DEAR MOTHERS,

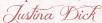
My prayer is that you will find inspiration in these compiled quotes, thoughts, poems, and verses.

I am thankful to God who so abundantly blessed me with strength to shape this project while battling with Lyme disease. It has been an encouragement to me. May God receive the glory.

I am grateful to my dear husband for supporting me in writing, and for editing the pages too! Thank you, Daniel.

I am blessed to be a wife, mother, and queen at home, and testify to an abundant life in Christ. May His name be glorified.

Compiler, author, and publisher,





DEAR READERS,

Do you enjoy writing? Do you have a story you would like to share but possibly have not had the motivation for yet? I am collecting short stories for a book on "Miracles." It may be your testimony of an answered prayer, (or someone else's), a time when you sensed God's presence in your life, an account of God's goodness to you, a touching situation where God intervened or blessed, or some other experience. God is still working miracles in our daily lives! Praise Him for that!

Your story may be as short as 500 words or as long as 5,000 words. Send it hand printed or typed, double-spaced, to:

Justina Dick 2576 Endall Rd. Black Creek, BC V9J 1G7 Email: simpleabundancelattes@gmail.com



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Twill go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention

OF THY RIGHTEOUSNESS, EVEN OF THINE ONLY.

Psalm 71:16

Beginnings

"We cannot go back and make a new beginning, but we can begin to make a new ending."

The beginning of the new year ends in a new chapter.

The beginning of a journey ends in a destination.

The beginning of a thought ends in a deed.

The beginning of a prayer ends in God's will.

The beginning of faith ends in seeing God.

The beginning of hope ends in joy.

The beginning of time ends in eternity.

The beginning of God's blessings never end!



I AM Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 1:8

Goals

It is right that we should have an aim of our own, determined by our individuality and our surroundings, because God has created us with a need for constant improvement. We have a God-given desire to become our full potential, but often we limit ourselves by failing to set goals. Goals produce motivation, affect our action, and give us a sense of direction. They bring joy, confidence, and enthusiasm into our life. We do well to create goals big enough to inspire us, yet small enough that we can achieve. Have you considered your goals for this year? Many folks fear they cannot attain and therefore never set goals. Others fear their aims may be frustrated or hindered and their work come to nothing. But as we commit our goals to God and seek His blessing upon them, we realize the wonderful impact goals have in our life! As we consecrate our plans to the will of God and the work of His kingdom, He will direct those goals as He sees fit. When we fail to plan, we plan to fail.



Where there is no vision, the people perish...

Proverbs 29:18

Aspirations

Though goals are stimulating, greater yet is the depth of character and happiness that we can develop through the journey of aspirations. Bring your desires before the Lord. What are your soul-searching longings? To become more Christ-like? To walk in holiness as God calls us to? To allow God to have His perfect way in your life? To be molded and shaped for His glory? To understand what it means to take up the cross? To be an emptied vessel fit for the Master's use? To recognize God in the details of the days? To know the peace that He promises to His people? May God bless your aspirations and guide you into a deeper relationship with Him... a life of abundance!



...Oh that Thou wouldest bless me indeed...

I Chronicles 4:10

Questions

There is power in questions, and powerful questions bring powerful answers. Our questions determine so much of our life—what we think, feel, do, and are. Our questions shape our destiny because the quality of our questions determines the quality of our answers. It's so true that our experience of life is 10% circumstance and 90% perspective. It depends on our thinking, and thinking itself is only a process of asking and answering questions. We can question, "Why did this happen to me?" or we can ask, "Lord, please use this to Thy glory." We can say, "Please take this trial away," or "Lord, finish your perfect work which you have begun in me." So develop a pattern of positive questions and you will receive answers that bless your life!



Ask beautiful questions and you will receive beautiful answers from God.

Answers

The answers we receive depend so much on the questions we are willing to ask. "What would Jesus do in this situation?"... "What example am I leaving for my children?"... "What am I grateful for today?"... "How will this decision affect my life and the lives of those around me?"... "How can I keep a positive attitude through this?"... "What is love?"... "What does the Bible say?"... Better questions produce better answers, and better answers create a fuller life! With a disciplined mind and a humble heart we can live a meaningful life as God desires for us. He will be in our answers!



Sometimes God's answers come to me right away while other times God leaves me in the dark with my questions until I realize He is the answer.

The Unknown

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown!" And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God; That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

-M. Louise Haskins

And the Lord shall guide thee continually... Isaiah 58:11

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Psalm 32:8

Commit thy works (the year) unto the Lord, and thy thoughts (path) shall be established. Proverbs 16:3



THE LORD SHALL PRESERVE THY GOING OUT AND THY COMING IN FROM THIS TIME FORTH AND FOREVER MORE.

Psalm 121:8

Simplicity

Every day offers us simple gifts if we are open to them. Simplicity does not mean scarcity. In fact, a simple life is an abundant life.

Discover the softness of a new pair of socks, the scent of freshly washed bedsheets, or the crispness of a well ironed shirt. Delight in the pure joy of holding a tiny hand in yours, watching a child play, or telling a Bible story to a young heart. Absorb the warmth of friendship, the love of family, and the comfort of home. Marvel at the wonders of creation, the miracle of life, and the gift of salvation.

Simplicity of life is a mindset; living for the Lord Jesus Christ, and finding true satisfaction in Him. A simple life in Christ is a beautiful life, streaming from a simple heart—an abundant heart!



WE ARE CALLED TO LIVE OUT THE SIMPLE GOSPEL MESSAGE IN OUR DAILY LIVES.

WE ARE PILGRIMS AND STRANGERS, TRAVELLING SIMPLY.

Gratitude

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates vision for tomorrow."

-Melody Beattie



Sometimes we just need to decide to be grateful.

That's when we realize how richly God has blessed us. Let your heart awaken to the blessings in your life. Gratitude will illuminate your life from within and overflow into praise!

Expression

As you've begun your gratitude journey you will become more aware of how abundant your life really is! Gratitude grows the more we express it, and the more we express it, the easier it becomes to weave this beautiful principle into the fabric of our everyday life. Silent gratitude is ingratitude. So express your gratefulness! Thank the Lord for all His riches! Share with others how God's goodness has touched your life! May your testimony bring glory to God and point many more souls to God as well.



I WILL ALSO PRAISE THEE...MY LIPS SHALL GREATLY REJOICE WHEN I SING UNTO THEE...MY TONGUE ALSO SHALL TALK OF THY RIGHTEOUSNESS ALL THE DAY LONG...

Psalm 71:22-24

Riches

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: Ephesians 1:3

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a (woman's) life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which (she) possesseth. Luke 12:15

The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and He addeth no sorrow with it. Proverbs 10:22

That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:7



THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE, AND RICHER IS SHE WHO POSSESSES THESE GIFTS
THAN SHE WHO IS GIFTED WITH ALL THE POSSESSIONS OF THIS WORLD.

Time

Time—a bountiful blessing, sent by God. 60 fleeting seconds in a minute, 60 golden minutes in an hour, 24 valuable hours in one day, 365 of those precious new mornings and starlit evenings each year, 52 promising weeks, 12 months full of beautiful possibilities, and four splendid seasons, marvelously detailed with God's love... all in one year! Time is God's wonderful gift to mankind, and we have the privilege and responsibility of giving it back to God. As you consecrate your time to Him, you may be astounded how He reveals to you what He wants you to do with this gift.



SEE THAT YE WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY... REDEEMING THE TIME...

Ephesians 5:15, 16

Taeals

Ideals are stimulating! They bring us to excellence as we strive for what is cherished in our hearts. We aspire to form higher ideals when we understand God's purpose for us on earth. Any worthy ideal is first blessed by God and can only be attained by His help. Set high ideals, and by the grace of God you will become a stronger disciple of Jesus; living a life of meaning and purpose in light of eternity. Walk prayerfully because the Lord might direct your steps to a higher plain. He knows best how to bless our lives to draw us to Him, and isn't that the Christian's greatest ideal, found in Philippians 3:10?



Ideals are like stars; you will not succeed in touching them with your hands. But like the seafaring man on the deepest waters, you choose them as your guides, and following them you will reach your destination.

-Carl Schurz

Dreams

Dreams are an expression of values, hopes, and living life to the fullest. Many people don't allow themselves to dream because they are afraid their dreams will never come true. Or they feel that dreams aren't prudent, and therefore they never dare to dream. There's a great difference between a godly dream and a mere daydream. Dreams lead you to action. They can even create a healthy discontent, motivating you to harder work, greater discipline, and more perseverance. Dreams help you focus on the journey, become more committed, take greater responsibility, and gain a deeper purpose. Give God your dreams, and He will direct your life.



A dream is an ideal involving a sense of possiblities, not probabilities.

A sense of potential, not limits.

-John C. Maxwell

Trust

When God takes you to the edge of a cliff, trust Him fully, and let go. Only one of two things will happen—either He will catch you when you fall, or He will teach you how to fly. -Selected

Don't try to hold God's hand; let Him hold yours. Let Him do the holding and you do the trusting. -Webb-Peploe

How calmly we may commit ourselves to the hands of Him who bears up the world. -Ritcher

In Thee, O Lord, do I put my trust... Psalm 71:1



Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee...

Isaiah 26:3

Forgiveness

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14, 15

True heartfelt forgiveness will cost us something, but bitter unforgiveness will cost us even more. There are times in life when we must simply choose to forgive. Though the pain of the offense may be extremely deep, a forgiving spirit will not sit and lick the wounds, wait for an apology, or gather a support group together. Jesus silently bore the dreadful shame, felt the intense hurt, and took the harshest blows. With His heart turned toward God, He cried out during his struggle, "Father, forgive them!" Cry to God to help you forgive and to bring you through that agony of bleeding emotions and troubled thoughts. He will birth you into His beautiful love and perfect healing. Here you will catch a greater glimpse of His divine glory and a deeper, fuller understanding of His cleansing power! Though the scars remain, may God heal the pain.



FORGIVENESS IS
UNLOCKING THE DOOR TO
SET SOMEONE ELSE FREE
AND REALIZING YOU WERE
THE PRISONER.

-Max Lucado