

*T*WINKLE
TWINKLE
*L*ITTLE
*S*TAR



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Printed by Gorham Printing,
Centralia, WA USA

If you wanted to compose poetry, would your first poem go something like this?

Blah, blah, blah, blah,

Blah, blah, blah, blah,

Blah, blah, blah, blah

Blah, blah, blah, blah

And then again, blah

The resonating rhythm to this poem is an ode to how many feel about their everyday existence. Or maybe you've expanded your poetry vocabulary:

Another day to eat whole wheat bread

Another day to make my marriage bed

Another day to zombie through my life

To successfully fail as happy mommy and wife

From your poetry it's obvious your life isn't as special or as interesting as you'd always hoped (and dreamed) it would be. We everyday women gaze over our everyday house, our everyday peanut butter cookies, our everyday husband, our everyday figure, our everyday finances, and a glimmer of understanding starts to dawn upon us why a normal woman would all of a sudden decide to rob a bank (with a gun no less), get three tattoos, or become a racecar driver or boxer. Would it be to take revenge on these everyday/ everyday emotions and to feel alive at any cost?

Exasperation, frustration, menstruation, lamentation, whatever, I'll get through this day because I have children who need me, in fact everyone needs me, and I don't even need myself because there's not much about me that interests me. This mind-thinking instead of spirit-thinking is very tiring: let's see now, Monday-breakfast, lunch, & dinner, chores; Tuesday-breakfast, lunch, & dinner, chores, Wednesday-breakfast,

lunch, & dinner, chores. And if I remember correctly I think Thursday and Friday will be the same. Saturday and Sunday are delightful variations because everyone is home and there are more meals, snacks, noise, chores, and transporting everyone to where they want to go. Sunday can be a nice trauma with the usual chores, plus the Sunday rush, with maybe an uninspiring church service, and disagreements between kids and parents on the way (sometimes called the *Sunday Bond*).

Women usually don't keep diaries, not because someone might know their secrets, but because someone might find out how boring their life is and that there are no secrets. So how do I enjoy this never-living-on-the-edge life? Or do I even care any more if I enjoy it?

You're thinking, well this is a depressing booklet. But have you or anyone you know gotten into this attitude? There is a way out and it

comes from within by a change in our hearts and minds, which we can all do with God's help, and He is our everyday Life Helper. He created Family and Everyday Life, He created Females, and yes, He is the Author of your Everyday Life.

How can God Almighty, the God of fire and brimstone, be the author or creator of my hum-drum existence—we're like miles apart so to speak, and I get the impression His life is far different from mine, not to mention He *has* everything.

Oh, but I just remembered He has to hear everything, watch everything, and know everything, and help everyone who asks, so maybe His life *is* harder than my life, and maybe He gets a little weary of being at everyone's beck and call, like we housewives do sometimes.

In thinking of this subject, the title *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* came to me, and then the

thoughts in this booklet. I realize some of us have very little twinkle and may even have been born with a gloom spoon in our mouths, or minds, and *have to learn how to have a successful Everyday Life*, even if later we may end up with a world-wide ministry or business (oh the pressure of that every day!).

Sometimes women feel like little moles in mini-aprons scurrying through the tunnels of life trying to find the light of day, squinting all the while, trying to make sense of their lives, and which tunnel to take. Ladies, ladies, ladies, we don't have to be that way. We need to open our eyes and see our life as God sees it. God promised that **“His divine power has given to us all things that pertain unto *life* and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that has called us to glory and virtue,”** 2 Peter 1:3. Oh sure, quote scripture, all those words seem removed from my life. So, then, are you a Christian? Sure, I go to church every Sunday. If you are a “real”

Christian these words, and scripture, will mean life to your life, and if you will let them be quickened into your heart. Then they're not scriptures to read and quote: they are life itself to make you a genuine Christian, not a carnal one (oh don't we know enough of those!) but a real Christian who acts like Christ.

Read the gospels about Christ's life on earth. I don't think He was ever bored: He was too busy helping people. He was busy teaching, preaching, healing (and dying!) trying to prepare His people for heaven: exactly what we're supposed to be doing.

I heard a well-known Christian speaker say, "If you don't act like a Christian, if you don't look like a Christian, if you don't dress like a Christian (a little bit modest, breasts below the blouse line) are you really a Christian?" An eternal question to ponder. The life in the Bible is your answer to your life, and if you try to sidestep that and

apply all the world's standards to your life, you will never be the "star" God wants you to be. If you're not sure you're a Christian, or have never accepted Christ as your Savior, you can still glean from scripture because of the beauty and wisdom in it for your life.

Many women (and men) resent their everyday life. We squint at all the spectacular-adored-by-everyone-basking-in-the-attention-lives of those in the news, magazines, TV, actually everywhere you look. Are they on the same planet I am? Then we can look around at our tunnel and dry up with envy wishing we had their lives not even knowing if they're happy, or the sacrifices and choices they've made to get "there." Even the spectacular people have to come off the highs and adjust to an everyday life at times. Many of them (hear this) **don't adjust to their everyday spectacular life!** You've seen, heard, and read their unhappiness expressed in many ways: I need three million a year, not two; I'm on my

fourth divorce, so what?; I just got out of drug rehab again, and if my next raunchy music video doesn't sell better, an overdose is possible. (Is it just possible that many glamour people are not well adjusted, much less happy?) Oh, but I would be an exception! Really???

Therefore, the conclusion is that it's not the lifestyle on the outside, *but how you think about your life inside from God's point of view.* We Christian women should not be doing what many do to gain their success anyway. If you want a happier life, quit looking at all the false glitter in the world, turn your eyes and heart away from it, and look more to God's Word and Spirit. 1 Peter 5:6-7, says, "**Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your (everyday) care upon Him, for He cares for you.**" Let Him define what *your* high life or regular life is.

The “top” life, the “there” life, the “highest” life is being happy and content, and enjoying the life that God has given you (and He can change it for the better as you go on), and *learning* to be happy because of your relationship and access to God, who loves to fellowship and teach us and renew our thinking. **“Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,”** Romans 12:2.

There is much pressure on women to be somebody we’re not supposed to be and confusion of our place in life and how we’re to fit into the World of Life around us. And of course, being women, we compare ourselves with everyone else. But this pressure is not from God who doesn’t need your “success,” but wants your love and time.

Have you ever attended a seminar on how to be happy and content, taught by someone filled with the Holy Spirit? Me neither. Much effort is

expended to teach us reading, writing, arithmetic, how to succeed in life and be more popular or better than others, how to envy and push our way through life, how to look appealing, how to improve our image, how to outshine your friends, and your enemies. But not how to adjust to a normal even-keel, just like everybody else's life. We grew up in maladjusted homes, with unhappy parents unable to give us an example of happiness, our minds filled with thoughts about life from every direction; and eventually end up bitter because of disappointments in our life, our inner emotions boiling over with confusion thinking we're next to nothing. Now is the time to rethink and *totally change that thinking*.

Because we're not taught to be happy anything negative that comes along can seem more dismal than it should because we don't have the happiness to counteract it. It's like, oh yeah, another disappointment, I knew my kid wouldn't get good grades, I knew my husband wouldn't

say the right thing. We haven't developed a shield of faith and happiness to bounce those things off. And even if circumstances are all o.k., we can't relax and enjoy them because we know something very unhappy is coming along and we're going to feel dismal again.

We want to be *somebody* because we're unhappy, but we don't want to learn and earn and have the right to be "somebody." We should yearn to be "somebody" with God by pleasing Him and patterning our life after, yes, scriptures, yes, His image. Not even a particular church's image, because their images differ and there are many conflicting "sermons" out there on how everyone thinks we women should be, dress and live and (& especially we're supposed to be thin).

We all have images of "successful" women before us constantly, and everyone seems to be making a mark on the world but us. So we feel like we're failing because we're so *average*, just

lumps walking around finding a little happiness here and there, temporary fixes of fun and chocolates. Many women work too hard trying to keep up with that I've-got-it-all-together-front which can be a mess of stress. We sometimes give in to pressures from everyone, and end up laboring in everyone else's vineyard instead of our own, flying around to committees and functions and leaving our kids because they're old enough to watch TV by themselves. It seems more important to be appreciated by outsiders rather than being appreciated by our kids. Our kids are usually not going to say, thanks, mom, for staying home with us, can I kiss you for all your sacrifices? Kids and society are largely unimpressed with our sacrifices. Walk by faith that if you change and are happy in your life with God, later on your older kids will appreciate the unfrenzied attention they got when growing up and the fond memories of the home you created for them.

During this time you will develop and learn much by getting your priorities right, and will eventually develop into your calling. I didn't start writing until in my 70's, am now on an 11th book and more to come.

Of course many women have to work outside the home; I'm just saying a lot of the other "stuff," good in itself, can be eliminated until later on in your life.

There are articles written on the horrors of being *average*, and that average is the enemy of best—you've read them. A writer recently that said being average is not only an enemy, but to avoid it like the plague. For the first time I analyzed those thoughts and realized how damaging they can be. Who set the standards of our enemy *average*? Men are made to conquer, and some may think that way, but all that advice (not always wisdom) is not necessarily for us little females with families. A man's ideal life may be

to make so much money and have five business meetings a day (and a mistress on the side); and much of what we read is more geared toward a successful man's life than a woman's life. Men also can be bound by thinking they can't enjoy their average (?) life, but feel a vague discontentment that they should be leading an above average (?) life. If you're always looking for something invisible in the distance you can't see the visible things in front of you to enjoy.

There are many "successful" people who would think (even if they don't know it) that the "average" housewife and mother is lowly and to be a little looked down on by the *big?* twinkles in life. And who particularly notices the single mother raising children, they're just a large part of our society's fabric, like so what, they're everywhere, and sometimes in my way. But to God, they are or can be the brightest twinkles in the firmament because their whole life is given to helping support and raise their children. So

women, don't just do your mammoth job and think that's good enough, but *add* true happiness and joy to it for your children and others to see. God made you, God appreciates you, and He is more interested in you being close to Him every day of your life rather than how much you're trying to accomplish and to please others.

Christians need to remind themselves of what God thinks about life, and He says, **“That which is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God,”** Luke 16:15. We esteem the wrong people sometimes and go after and admire the big wheels in life who may not have honesty, integrity and humbleness. If our minds aren't renewed we see the wrong lifestyles as a big worldly twinkle, and don't see the little twinkles that God esteems and will create into the biggest twinkle He wants them to be in *His* universe.

Real success in your life is determined by what God wants you to do in life, whether it's lead a huge corporation or take care of a little kid. Success to God is purity of heart, giving to others, and worshiping Him. He doesn't need what we *do* nearly as much as what we *are*.

Because we resent our ordinary life we don't grow and improve in it—we spend our days unhappy and wanting someone to make us happy and successful. Then we don't appreciate the gift of having “ordinary” lives and realizing how happy they can be and how blessed we are to have any kind of life. We lope around with dark discontentment and all the shadows that go with it to spoil our personalities, and the light that God put in us is turning darker, and we still think we're good Christians because of our church work or whatever. Yet we snap at our kids, get angry with our husbands and others, resent success in others, and that's just the way my life goes and nothing is going to stop me from feel-

ing this way because that's the way it is. And I'm just waiting until Jesus comes, then everything will change. What a waste of a short life that Jesus created you for.

Even Christians aren't sure if they believe **"Godliness with contentment is great gain,"** 1 Timothy 6:6, or, **"I have learned, in whatever state I am, to be content,"** Philippians 4:11. That doesn't mean you're satisfied and don't need to advance in areas of your life, but you're content while you do it, and not striving to get ahead according to the world's ways. Successful thinking and successful living are intertwined.

You don't have to feel downcast and uninteresting—you can determine to be happy and content and work towards that as a goal and **vi-sion** for your life. **"Let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light,"** Romans 13:12. The works of darkness can be your own mindset, and a lack of vision to see

your life from God's viewpoint. Discouragement and discontentment can be like a sign on our forehead that make us look faded with no spark. Well, if my life was different I'd have plenty of spark—no, you create the spark *within* your own self and it will grow with the environment you create for it (like yeast in baking bread). You create the right environment by your attitude and faith.

Be a big star (whatever the true meaning of that is) at something if God has called you to be, but don't resent being what we consider to be a little twinkle, let alone learning to be the brightest twinkle *we* can be. God has created galaxies of "little" twinkles that reflect His creation as much as the big twinkles. You may need to determine to start a twinkle in your home, neighborhood, church, your life, which is the universe God has given you. We need to have a hunger in our hearts to be a "success" in God's eyes, not ours or the world's.

Be glad for whatever contribution your little twinkle can emanate and make it brighter by thinking good and doing good, not striving to be the most well-known person in the world and have others bow at your feet. Most of us couldn't take the pressures of that anyway and would turn into worms like King Herod because he didn't give God the glory (Acts 12:23). Instead of lamenting not being a King or Queen, spend time and energy enlarging *your* spark. Get *His* life for *your* life.

Many dreams of life are self-centered and have visions of adulation and fame, but don't we know that people who are not self-centered are the happiest? Mother Teresa was famous, but that was not what she was striving for, and look how great her sparkle of compassion was—*that* made her famous. We get so involved with the world's ways in trying to be successful and forget God's warning, **“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love**

the world, the love of the Father is not in him,”
1 John 2:15-17. Yes, we need self-esteem, but not above God's esteem.

The example of goodness and right words towards those around you is far more appealing to God and your kids than if you are on the talk show circuit impressing the world with your knowledge. Knowledge can be liberating, it can help many, but how is your attitude and how are your kids doing? If you have a driving force in you to *be somebody*, anybody, rather than fade into oblivion before you die, examine that force and desire. See how much is of God and how much is your own fleshly thinking. Any selfish ambition should be turned from.

We give in to everyone's pressure to work, succeed, grow, be challenged, improve in every area of your life, be the mother of the year, the secretary of the century, the rosebush queen, or *something*. So that ambitious striving stays. And

even if we're spending time with God, that little churning to do or be someone else can whisper, what are you accomplishing just sitting here talking to God? I know from personal experience that the more quality time I spent with God, getting to know Him, obtaining His wisdom and peace, everyone around me benefited. There is no replacement for that precious time with God. I've asked Him, Lord, life can be confusing, what do you want from my life, how do you want me to think, explain my life to me, what does it mean to you, I want to be like your desire for me here before I go be with You forever.

Even if you're a "little star" **your light is the brightest your family has**, and is the main light that influences your family, friends and the sphere around you. What makes the galaxy shine is *all* the little stars. So start a sparkle in your family, which is the part of the universe God has given you. If you are a housewife, learn to be the best. If you are a mother, learn to be a good

one and how to cope with it all, don't sit around crabby and unhappy because you don't know how to handle your wild kids and you can't fix a meal. Don't just exist—get that spark ignited and adjust your thinking. God says “Arise & Shine.” Show forth an image of a happy person. Women, it's a bad habit to be unhappy. Some of your unshiny personality traits can be from a learned habit, not realizing you can change, and even be giddy if you prefer.

A good habit to get into your thinking is that your everyday life can increase into beauty without all the striving, and everything mundane can be intensified to be joyful, giving yourself to God and for His glory in everything you do (which is mostly everyday things).

Housewives and others leading everyday lives—which look miniscule to many in the world—have huge rewards coming because most of what they do is out of love for someone else.

“Blessed are those which die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them,” Revelation 14:13, so your works will follow you from your little house to His Big House.

If God has called you to never cook a meal or do dishes, and the TV cameras are on you, that is your twinkle, shine in it and enjoy it. But most of us are watching TV, not on it. The Lord spoke to me one time and said that women are going to be rewarded for every meal they've cooked, every diaper they've changed, every room they've cleaned, because it was done out of love for their family and children. Oh, you're making an idol out of motherhood, no, but let's put more twinkle and appreciation in it. At times we women have given the world (and everyone) the wrong image of motherhood, dreary women hollering at their kids, not a very interesting species. Spare me that commonly used verse, **“Seek you *first* the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be**

added to you,” Luke 12:31. But common verses when believed have an uncommon (spiritual) way of changing our life. Do you suppose that “all these things” could include happiness and richly enjoying your life?

We might think God will love us more if we're a successful, doing a lot, person, and making a big impression on the world, but that's not true. God accepts each person's life and judges by the fruit of the Spirit coming forth. Have you read that the “**fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance,**” Galatians 5:22. Oh, don't remind me of that, I heard that in Sunday School for years, that's just a too high-up, obscure goal for some type of super alien type of woman, and I can only grasp for it now and then. No, no, sweet woman, that fruit is for us to experience, feel, and walk in *all* the time. Yes, it takes faith and developing, but what is more important than developing our faith day by day?

God accepts our whole life, not just when we're praying. He's watching us *all* the time and He sees you far differently than the world would see you. And, remember, your life is far greater to God than the sins you're confessing and maybe struggling against. He sees your heart, what you want to be, and what He wants you to be. He's not pointing out the mistakes; He's pointing you to Himself.

You may think your life is insignificant to God, but your life means a lot to God. Jesus died to give you life more abundantly and sometimes that is appreciating the life you already have and feeling valuable to God. **“My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts,”** Isaiah 55:8-9. Our low way is to think we're nothing; God's higher way is to say **“we're graven on the palms of His hands,”** and that His love for us knows no bounds, and has nothing to do with if

we're "good" or "bad." God told our ministry that He is not so interested in who is right or wrong, but He is vitally interested in who walks in love.

Don't ever think of your everyday life as being just one day after the other. Give God more credit than that. Each day is a new day that God has given us on this earth, new challenges, new words that we can confess, new knowledge of God, another day to be made new inside even if nothing seems different outside. **"God makes all things become new,"** even if you're doing the same things every day because new things can be happening inside. Become God-inside minded.

Every single act of our life is a contribution to the glory of God, and if we would look at our lives that way, from God's standpoint, not man's, then, **"Whatsoever you eat, or drink, do all to the glory of God,"** 1 Corinthians 10:3, would be a reality in our life and bring God's glory into our morning to evening existence. God isn't any

more impressed if we're prophesying in His name or cooking meals in His name. If we would practice the presence of God all day long and lift our hearts to a higher place in God instead of the world, **"The joy of the Lord would be our strength,"** Nehemiah 8:10.

Tommy Tenney, from his book *"Mary's Prayers and Martha's Recipes,"* pages 29-30:

"God is Present in All. From the building of cities down to the numbering of the hairs of our head and the noting of a sparrow's fall, throughout the whole range of homely daily living, God is declared to be present and to be the main-spring of it all. Whatever we do, even if it be such a purely physical thing as eating and drinking, we are to do for Him and to His glory, and we are exhorted to so live and so walk in the light of everything, as to have it made manifest in our works, temporal as well as spiritual, that 'they are wrought in God.'

“There is unspeakable comfort in this for every loving Christian heart, in that it turns all of life into a sacrament, and makes the kitchen, or the workshop, or the nursery, or the parlor, as sweet and solemn a place of service to the Lord, and as real a means of union with Him, as the prayer-meeting, or the mission board, or the charitable visitation.

“An old spiritual writer says something to this effect, that in order to become a saint it is not always necessary to change our works, but only to put an *interior purpose towards God in them all*; that we must begin to do for His glory and in His strength that which before we did for self and in self’s capacity; which means, after all, just what our Lord meant when He said, ‘Without Me you can do nothing.’

“God is at the source of everything, God is the origin of everything, God is the explanation of everything. Without Him was not anything made that was made, and without Him is not anything done that is done. So, beloved reader,

offer each moment of your living and each act of your doing to God, and say to Him continually, ‘Lord, I am doing this in You and for Your glory. You are my strength, and my wisdom, and my all-sufficient supply for every need. I depend only upon You.’ Refuse to live for a single moment or to perform a single act apart from Him. Persist in this until it becomes the established habit of your soul.”

We can think, well if God spoke wonderful revelations to me I'd be more worthwhile. Most of us yearn to hear God's voice accompanied with thunder and lightning. It's against my image of God sometimes the things He chooses to speak distinctly to me. You can pray and pray about something and seem to get no answers (eventually you will). Then, just going about my everyday life, I came out of a store with groceries, walked by a Salvation Army bell-ringer, and clear as that bell, God said, "Go get that man

a large latte and take it to him.” I said, “what kind?” and He said “a double mocha.” During this exchange I was thinking, why am I hearing this insignificant thing so clearly. The man was very grateful. No, God isn’t desiring that everyone drink mochas, but for some reason He knew what that man standing out in the cold needed, and it wasn’t green tea. God is interested in the *little* things, and is interested in our obedience more than our big sacrifices that can be more to meet our desires to serve or to be well-known.

There is much we can do to help others on a day-to-day basis. People need practical advice on kids, housework, diet, efficiency. There have been experiences where practical advice from another woman can help more than educated pill advice from doctors (bless doctors but we women are self-educated in many ways), and I guess the message is we all need help and we’ve all got to help each other, and we’re certainly obligated to society to get to know God who knows

how to help everybody! God wants us to take advantage of what He knows. “You have not because you ask not” is actually true, and the more I ask God the more He tells me.

As you reach *out* from your life, you’ll find that you’ll be able to help people, give them good advice, be aware of their needs, say the right thing from your satisfied heart because you’re not bitter and self-centered, and you’ll end up helping many from your everyday heart. *You* are responsible for your very own heart, and in fact in charge of it, for it says in Proverbs 4:23, **“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it come the issues of life.”** Your real life is in your heart, what you want, what you believe, the choices you make.

That same natural ambition to be “somebody” in the world can transfer into our church life. We want to be infused with the anointing, have everyone honor (at least a little) our

spiritual presence, and be looked up to in the church as making a big spiritual contribution. But think about it: My family is not impressed with my “anointing.” When they walk in the door, they don’t want to hear about my exploits, but a warm greeting and a bowl of soup. They’re not interested in “falling over” when I hug them (wow, what a mom!), but they want me to be interested in their day, and most family members like (and need) to come in out of the world into a well-organized pretty house with an “average” mom. Besides the soup anointing and the knowing what to say anointing, walk in the anointing to pray effectively for your family and lay hands on them to recover from their sicknesses.

In many churches today there is much teaching on prosperity, and God does say, “**Let the Lord be magnified who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servants,**” Psalm 35:27. But prosperity has many meanings besides finances, and He is magnified when you’re happy in Him, enjoying

your life, and He loves your twinkle no matter how dim it seems to you. There are also teachings in churches on being successful and getting ahead in life and many seminars on finances, but not as many on integrity and joy, and yes, it's o.k. to be a housewife. And, by the way, because you're "home" doesn't mean you have to do and be everything at church (or anywhere). Homes can be the busiest places on earth, including the New York Stock Exchange. I want to say here, "settle down." Create peace instead of nervous rushing.

Well, God is so big we should do big things. But He is also an everyday detailed, blessing here, blessing there God, and all our lives are planned to be different before Him. We miss the little blessings, the little treasures of our life because we want the "bigger" things of the world. No matter how successful some people are, God is not impressed, unless that success was of Him and is given over to His use. He is impressed if

you love your neighbor as yourself, and love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.

We're the comfort providers, but in our confusion and frenzy of life sometimes don't provide comfort to others. Kids need us to get them out of bed with love and help their life to be happy and blessed. I didn't say spoiled, but that's another whole subject. I will say here, that many women are too involved in church work (because they need you for *everything*), and we like the stimulation and busyness of it. But we forget to get involved enough with quiet time with the Lord and praying for our families. So stand up for your family life and say "no" to anything that doesn't fit in with what you feel God wants for your family's happiness and peace. Yes, even if a prophetess comes and tells you to leave your family and go to Siberia and yea, the time for housework is past and the Siberian children need you more than your own children; like they say, get a second opinion, this time from God.

One of the main reasons we women get confused and dissatisfied with our life is because we're listening to too many voices, spiritual and unspiritual, that may not apply to what you and God would decide what's best for your life, and out of that sure foundation of agreement between the two of you will come springs of life, your true life.

We need to take our everyday, ordinary life—that eating, sleeping, going to work, walking around life, and **place it before God every day as an offering**. Jesus is our practical everyday life and He did many everyday things even amongst the miracles. Our Jesus was even accused of being a glutton and a wine bibber, and why would that be? I think it was because He took the time to sit around the table and fellowship and talk often with people. He did many everyday things amongst the miracles and casting out of spirits.

We're waiting for some big word from God for our future and He's saying, Praise Me, love Me, pick up your clothes, say hello to that person, spend time with Me; but we don't hear because *that's so average*, not a big spiritual thing. But remember, our mundane tasks can be intensified to be joyful if you sacrifice them to God.

I recently attended a church performance with 20 bell ringers and if just one of those bell ringers had not picked up even the littlest bell at the right time the whole song would have been off. But they all seemed to take their "insignificance" seriously and together they sounded wonderful. You may feel like the littlest bell, but if you do the right little things on a daily basis you are fitting in with God's song on this earth.

In adversity we can rise up and conquer because we don't have a choice, like a do or die situation, and in good times we feel good and want them to last forever. It's the daily in be-

tween with not much going on that can make us feel like a depressed vacuum of discontent. But that is your thinking and not God's.

Following is an excerpt from *Maclaren's Exposition of Holy Scripture*:

“As you walk in God's paths, He tells you what kind of help you can expect: ‘When you walk, your steps shall not be hampered (your path will be clear and open); and when you run, you shall not stumble.’ The phrase “when you walk” refers to our daily walk with God.

“Most of our lives are not lived in the spectacular. We live in the daily routine of things. But our everyday lives aren't supposed to be a monotonous drudgery. God is saying that with His wisdom, we can be blessed as we walk through that daily routine. We can be at peace and prosper no matter what we're doing.

“Where the verse says ‘when you run’ refers to those times in our lives when something spectacu-

lar occurs or a significant milestone takes place. In those special times when extra momentum may be required to achieve something great, wisdom says, 'As you run with Me, you won't stumble.'

“So whether we're living our everyday lives or getting ready to achieve a milestone, God's wisdom will lead us on the paths of uprightness and keep us from falling or stumbling, and our path will be clear and open.”



There are many examples in the Bible of the “little people” getting the mark of God's approval:

Sarah, housewife and mother—
Genesis chapters 16-23

Rachel, housewife and mother—
Genesis chapters 29-35

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Rebekah, housewife and mother—
Genesis, chapters 24-49

Lydia, seller of purple—Acts 16:14,40

Rhoda, seamstress and known for
good works—Acts 12:13

Abigail, wife of a fool, brought David
food & became his wife—1 Samuel
25:14

Mary and Martha, housewives who
ministered to Jesus—John 11

Naomi, housewife with 2 sons, then
widow, instructed her daughter-in-
law, Ruth, how to “capture” Boaz

Ruth, gleaned wheat in the fields to
provide food for her & Naomi—
Ruth 1-4

Naaman, the little servant—2 Kings
5:2-4

Elizabeth, housewife, mother of John
the Baptist—Luke 1

Anna, a prophetess who stayed at
church praying night and day—
Luke 2:36

In Judges chapters 4-5 there is also mighty *Deborah* who went to war with Barak and conquered the Canaanites. What a woman, even Barak said he wouldn't go without her, probably because she was a prophetess. She sat under a palm tree and all Israel came to her for judgment (interesting day job). She was a married woman with this side career of judging, and yes, judging men, probably teaching them how to be better husbands, and not go to war so much but stay home with their families.

Remember *Jael* in Judges 4:17-21, a housewife, actually a tentwife, busy doing her tentwork, looked out and saw *Sisera*, Israel's enemy outside right on her doorstep (what an interruption!). She didn't panic, went out to meet him (brave gal), gave him some milk (just like a woman), told him not to fear (ha!), had him lay down with a blanket and drove a tent nail through his head. So right in the middle of doing your everyday work, you never know. Be ready but not discontent if you don't get to put a nail through a guy's temple. It would make for good conversation with your friends, did you hear what happened to our everyday Jael today, yes the story and pictures will be in our local *Jewish Enquirer*.

Many years ago, Oswald Chambers in his book, *My Utmost for His Highest*:

“Taking the Initiative Against Drudgery, Arise, shine...(Isaiah 60:1)—

When it comes to taking the initiative against drudgery, we have to take the first step, as there is no point in waiting for God to do it...But once we arise, immediately we find He is there. When God gives us His inspiration to Arise, shine, it becomes an issue of obedience. As we act and not continue to lie down, if we will arise and shine, drudgery will be divinely transformed.

“Drudgery is one of the finest tests to determine the genuineness of our character. Drudgery is work that is far removed from anything we think of as ideal work. It is the utterly hard, menial, tiresome, and dirty work. And when we experience it, our spirituality is instantly tested and we will know whether or not we are spiritually genuine. In John 13 we see Jesus washing fishermen’s feet. He then says, ‘If I have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.’ *The inspiration of God is required if drudgery is to shine with the light of God upon it.* In some cases the way a person does a task makes that work sanctified and holy forever. It may be a very common everyday task, but after we have seen it

done, it becomes different. When the Lord does something through us, He always transforms it. Our Lord takes our human flesh and transforms it, and now every believer's body has become 'the temple of the Holy Spirit.'"

(Interest Item: *Time Magazine* said that President Bush was reading this book in his morning prayer time.)



It takes strength to deal with the everydayness of life. We really do please God if we're praising Him (and happy) while making that soup and peeling those potatoes. We are never insignificant to God. He has the hairs of our head numbered, the amount of garlic we use in the soup, and how many times we smiled at people that day, yes, the smiles on our mouth are numbered, and the twinkles in our eyes are numbered, and of course our kind words will come back to bless us.

The individuality of our DNA should make every Christian woman appreciate her uniqueness to God. We are not lost in the shuffle of life. God loves you like you are the only woman on earth, and all His attention is on you, because His Spirit is in you. The more Christians there are on earth doesn't diminish God's attention on you. God is not like us where He has to divide His attention, like we have to divide ours with more than one child. God is totally ours no matter how many women need Him on this earth. We are all totally His. And the more time and attention we give Him in our everyday life and tasks, the more attention we get. You are not one woman among billions—you are totally significant to God. That should be enough to put joy in our lives.

If you will listen and pay attention to God's ways and stop listening to the world's ways, your whole view of life will be improved! **“They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firma-**

ment; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever,” Daniel 12:3. It’s wise to be bright, and your brightness will influence others to be brighter and enjoy their life. It has been proven in the Bible that God will bless a person or a nation that desires His life, it’s the same to God who always Gives, so don’t think you’re too insignificant to be mightily blessed (even if you don’t get out much!).

The following are some ways that many have used to help them run their job of life with better compensation:

1. Fellowship For Your Soul

There is no substitute for spending time with God, reading his word, praying and communicating with Him. He is your Employer and He knows everything and besides, He made you, so why not spend time finding out how He wants

you to live? The rewards of this cannot be exaggerated and the more we give ourselves to God the more He gives Himself to us. This sharing will create a fulfilling life. There will be miscues, mistakes and many changes, but God will overcome as you allow Him to. You have to make a choice to spend time with God; as you learn and develop in this, the time spent with God will be more satisfying than anything else you would spend your time on. Generally, the most beneficial time is in the morning before all the cares and distractions of life set in!

2. Light For Your Soul

Listening to and watching images that are unspiritual and not God's image for your life will darken any twinkle that wants to grow in your heart. Most of the magazines on the stands, most of the movies, and most of the television programs are *not* going to help you get closer to

God, who is **“light, and in Him is no darkness at all.”** Many Christians are living borderline lives, partly in the church and into God, and partly into the world, the flesh, and the devil. You won’t enjoy either life, and you won’t succeed at either life, you make the choice and the only right choice is to **“Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and spirit.”** To be spiritually minded rather than carnally minded takes dedication, to choose light, and push the darkness and dark images out of your surroundings. Well, that sounds too old fashioned and straight and narrow. But God says, **“Enter in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many go that way. Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leads to life, and few there are that find it,”** Matthew 7:13-14.

3. Healing For Your Soul

Your soul involves your mind, thinking, will and emotions. God forgives you for your sins as

you confess them and repent, but God wants to help you even further to get rid of the sins in your soul that you have to keep confessing over and over.

Healing of the soul means you can have the faults and weaknesses in your life taken out. It is a step beyond forgiveness for a sin and is possible because Christ died for not only our sins, but to set us free from the bondage of repetitive sins that we can't overcome.

Some of these weaknesses we're born with, some we acquire through wrong choices in life, and they leave us unable to resist certain temptations we have given into. The more we give into sins, like anger, lying, stealing, depression, or whatever sin or weakness you're dealing with, the harder it is to give it up. Then we start accepting the sin as a part of us. It's like the old saying, at first we abhor, then we tolerate, and then we embrace as ours (even if we hate it!).

James 5:16-20—“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed and restored. The earnest prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available. If anyone among you strays from the truth and falls into error and another person brings him back to God, let that person know that whoever turns a sinner from his evil course will save that one’s soul from death, will cover a multitude of sins that are stopped because of the prayer, and get the pardon of the many sins committed by the convert.”

The agreement of two people, one confessing, one praying for the one confessing, will put that sin or weakness to death in their life and thinking. The Bible teaches in Deuteronomy 19:15 that no-one could be put to death except by the witness of two; and Matthew 18:19-20 says **“that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.”**

Because this sin is affecting your life adversely, you confess that sin or fault to another spiritual person who has faith, and they can pray and agree with you for that sin to be removed (healed) from your life. As you pray have faith that you receive healing, and that fault is being put to death in your life by the agreement of two.

There may have to be some discussion to get all the roots of that sin out of your life. For example, a person may feel anger all the time, they confess, and the person they're confessing to may want to know if their father was always angry and they learned his ways, or maybe they were mistreated and feel abused. So the prayer may be for anger and the causes discussed and why the root of anger is there, then lay the axe (Christ and His atonement) to the main root and the tap roots, and cast it out of their life.

There are many different directions soul healing can go into, but this is the basic teaching.

Keep in mind too that many people are bound by the sins and iniquities and curses of the parents which are passed down to the third and fourth generation. Some people wonder why they are afflicted the way they are, and it could be that the sin, affliction, or weakness was passed down to them and the power of it needs to be broken.

The prayer agreement of two is always in Jesus' Name, because **“His name is above every name that is named in this world,”** Ephesians 1:21. So you put His Name above the name of “anger,” “deceit,” or the name of any sin you want to be set free from.

Read the following scriptures to build your faith that you can be not just forgiven but healed:

“I said, Lord, be merciful unto me: *heal my soul*; for I have sinned against you,” Psalm 41:4.

“Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases,” Psalm 103:2-6. He heals your body also, but here it is talking about your soul.

“I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for my anger is turned away from them,” Hosea 14:4. So if a fault keeps you backsliding, it says here He will heal it.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to *forgive* us our sins, and to *cleanse* us from all unrighteousness,” 1 John 1:9.

“I have seen his ways, and will heal him...,” Isaiah 57:18-19

“Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise your name,” Psalm 142:7

“And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed,” Hebrews 12:13.

“If a person be overtaken in a fault, let someone spiritual restore him,” Galatians 6:1-3. Even if you get overtaken in the same fault, have prayer, and God will restore you like new. Many times your healing will come after the first prayer, or you may have to confess it a few times in case there are more roots, until you get complete victory. Never give up on getting rid of sin in your life, the rewards are eternal.

Here are a few instances in the Bible where people have been restored by confessing to another person: Joshua in Joshua 7:19; Abraham in Genesis 21:17-18; Job in Job 42:7-10; and Simon in Acts 8:24.

4. Deliverance For Your Soul by praying against curses and casting out spirits:

This is more controversial (not as much as it used to be), but it has worked so effectively for so many people that it can't be ignored, especially if you need serious help with problems in your life and can't seem to change even with the soul healing mentioned above. Our ministry has experienced many deliverances through this method of deliverance. I have heard and read testimonies from many Christians who said they didn't believe in spirits and curses until they had deliverance, and long-standing physical, spiritual, and financial problems were at long last removed from their lives.

Many are going to “prayer rooms” in different churches or places that are available now, or to a deliverance ministry team that has the gifts of the Spirit, especially discernment of spirits, that are necessary to cast out a spirit that is

hindering their life. There are many instances in the Bible of Jesus casting out spirits and demons, most out of those who believed on Him. It doesn't mean you're evil, just bound, and that's why Christ died, to set the prisoners free. We get confused sometimes not knowing what we should endure as from God and what is from darkness. The following is one of the most important verses in the Bible to clarify this: **"The thief (Satan) comes not but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly,"** John 10:10.

So if you're being robbed in your life, financially, physically, mentally, it is not from God. He wants you to have *life* more abundantly.

There are many spirits that are causing sickness and disease of the body or mind, robbing people of their peace and finances. There are also spirits causing emotional sickness, like an-

ger, fear, depression, you name it, darkness has a spirit for it, and for every light there is a counterpart of darkness.

Many people have been instantly delivered from headaches (spirit of headaches) heart disease, bladder and kidney infections, and on and on. If you see the results it's hard to say it doesn't work. God's people are bound with many things they haven't been able to shake and they need to be released, regardless of what other "believers" say or believe about the subject.

This is mentioned "lightly" because it's not a book about deliverance from spirits, but will open your mind to another possibility to help you (women like to cover all the bases). The following books are helpful that cover this subject extensively:

*Deliverance Through Healing—Vol. 1
& 2, The Foundation & Practice of
Deliverance Ministry* by Peter Horrobin

*Blessing or Curse—You Can Choose—*by
Derek Prince

*Spirits & Deliverance—*H. A. Maxwell
Whyte (recommended by Benny
Hinn)

*They Shall Expel Spirits—Your Invisible
Enemies—*by Derek Prince

*Clean House, Strong House—*Kimberly
Daniels

*Get The Hell Out so Heaven Can Come
In—*Nancy Angove

Also deliverance writers Cindy Jacobs, Sandie Freed, Alice Smith. There is a lot of instructive information available now regarding spirits and curses, so if you're bound in any way, look into learning deliverance helps from sources you may not be used to.

Life gets a little serious striving to get delivered from unhappy hindrances, but as you get delivered (remember, Christ died to set you free!) your life will get lighter and brighter and happier. You have total control over what direction you want your life to take. You may even have to seek help from other sources. You have many options, and putting the twinkle back in your eyes is the most important thing you can do. Happiness, peace, and joy are promises from God for your life now. No excuses, you have your choice and your God on your side.

This book is written by a woman (Sister Nancy) who had to learn how to be happy, like what was *that*? I got a little older doing it, but it's worth it even through the seeking and struggling and who am I and what am I process (which we all hate, thank goodness it gradually falls behind us instead of in front of us). You may have to make the choice to walk straight by unhappiness and focus on happiness. Invite it into your heart.

Speak it to yourself and to your family. Be an example of joy and happiness.

This is very important as many people raising kids express more unhappiness, disgruntlement and frustration rather than “I’m so glad I had you and that I have you.” I have said to mothers, Act like you’re glad you got the little troublemakers and not like they’re too much trouble. Appreciate them, love them, kiss them, hug them, speak kindly to them, and yes, discipline them in love.

The main reason people are nervous and impatient with their kids is because it’s interfering with their reading time, rest time, eating time (they’re always interrupting!). So I venture that self-centeredness and selfishness is the two-headed monster that makes parents have a consistent anger and irritation against the children God has given them.

So, any attitude against happiness needs to be out of your life. Work on it for the wonderful influence you can have on those around you.

I have made a decision (more than once) to refuse to waste my life being unhappy. It's an insult to God, because "happy is that people whose God is the Lord." I don't mean being happy over sickness or problems in your family, but in a sense being blessed through the tribulations that God will deliver. Sometimes we're unhappy over nothing, and even when everything is pretty right, so that precious time is wasted on the short life we have. Joy is a fruit of the Spirit, not moping. Happiness and joy are sources of vital nutrients for your body, soul, and spirit. Find out why you get unhappy: there are many spirits of unhappiness around.

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

We like to be known as intelligent people, so make an intelligent (really smart) decision to be joyful, forgetting about self, self, self, and helping all those around you. Nobody else has *your* twinkle!

Love you,

Nancy

If you are not a “Christian” woman, or not sure, read the following copied from a *Billy Graham* pamphlet:

God loves you, and He wants you to live in peace with Him and to receive eternal life. “We have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have **everlasting life.**” (John 3:16)

“The gift of God is **eternal life** in Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23b)

God gave us a will and freedom of choice to choose Christ, who is Life, or to reject Him.

“For **all have sinned** and come short of the glory of God...the wages of sin is death.” (Romans 3:23; 6:23)

“Your iniquities have **separated you from your God**; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.” (Isaiah 59:2)

Jesus Christ is the **only answer** to this problem of separation from God. He died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the penalty for our sin, completely **bridging the gap** between us and God.

“Salvation is found in **no one else**, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

“But as many as **received** Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.” (John 1:12)

How to Receive Christ:

Admit your need (I am a sinner).

Be willing to turn from your sins (repent).

Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.

Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit. (Receive Him as your Savior).

What to Pray:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am sinful and I need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died to pay the penalty for my sin. I want to turn from my sin nature and follow You instead. I invite You to come into my heart and life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

The Bible says:

“Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Romans 10:13)

“He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have **eternal life.**” (1 John 5:12-13)



Nancy has authored:

“Get a Better Life”—mainly for women on how to obtain a better family, home, and social life.

“Twinkle Twinkle Little Star”—mainly for women on how to appreciate and be fulfilled in their own life.

“The Chocolate Cake Principle: Feasting on the Presence of the Lord”—will help you appreciate and obtain the presence of the Lord. Published by Xulon Press.

“Multiplying the Bread of Life”—expanding & enriching your prayer life.

“Remember Love”—good advice on love (which never fails!).

“Christ in Hell”—treasures about Christ’s burial in hell after the Cross.

“Get the Hell Out So Heaven Can Come in”—deals with deliverance from spirits and curses.

“Victory is the Eye of Every Battle”—
how to avoid battles and get through them.

“The BLESSING—What did God Speak?”—
The Blessing Spoken to Man.

“Bad Sex Stuff”—this booklet title speaks for itself.

**“Don’t Wake up in Hell Thinking You Were
on Your Way to Heaven”**—scary.

“Life in the Death Rattle” - a real death and life family
experience.

“Angels” study - everyone is interested in angels

