When God Moves In A New Way

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." – Jeremiah 29:11

After being unemployed for close to two years, Dan finally got a job offer. It was exactly what he needed to provide for his wife and kids.

But there was just one problem—the job was in another state. If he accepted, Dan and his family would be saying goodbye to their loved ones, friends, and community. They would be moving into the unknown.

A few months after the move, Dan's five-year-old daughter became very sick. The local children's hospital diagnosed her with a rare illness, and Dan discovered the hospital was one of only two locations in the US that could treat his daughter.

Suddenly, Dan's perspective on the previous move shifted. He saw it as a huge blessing. Not only had God provided financially, but He had gone ahead and prepared the way for Dan's daughter, knowing the family would need to be near that exact hospital.

It's not always easy when God starts a new thing in our lives. Sometimes, it can seem downright scary. But understand that while you may not be able to see God's plan right now, you can rest in the knowledge that it's a good one.

God, help me to trust when I don't understand the new things You're doing. Your plans are for my good, and I'm resting in that today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts

1. Have you ever faced job loss? What happened?
2. How has God provided for you or your family during difficult times?
3. Was there a situation that looked awful to you at the time but turned out to be God's hand of provision?

Staying Faithful

"They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat." – Nehemiah 4:8-9

It seemed like such a promising project when he first started it. Nehemiah was rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem.

But as the days passed, Nehemiah found himself facing overwhelming opposition. Not only was he physically and emotionally tired, but he was also being threatened and taunted the entire time. No one would have blamed him if Nehemiah threw up his hands and shouted, "I quit!"

At first, new beginnings can seem bright and shiny. We see all of the possibilities and rejoice in what could be. But it's hard to keep going in a new direction when we encounter opposition. Maybe you have a spouse who isn't supportive of your sobriety or a loved one who doesn't understand your newfound faith.

While you may not be able to change what those around you are doing, you can take a page from Nehemiah's book. Pray to God and ask for His protection. He can sustain you through the hardship of this new beginning.

God, I need Your strength and support. This new beginning is not turning into the wonderful adventure I'd hoped. It's hard and painful. Please help me to stay faithful to You in this season. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. What new beginnings are you embracing in your life? 2. Have you encountered spiritual opposition during a pivotal moment in your life? How did you handle it? 3. What words of encouragement would you give Nehemiah?

Trust The Pilot

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:6-7

Jim was on a crowded flight home to see his family after a long business trip. He was looking forward to getting to see his wife and beautiful daughters. But the plane ran into a flock of geese.

Instead of continuing on the journey, the pilot chose an alternative destination. As the people around Jim panicked, it never occurred to him to worry. Instead, he confidently told his seatmate not to stress.

"I know the pilot," Jim explained. "He has decades of experience, and he's safely navigated a crisis like this one before."

Jim's confidence didn't come from his circumstances. It came from the knowledge that he knew his pilot. Like Jim, you may encounter circumstances in your life that aren't pleasant or enjoyable. They may even trigger a "new beginning" in the form of a diagnosis, divorce, or death.

But you don't have to fear. Your Pilot is still in the cockpit!

God, help me when circumstances I don't like show up. Remind me that You're still in control, and I don't have to freak out. I can choose to trust and rest in Your peace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts

I. What circumstances fill you with anxiety or doubt?
2. Have you encountered a situation like Jim's where you had to trust someone else's experience or knowledge? How did you handle it?
3. What words of encouragement would you give someone in a crisis?

But God

Tucked away in Scripture, there are verses about the moments when God changed everything. They often contain two simple but important words. See if you can spot them below...

"David stayed in the wilderness strongholds and in the hills of the Desert of Ziph. Day after day Saul searched for him, **but God** did not give David into his hands." – 1 Samuel 23:14

"**But God** raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him." – Acts 2:24

"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

"**But God** demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." – Romans 5:8

"My flesh and my heart may fail, **but God** is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." – Psalm 73:26

Sometimes, we can walk through circumstances that feel impossible. But God can give us a new beginning at any moment. He can and often does intervene in the lives of His beloved children.

God, when I'm tempted to write off the next chapter of my life as a lost cause, let me remember that You can change everything. Help me to believe in Your power and trust Your goodness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. Which "But God" story in the Bible is your favorite? 2. Do you have your own "But God" story—a moment where God intervened in an unexpected way? 3. How do you find the strength to keep believing while waiting for God to intervene?

When The Winds Howl

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" – Matthew 14:30

Kerrie started the girls' ministry with bright hopes. She longed to reach pre-teen girls in foster care who needed a safe space to discuss what they were going through in their lives.

But several close friends were unsupportive of her new ministry. She wanted to bless the girls, but her husband worked two jobs, and their budget was still stretched thin. She tried to fundraise, but her efforts flopped miserably.

Finally, she told a friend she was thinking about quitting. "If I really did what God wanted me to do, why is everything so hard? Isn't this opposition a sign that I messed up and didn't hear from Him at all?"

Then, her friend quietly said, "Peter stepped out from the boat, and the storm got louder. Sometimes, that happens in life to show us how much we need Jesus."

A new beginning doesn't also run smoothly. Sometimes, you'll be confronted by obstacles and opposition, even though you're doing exactly what God wants. Don't let these moments dissuade You from following His voice.

God, I can't do this on my own! I need You just like Peter did on the stormtossed waves. Please grab me up and save me from drowning. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts

1. Have you ever followed God's voice and then found yourself doubting that you heard from Him at all?
2. Do you have supportive friends who believe in you and the vision God gave you?
3. How do you support your friends when they go in a new direction?

Six Days

"So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days." Joshua 6:14

God is about to give the Israelites the Promised Land. There's just one problem—the land is still occupied by nations that are heavily armed. On top of that, the city of Jerusalem is well-fortified. It seems nearly impossible to break through.

But God has a plan. He wants His people to silently march around the city walls for six days. On the seventh, they are to give a victory cry, and the walls will come down.

So Joshua follows the plan. For six days, he marches, and nothing seems to change. There is no outward sign of progress, yet this doesn't stop Joshua from faithfully marching around the city walls.

Sometimes, God promises a new beginning. But there are no outward signs of progress. Nothing seems to change.

Perhaps God promised He would redeem your child from the lifestyle of drugs and prostitution. Maybe God told you He would restore your marriage and gives your spouse a heart after His own.

Oh, dear one, don't give up. You may be only minutes from seeing those walls fall.

God, grant me faith and patience. Help me remember even when I can't see it; You're working behind the scenes. You're still here, and I will walk in faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts

I. Has God ever asked you to do something that sounded silly? Did you walk in faith anyway?
2. Has God whispered a promise over an "impossible" situation in your life?
3. What would you say to Joshua if he asked you for advice?

Encourage New Beginnings

"When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple." – Acts 9:26

Once Paul converted and became a Christ-follower, he was eager to share his newfound faith. He wanted everyone to know what Jesus had done for him and how the peace he had was available to anyone.

Unfortunately, Paul's past didn't make it easy to hear his message. He was known to imprison Christians and was present at the stoning of Stephen.

People in the church were understandably concerned that Paul might not have their best interests at heart. They worried it was all part of a bigger ploy.

But Barnabas, another local believer, took Paul under his wing. The two became fast friends, and soon Barnabas vouched for the new believer. He encouraged the early church to look beyond Paul's background and see who he was becoming.

Sometimes, it's tempting to write people off. You think God wouldn't possibly use that person because they've been in prison, done drugs, or lived a party lifestyle.

Yet Paul's story proves that God isn't looking to redeem just the "good people." He wants to redeem everyone!

God, help me to see beyond someone's past. Like Barnabas, I want to look at people and see a beautiful work-in-progress. Let me always be an encourager to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Journal Your Thoughts 1. What past mistakes or sins make you feel like God can't use you? 2. Have you judged someone harshly only to realize they were nothing like you thought? 3. Who could you encourage and minister to today?

Congratulations!

You completed the 7-day devotional journal!

Our hope is that you will grow to become comfortable when God is doing a new thing in your life. He wants the best for you! Trust Him.



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