



# FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

*A 7-Day Devotional Journey*

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# DAY ONE: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN FEAR

NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST YOU AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.  
FOR I WILL BE WITH YOU. I WILL NOT FAIL YOU OR ABANDON YOU.  
— JOSHUA 1:5

The nightmares made sleep impossible. Shadows on the wall were figures lurking. Every branch that scrubbed against the window became a thief, stealing away my peace. Unsure of what I couldn't see, mouth dry and body shaking, I cried out with barely a whisper. My mom, equipped with supersonic hearing, came barging into the room and scooped me into her arms.

Now, however, my adult fears are more real than shadows on the wall. Worry overwhelms me, debilitating me. What if there isn't enough? What if my marriage falls apart? What if I fail? Joshua, too, understood fear of the unknown. For years, he followed and learned about leadership from Moses. Now it was his turn to lead thousands of Israelites into the Promised Land. That alone would be terrifying, but Joshua had the daunting task of leading them into war. He probably asked the same kind of questions: What if they won't follow me? What if I'm not good enough? What if I fail?

Deuteronomy 31 and Joshua 1 repeat the refrain: "Do not be afraid...be strong and courageous...I will not fail you or abandon you." This gives us a clue that Joshua definitely had doubts about his role and questioned the plan. But instead of inflating Joshua's view of himself as a good leader or praising his knowledge, God reminded Joshua that he wasn't leading in his own power and, more importantly, that he would never be alone.

God made a pledge to Joshua that His presence would never cease. This was a firm foundation for Joshua to stand on when the battles became overwhelming. He makes the same promise to us echoed in Jesus' final words before His ascension: "And be sure of this: I am with you always..." (Matthew 28:20).

If you are wrestling in the dark with the what-if's and the fear is overwhelming, let go. Abandon your questions and cling tightly to the God who will never let you go.

**Prayer:** O God, Precious Father, The One Who Never Let's Me Go...thank You for the confidence I can have in Your consistent presence. Thank You for holding me tight in the middle of my fear. Will You take the "what-if's" in my life so I can use both arms to cling to You? Amen

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

PSALM 27:1  
PSALMS 46:1-2  
PSALMS 56:3-4  
2 TIMOTHY 1:7

# DAY TWO: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN UNCERTAINTY

GIDEON REPLIED, "IF YOU ARE TRULY GOING TO HELP ME, SHOW ME A SIGN  
TO PROVE THAT IT IS REALLY THE LORD SPEAKING TO ME."  
—JUDGES 6:17

The stones ground together against the small kernels of wheat. Sweat dripped from his nose, but Gideon was thankful no wind blew. One gust of wind might toss the feathery chaff into the air and make his presence known. For seven years, his people battled to keep food available for their families. Gideon refused to starve and sought creative ways to grow food and raise small goats for milk and meat. Then he had an unexpected visitor who claimed God was present in the middle of the turmoil.

Gideon's response comes as no surprise to us. "If God is present in my difficult circumstances, I certainly don't see it." Sound familiar? We've all probably wondered the same thing when experiencing hardship. Yet the answer to us is the same as it was for Gideon: God promises to be with us.

Many times we question God's purposes. We wonder why things happen and even doubt His presence and faithfulness. Over and over in Judges 6, Gideon questioned God's word. In fact, Gideon asked God to prove Himself three different times. Each time, God demonstrated patience and love as He willingly did what Gideon asked. God didn't condemn Gideon for asking for confirmation, instead He faithfully guided him to a place where he could confidently trust God.

Like Gideon, we question God's plan. We want security and certainty about our future. Doubt and unbelief cloud our thinking. Aren't we thankful that God condescends to meet us in our unbelief. He doesn't shame us for doubting but is patient with us, always encouraging us to grow deeper in our trust.

**Prayer:** O, Lord, thank You for Your loving patience with my fearful heart. Thank You that even in my doubts, You are always present. Thank You that when I need encouragement You are there. When I need a push in the right direction, You are there. When I fail, You are there. Help me continually grow in my faith and trust You more. Amen

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

PSALMS 77:7-12  
PROVERBS 3:5-6  
MARK 9:24  
JOHN 20:29

# DAY THREE: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN DESPAIR

THEN HE WENT ON ALONE INTO THE WILDERNESS, TRAVELING ALL DAY. HE SAT DOWN UNDER A SOLITARY BROOM TREE AND PRAYED THAT HE MIGHT DIE.  
— 1 KINGS 19:4

There's a cave not too far from our house that offers tours. Irrational fears are enough to keep me anchored to the ground and in the wide-open spaces, but I let my children talk me into going. During the tour, they demonstrate the power of complete darkness by turning off the lights. The entire group was paralyzed, unable to move because we couldn't see at all. My first instinct was to grab onto the person sitting nearest me. They turned the lights back on before panic set in, but not before I had the realization that there have been times in my life when my world seemed that dark. When my faith was shaken, it felt like the whole world collapsed on me. Darkness closed in and I was trapped in a cycle of hopelessness.

Elijah, the prophet, had an amazing mountain-top experience in 1 Kings 18. God answered his prayers and displayed His power on Mount Carmel. But, in the next chapter, we see a different side to Elijah. In a moment, his faith in God disappeared and he ran into the wilderness to escape death at the hand of Queen Jezebel. What would cause a man of God to lose his faith so quickly?

For years, Elijah had felt the heaviness of ministry, the weariness of hard places, and the oppression of people who wanted to destroy him. We don't know exactly what caused the meltdown, but we do know one thing: God met him there.

Elijah was honest about his fears, his doubts, and his pain. He wasn't afraid to tell God what was bothering him. In response, God listened patiently and supplied what was necessary to sustain him in his darkest days. But, God never left Elijah. It would have been easy for Elijah to give up. In fact, the text leads us to think that was his next step. Instead, He was persistent until Elijah listened and obeyed. God asked the hard question: "What are you doing here?" He didn't let Elijah off the hook. He allowed him time to complain, but then Elijah had to do the hard work of removing his focus from his circumstances and putting his eyes on God, the One Who Holds the Future in His Hands.

Like Elijah, do you wonder why life has let you down? Have you felt the darkness of despair and doubt? God will meet you where you are. He will be faithful to provide what you need. Reach out to Him.

**Prayer:** *O Lord, the heaviness of life is weighing me down. There are days I want to quit. But, I know You have a plan for me. Help me to seek You above the pain of my heart. Give me patience to wait and the strength to act. Amen*

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

PSALMS 40:1-3  
PSALMS 139:7-12  
PSALM 142:7  
PHILIPPIANS 1:6

# DAY FOUR: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN WAITING

SHE CAME ALONG JUST AS SIMEON WAS TALKING WITH MARY AND JOSEPH, AND SHE BEGAN PRAISING GOD. SHE TALKED ABOUT THE CHILD TO EVERYONE WHO HAD BEEN WAITING EXPECTANTLY FOR GOD TO RESCUE JERUSALEM.  
—LUKE 2:38

The temple steps were worn smooth from decades of faithful feet. Simeon climbed them again today, just as he had yesterday and the day before that. His joints ached. His hair had turned white. But his hope remained vibrant and alive. God had whispered a promise into his heart years ago—a promise that seemed impossible as the seasons changed and his body aged. Yet, every morning he returned to the temple courts, watching and waiting.

Across the courtyard, Anna prayed. Widowed young, she'd spent decades fasting and worshiping within these sacred walls. Eighty-four years of waiting. Eighty-four years of trusting a promise she yearned to see fulfilled.

We know what waiting feels like. The job offer that never comes. The healing that delays. The relationship that remains broken. Time stretches endlessly before us, and doubt whispers, "Maybe God forgot. Maybe He changed His mind."

But Simeon and Anna teach us something profound about faithful waiting. They didn't wait passively, paralyzed by uncertainty. They waited expectantly—doing what they were called to do while trusting God to do what He promised.

Hebrews 11:1 reminds us that faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Simeon and Anna embodied this truth. They couldn't see the Messiah, but they believed God's word with unwavering certainty. And because they were faithfully present—doing what God called them to do—they recognized His action when it finally came.

Are you waiting for God to fulfill a long-ago promise? Don't abandon your post. Keep doing what He's called you to do. God is faithful in the ordinary moments. Trust that He is working, even when you can't see it. God's timing is always perfect, and His promises never fail.

**Prayer:** *O Lord, waiting is hard. My faith grows weary when I can't see Your hand moving. Help me to trust Your promises like Simeon and Anna did. Give me strength to remain faithful in my daily calling while I wait expectantly for You to act. Remind me that You never forget Your children or Your word. Amen*

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

PSALM 27:14  
ISAIAH 40:31  
ROMANS 8:25  
GALATIANS 4:4-5

# DAY FIVE: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN CHURCH HURT

THEY WILL ACT RELIGIOUS, BUT THEY WILL REJECT THE POWER THAT COULD MAKE THEM GODLY.  
— 2 TIMOTHY 3:5

The night is seared in my mind. The waiting after church, the shock of a surprise meeting, the anger, the tears, the questions. What had we done? Our entire ministry devastated. Our family broken. Driving home that night, all I remember was the numbness. We believed (and still do) that we were being obedient to God in accepting the call to go there to serve. Why had God allowed this to happen to us... again?

Paul knew all too well the stabbing pain of betrayal. 2 Timothy was written from the heart of a man who experienced the wreckage of church hurt. The people of God—even some of those Paul brought into the faith—had deserted the ministry, abandoned God, and intentionally hurt him. Yet Paul continued to preach the Good News of the Gospel until his dying breath despite what he went through. He continued to believe in the faithfulness of God while acknowledging the sinfulness of man.

Unfortunately, we often have the mistaken belief that churches are wonderfully perfect, almost heavenly places. Of course, this is the goal. When believers gather to encourage each other and to worship the One True God, it should be a place that reflects heaven in this world. However, the church is full of humans and humans are messy. In fact, there are some who claim to be believers, but Paul would call theirs a “counterfeit faith” (2 Timothy 3:8).

We don't know all the issues Paul referred to in this letter, but we are left with the unmistakable understanding that no matter how much people hurt him, he held no grudges and continued to trust God. “Everyone abandoned me. May it not be counted against them” (2 Timothy 4:16).

Paul urges Timothy to stay strong in his relationship with God, rely on God's truth, and work hard to continue his ministry of carrying the Gospel to those who've never heard. We, too, can accept Paul's challenge. “But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true...” (2 Timothy 3:14). People will let us down—even people we thought we could trust. But God is always faithful. He never fails and He never abandons us. May we be willing to be poured out as an offering, willing to lay down our lives no matter what the cost.

**Prayer:** O Lord, I have suffered much at the hands of people who call themselves by Your name. My heart is heavy as I remember the betrayal, tears, and sorrow I've felt. Heal my broken heart. Restore joy to me again. May I be willing to forgive as You forgave those who put You on the cross. Amen

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

PSALMS 118:8-9

PSALMS 146:3-5

MATTHEW 16:18

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27

# DAY SIX: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN SORROW

ALL PRAISE TO GOD, THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. GOD IS OUR MERCIFUL FATHER AND THE SOURCE OF ALL COMFORT.  
—2 CORINTHIANS 13

The hospital monitors chimed in rhythm. The sterile air was cold, but I gathered warmth from my dad's hand even as he lay still. Years of memories filtered through my mind—all the times I gripped his large hand—the strength it held, the creativity it yielded, the safety I felt. Now, we were saying goodbye in our own way, silently knowing it wasn't the end.

Those beautiful moments were the last I spent with my dad on this earth. The sorrow I experienced lasted for years. Even now, as I write these words, tears fill my eyes. Yet I am not overwhelmed because I have hope that we will see each other again in heaven one day.

Acts 20:36-38 records the deep sorrow Paul felt as he said a tearful goodbye to the people of his heart. As he gripped each friend in a warm embrace, he knew it would be the last time he would see the leaders from the church of Ephesus. "They all cried as they embraced and kissed him good-bye" (Acts 20:37). Yet they had all experienced the extravagant mercy and tender comfort of God. The hope of eternal life gave them the strength to say goodbye.

We all experience sorrow in different ways and for different reasons. Whether the loss comes from death, illness, or children leaving home, grief is difficult to walk through. It has the potential to destroy, but it can also be the building blocks for an amazing ministry of comfort. When we use our experiences of loss to encourage others, the pain loses its potency. Jesus said it best: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Are you grieving? Does sorrow threaten to derail your life? Have hope in God. His faithfulness never ends. Begin to view your loss as a channel for encouraging others who've experienced sorrow.

**Prayer:** *O God of All Comfort, my heart is heavy with grief. Will You meet me here? Will You dry my tears and heal my hurt? Thank You for wrapping Your arms around me. Now, help me share this comfort with others who are hurting. Amen*

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

PSALM 34:18

PSALM 23:4

ISAIAH 41:10

2 CORINTHIANS 13-6

# DAY SEVEN: FINDING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS EVERY DAY

YET, I STILL DARE TO HOPE WHEN I REMEMBER THIS: THE FAITHFUL LOVE OF THE LORD NEVER ENDS! HIS MERCIES NEVER CEASE. GREAT IS HIS FAITHFULNESS; HIS MERCIES BEGIN AFRESH EACH MORNING.  
—LAMENTATIONS 3:21-23

Writers call it the “Black Moment.” It’s the low point in the book where things can’t possibly get any worse—and then they do. It’s when all seems lost and there’s no way out. This is the place we pick up the scene in Lamentations. Even the name of the book itself suggests there is nothing left to do but weep. This book is the heart cry of the weeping prophet, Jeremiah. Despair, loss, and overwhelming tragedy were the markers of his life. In this dark place, right in the middle of seemingly insurmountable odds, however, we see a spark or something so small we almost miss it: the tiny, simple word that changes everything: yet.

The meaning is clear. No matter what has come before, whatever pain or trouble we’ve encountered thus far, there’s one more chapter left to write. God isn’t finished...yet. Jeremiah clings tightly to hope. This hope is more than just a simple wish. The original language paints the picture of expectant waiting that rests on the character of God, who is full of never-ending mercy and promise-keeping compassion. Without God’s consistent, covenant love, we would cease to exist. He gives us a promise that no matter how bleak our circumstances appear, we can trust Him to see us through.

Humans are limited, finite. We run out—of energy, health, money, time. But God is always the same and has been from the beginning. He never runs out, never depletes. We can rely on the abundant, overflowing faithfulness of God. His life-giving compassion is new and fresh every day. These words point us back to the first story of creation in Genesis. Since the beginning of time for humanity, God’s faithfulness has been reflected in the daily rhythms of life. As the sun rises each new day, His creative work will continue in the lives of his people until the Bright Morning Star comes again.

So let His light shine hope into the darkest moments of your life. Allow His covenant love to create a new day in your heart and watch Him work miracles.

**Prayer:** *O Lord, how thankful I am that You never end! Thank You for Your everlasting faithfulness that holds me tight, and Your Spirit that strengthens me from within to walk through the painful places. You are all I need. Amen*

## ADDITIONAL VERSES:

EZEKIEL 36:26  
MALACHI 3:6  
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17  
ROMANS 8:38-39

**DEAR FRIEND,**

I hope you've enjoyed meditating on God's faithfulness with me over the past week. Thank you for joining me on this journey. It is my prayer that wherever you are and whatever you are going through, our faithful God will meet you where you are.

I'd love to hear how God used this devotional in your life. Drop a note to me at [contact@christymillerbell.com](mailto:contact@christymillerbell.com).

Keep in touch and look for more like this coming soon!

*Christy.*

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