

WALKING WITH CHRIST SERIES

BOOK 4

GOD USES BROKEN PEOPLE

*Discovering How God Works
Through Imperfect Lives*



WRITTEN BY

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SERVANT OF GOD – CHRISTIE JOHNSON

*Pointing people to the hope, healing, and
transformation found in Jesus Christ.*

"My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness."

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9 (NLT)

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Scripture Notice

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation (NLT).

Ministry Disclaimer

This Bible study is intended to provide biblical encouragement, spiritual guidance, and discipleship rooted in God's Word.

It is not intended to replace pastoral care, professional counseling, legal advice, or medical or mental health treatment. If you are facing circumstances that require professional assistance, please seek help from qualified professionals while continuing to trust the Lord for His wisdom, comfort, and strength.

A Personal Note

My prayer is that every page of this study points you to Jesus Christ rather than to me. Any wisdom shared here comes from God's Word and from His faithful work in my own life. May the Holy Spirit use these pages to encourage you, strengthen your faith, and help you grow into the person God created you to be.

"Pointing people to the hope, healing, and transformation found in Jesus Christ."

Contact

If this study has encouraged you and you would like additional Bible studies, personalized discipleship resources, or prayer, I would be honored to hear from you.

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Introduction

Welcome to the Walking with God Bible Study Series.

Whether you are opening the first book or joining somewhere along the journey, I am grateful God has brought you here. You are carrying burdens that feel too heavy to bear. You are searching for healing, hope, freedom, purpose, or simply a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Whatever brought you here, know this: you are not here by accident. God, in His love and sovereignty, has led you to this moment.

Like many believers, I have walked through seasons of brokenness, rejection, grief, disappointment, and unanswered questions. Yet through every season, God remained faithful. Through His Word, the work of the Holy Spirit, and the encouragement of His people, He has continued transforming my heart into the likeness of Jesus Christ. That lifelong process of becoming more like Christ is called spiritual formation, and it is the foundation of this entire series.

These Bible studies are not about earning God's approval or becoming a better version of yourself. They are about learning to know Jesus more deeply, trusting Him more fully, and allowing Him to transform every area of your life through His Word.

About the Series

Each book in the Walking with God series builds upon the previous one, guiding you step by step through biblical truth and spiritual growth.

- **Book 1 – From Brokenness to Transformation** – Begin your journey by discovering Christ's healing, grace, forgiveness, and transforming work.
- **Book 2 – Living Worthy of His Call** – Learn your identity in Christ and live from God's approval instead of the approval of others.
- **Book 3 – Finding Freedom from Rejections** – Find security in Christ when facing rejection, criticism, misunderstanding, and disappointment.
- **Book 4 – God Uses Broken People** – Discover throughout Scripture that God delights in using ordinary, imperfect people for His glory.
- **Book 5 – Becoming More Like Jesus** – Grow in Christlike character as the Holy Spirit transforms your heart, mind, and daily walk.
- **Book 6 – When You Fall** – Learn how God's grace restores believers after failure and encourages them to keep walking faithfully with Him.

Although each study may be completed on its own, I encourage you to read them in order. Each book builds upon the biblical truths learned in the previous one, moving from healing and identity to spiritual maturity, faithful service, and perseverance. Together they present a journey of lifelong spiritual formation as God continually shapes His children into the image of Jesus Christ.

How to Use This Study

Each study contains seven daily lessons. Every day includes Scripture to read, biblical teaching, questions for personal reflection, prayer, and one practical step of faith to help you apply God's truth to everyday life.

I encourage you to keep a journal nearby. Write down the Scriptures that speak to your heart, the prayers you pray, what God teaches you, and the ways you see Him faithfully working in your life. Over time, those pages will become a testimony of His grace and faithfulness.

Remember this:

- **This Bible study is about Jesus.**
- **His love that never fails.**
- **His grace never runs out.**
- **His truth that sets us free.**
- **His forgiveness makes us new.**
- **His presence that never leaves us.**
- **His power to transform broken lives for His glory.**

No matter where your journey begins today, God is not finished with you.

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."

Philippians 1:6

Let's Begin

Open your Bible, quiet your heart before the Lord, and take your next step of faith as we walk with Jesus together.

How to Use This Bible Study

Set aside 15–20 minutes each day to be alone with God without distractions. Begin by asking the Holy Spirit to open your heart to His truth. Read each Scripture slowly, paying attention to what it teaches about God's character, His promises, and your response to Him.

As you move through each day, do not rush. Pause, reflect, write honestly in a journal, and spend time talking with God in prayer. The goal is not to finish another study but to allow God's Word to shape your heart and deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ. If one day speaks deeply to you, spend extra time there. Spiritual growth is not measured by how quickly you finish but by your willingness to obey what God reveals. Healing and spiritual formation are lifelong journeys, and God faithfully completes the work He begins.

Ways to Memorize God's Word

- Read the verse aloud three times each morning.
- Write it on an index card and carry it with you.
- Place it somewhere you will see often.
- Pray the verse back to God throughout the day.
- Repeat the verse before going to sleep.

As God's Word fills your mind, the Holy Spirit uses it to renew your heart, strengthen your faith, and help you walk more closely with Jesus Christ.

Worship Playlist

How to Use Worship Music During This Study

Don't treat these songs as background entertainment. Instead, use them as another way to focus your heart on the Lord.

Before each day's lesson

Play one worship song and ask the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart. Let the words remind you of God's love, faithfulness, and truth before you begin reading Scripture.

During your reflection

If a particular song speaks to your heart, pause the study for a few moments. Pray through the lyrics and allow God to reveal what He is teaching you.

During prayer

After completing each day's prayer, I spend a few quiet minutes listening to one worship song. Instead of rushing to the next activity, remain in God's presence and allow His peace to settle over your heart.

Throughout the week

Choose one song that especially encourages you and listen to it several times during the week. As you memorize Scripture, allow the message of the song to reinforce the biblical truths you are learning.

End each study with worship.

Before closing your Bible, thank God for what He has taught you that day. Worship is one of the greatest ways to respond to His goodness and continue the work of spiritual formation in your heart.

God Uses Broken People

Before You Begin

These songs help quiet your heart and focus your attention on the Lord.

- I Speak Jesus — Charity Gayle
- Goodness of God — CeCe Winans
- Trust in God — Elevation Worship

When You Feel Weak or Insecure

As you remember that God's strength is made perfect in weakness.

- Hard Fought Hallelujah — Brandon Lake
- No Longer Slaves — Bethel Music
- Firm Foundation (He Won't) Cody Carnes

When You Need Hope and Healing

As you allow God to bring comfort, restoration, and renewed faith.

- Graves Into Gardens — Elevation Worship
- Living Hope — Phil Wickham
- Believe For It — CeCe Winans

When You Are Trusting God's Purpose

When you need encouragement that God can still use your life for His glory.

- That's My King — CeCe Winans
- Nobody — Casting Crowns
- Jesus Does — We The Kingdom

A Prayer of Surrender

As you close each day's study.

- Build My Life — Pat Barrett
- King of My Heart — John Mark McMillan
- Holy Forever — Chris Tomlin

A Final Encouragement

Music has always been one of the ways God has spoken to my heart. During seasons of joy, grief, healing, and spiritual growth, He has often used worship songs to remind me of His promises and draw me closer to Him. My prayer is that as you listen, you will hear more than beautiful melodies—you will hear the voice of your Heavenly Father reminding you of His love, His truth, and His faithfulness as you continue walking with Jesus Christ.

Day 1 — Moses

Theme

God uses the insecure

A Word of Encouragement

Have you ever felt like God could use anyone but you, looking at your past, mistakes, age, health, education, or weaknesses and thinking He could find someone better? The truth is, many of God's servants felt the same way, but God is not looking for people who have it all together—He is looking for people willing to take the next step of faith and trust His strength over their weakness.

Opening Scripture

Exodus 4:10–12 (NLT)

"But Moses pleaded with the Lord, 'O Lord, I'm not very good with words. I have never been, and I'm not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled.' Then the Lord asked Moses, 'Who makes a person's mouth? Who decides whether people speak or do not speak, hear, or do not hear, see, or do not see? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say.'"

Understanding God's Word

When God called Moses to confront Pharaoh and lead the Israelites out of slavery, Moses immediately began listing reasons why he wasn't the right person. **He focused on his weaknesses instead of God's power, saw his limitations instead of God's promises, and believed his insecurities made him unusable.** Yet God never changed His calling because of Moses' fears. Instead, He reminded Moses that the mission was never about Moses' abilities—it was always about God's presence.

God wasn't asking Moses to be enough on his own; He was asking him to trust the One who would go with him. We often respond the same way when God places something on our hearts, making excuses such as, "I'm too old," "I'm too young," "I don't know enough," "My past is too broken," or "I've made too many mistakes." But our weakness does not cancel God's calling. Our fear does not limit His power. Our past does not stop His purpose.

Throughout Scripture, God consistently chooses people who know they need Him because when His work is accomplished through weak people, He alone receives the glory. The same God who patiently encouraged Moses continues to patiently encourage us today, reminding us that His strength is more than enough for every calling He gives. When God calls us, He also equips us, walks with us, teaches us, and gives us courage one step at a time.

Walking This Truth

For much of my life, I believed my brokenness would always be my greatest limitation. Growing up in an abusive home, experiencing rejection, struggling with depression for years, and walking through painful relationships left me believing that my

life would always be defined by what had happened to me. Even after I became a Christian, I often wondered if God could really use someone with my story.

Then something unexpected happened. Instead of hiding my past, God slowly began showing me that He intended to redeem it. When I sensed Him calling me into ministry, my first reaction wasn't confidence—it was insecurity. I wasn't a pastor. I hadn't grown up in a healthy Christian home. I didn't see myself as someone who could teach the Bible. I simply saw a woman who had survived a great deal of pain.

Then God began opening doors I never imagined possible. He led me back to college later in life. He faithfully walked with me as I earned my bachelor's degree, then my master's degree, and now as I pursue my doctorate in Christian Leadership. Along the way, He began placing a desire in my heart to write Bible studies, share my testimony, and help hurting people discover the hope I had found in Jesus Christ.

There were many times I questioned myself. Could I really do this? Would anyone listen? Was I qualified? Every time those questions surfaced, God gently reminded me that He wasn't asking me to rely on my own strength. He was asking me to trust His.

Looking back now, I realize that God never called me because I was qualified. He called me because I was willing to surrender. That's exactly what He did with Moses, and that's exactly what He still does today. If you're waiting until you feel completely ready before saying "yes" to God, you may be waiting forever. God doesn't promise that you'll feel confident. He promises that He will be with you.

Reflect with God

Take a few quiet moments with the Lord and honestly reflect on these questions. Ask Him to reveal any insecurities that may be keeping you from fully trusting His calling on your life.

1. What insecurities or weaknesses do you believe disqualify you from being used by God?
2. Have you been focusing more on your limitations than on God's power?
3. Is God asking you to take a step of faith that you've been avoiding because you don't feel qualified?

Write your answers in your journal and invite God to replace your fears with His truth.

Today's Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for reminding me that You have never called perfect people. Throughout Scripture, You have used ordinary men and women who were willing to trust You despite their weaknesses. Forgive me for the times I have focused more on my insecurities than on Your power. Help me to stop believing the lies that my past, my failures, or my weaknesses disqualify me from being used by You. Give me the courage to say "yes" to whatever You are calling me to do. Help me remember that You do not expect me to do it alone. You promise to walk with me every step of the way.

Thank You for patiently transforming my life and for using even my broken places to bring glory to Your name. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Today's Challenge

Don't allow your insecurities to become greater than God's promises.

Today:

- Write down one excuse you have been using for why God can't use you.
- Beside it, write this truth: *"God's strength is greater than my weakness."*
- Read **Exodus 4:10–12** aloud several times, reminding yourself that God promises to be with those He calls.
- Ask God to replace your fear with faith and your excuses with obedience.
- Take one small step of faith today, trusting that God will equip you for whatever He has called you to do.

Remember, God does not call the qualified; He qualifies those He calls. Every step of faith is an opportunity to experience His strength working through your weakness.

Scripture to Memorize

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NLT)

"My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness."

As you memorize this verse, remember that God's greatest work is often accomplished through people who know they need Him.

Walking with Christ

Walking with Christ means learning to trust Him more than we trust ourselves. As we surrender our insecurities and fears, He faithfully provides the strength, wisdom, and courage we need for each new step. He is not asking you to be perfect—He is inviting you to walk closely with Him. Today Ask Yourself: **Do my weaknesses are greater than God's power, or will I surrender my insecurities and trust Him to use me for His glory?**

Today's Truth. God does not call me because I am qualified. He calls me because He is faithful, and His strength is made perfect in my weakness.

Today's Step of Faith. Today I will stop focusing on my limitations and take one step of faith, trusting that God will equip me for whatever He has called me to do.

Tomorrow We'll Discover.... Tomorrow we'll discover how God meets us in our fears and heartaches as we look at the lives of Gideon and Hannah, learning that He strengthens the fearful and comforts the brokenhearted.

Today's Takeaway. God has never been looking for perfect people. He has always been looking for willing hearts. When we surrender our insecurities to Him, He demonstrates His power through our weakness and authors a story that only He could have written.

Day 2 — Gideon & Hannah

Theme

God Uses the Fearful and Brokenhearted

A Word of Encouragement

Have you ever wondered if your fear, broken heart, or unanswered prayers have somehow made you unusable to God? The truth is that God often chooses those who feel weak and broken because hearts that depend completely on Him are the very hearts He delights to strengthen, restore, and use for His glory.

Opening Scripture

Judges 6:12 (NLT)

"The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, 'Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!'"

Psalms 34:18 (NLT)

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed."

Understanding God's Word

When we first meet Gideon, he is hiding in a wine press, secretly throwing wheat because he is afraid of the Midianites. Yet before Gideon ever believed in himself, God called him a "mighty hero."

God saw the man Gideon would become—not the fearful man standing before Him.

Hannah's story is equally powerful.

She carried the deep pain of infertility for many years. While others misunderstood her sorrow, God saw every tear she cried. Hannah continued bringing her broken heart before the Lord, trusting Him even when His answer seemed delayed.

Eventually, God answered her prayer, and Samuel was born. But the greatest miracle wasn't simply that Hannah received a son—it was that through her waiting, her faith grew deeper.

Both Gideon and Hannah remind us that God is not intimidated by our fears or our tears.

He welcomes us to bring both into His presence.

Sometimes He changes our circumstances immediately.

Other times He changes our hearts while we wait.

In both situations, He is working for our good and His glory.

Walking This Truth

Fear has been a familiar companion at different seasons of my life. When my husband Joe passed away, I found myself facing a future I never expected. So many questions filled my mind. What was I supposed to do now? How would I move forward? Had everything God called us to do together ended?

Then God began leading me in a direction I never imagined. He opened the door for me to move to Colorado. Leaving behind familiar places, memories, and everything I had

known was frightening. There were moments when I questioned whether I was making the right decision. I didn't know what life would look like, how my ministry would develop, or how God would provide. I simply knew He was asking me to trust Him.

Like Gideon, I often felt uncertain about the next step. Like Hannah, there were prayers I had prayed for years that still remained unanswered. Some were prayers for healing, some were prayers for relationships, and some were prayers I still continue to place before God today. Over time, I discovered something beautiful: God wasn't asking me to understand everything. He was asking me to trust Him.

As I look back, I can see His hand guiding every step, even the ones that seemed uncertain at the time. Moving to Colorado brought healing I desperately needed. It gave me a safe place to begin rebuilding, growing, and preparing for the ministry He had been calling me toward for years. My circumstances didn't suddenly become perfect, but my confidence in God's faithfulness grew stronger. Fear no longer controlled my decisions because I had learned that God's presence is far greater than my uncertainty. The same God who walked beside Gideon and comforted Hannah has faithfully walked beside me, and He will faithfully walk beside you as well.

Reflect with God

Take a few quiet moments with the Lord and honestly reflect on these questions. Ask Him to reveal any fears or heartaches that you have been carrying alone.

1. What fear is keeping you from fully trusting God today?
2. Is there an unanswered prayer you have become discouraged about?
3. How has God shown His faithfulness during previous seasons of waiting?

Write your answers in your journal, remembering that God welcomes both your fears and your faith into His presence.

Today's Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for being close to the brokenhearted and faithful through every season of life.

You know every fear I carry and every burden I have tried to bear alone. Thank You that I don't have to hide my struggles from You because You already know my heart completely.

Help me trust You when I cannot see the whole path ahead. Give me courage like Gideon to obey even when I feel afraid, and faith like Hannah to continue praying while I wait for Your perfect timing.

Strengthen my heart, deepen my faith, and remind me that Your plans are always better than my own.

Thank You for walking beside me through every season and never leaving me alone.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Challenge

Think about one fear or one unanswered prayer that has been weighing heavily on your heart.

- Write it in your journal.
- Give it to God in prayer.
- Read Psalm 34:18 several times today.
- Every time fear returns, remind yourself that God is close, He sees you, and He is already working—even when you cannot yet see the outcome.

Scripture to Memorize

Psalm 34:18 (NLT)

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed."

As you memorize this verse, remember that no tear falls unnoticed and no fear is too great for God's loving care.

Walking with Christ

Walking with Christ doesn't mean we never experience fear or heartbreak. It means we learn to bring those fears to Jesus instead of allowing them to control us. As we trust Him one step at a time, He strengthens our faith, comforts our hearts, and reminds us that we never walk alone.

Today's Truth. God meets me in my fears, comforts me in my heartache, and faithfully walks beside me through every season of life.

Today's Step of Faith. Today I will surrender one fear or one unanswered prayer to God and trust Him to accomplish His perfect will in His perfect timing.

Tomorrow We'll Discover. Tomorrow we'll discover how God uses those who feel overlooked and discouraged as we study the lives of David and Jeremiah and learn that God's opinion of us matters far more than the opinions of others.

Today's Takeaway. Fear may tell us to stop, and heartache may tempt us to give up, but God's presence gives us the courage to keep moving forward. He is faithful in every season, and He will never abandon those who place their trust in Him.

Day 3 — David & Jeremiah

Theme

God Uses the Overlooked and Discouraged

A Word of Encouragement

Have you ever felt overlooked, forgotten, or unseen by the people around you? Be encouraged God sees your heart, your faithfulness, your tears, and every quiet step of obedience.

Opening Scripture

1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

"But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'"

Understanding God's Word

David never expected to be chosen as Israel's next king. When the prophet Samuel came to Jesse's home, David wasn't even invited to meet him. His father believed the older brothers were far more likely to become king, so David remained in the fields caring for sheep. Yet while everyone else overlooked David, God had already chosen him. God wasn't impressed by appearance, popularity, or position. He was looking for a heart fully devoted to Him.

Jeremiah experienced a different kind of struggle. God called him to proclaim His truth during one of Judah's darkest seasons. Jeremiah faithfully delivered God's message, yet many rejected him. He was ridiculed, threatened, imprisoned, and often felt completely alone. There were moments when discouragement became so overwhelming that he questioned whether he could continue. Yet God continually reminded Jeremiah that He had called him for a purpose and would remain with him through every trial.

David teaches us that God sees those others overlook. Jeremiah reminds us that discouragement does not mean we are outside of God's will. Sometimes the people God uses most are those who quietly remain faithful when no one else notices. God is not limited by who rejects us, forgets us, or misunderstands us. He sees what people cannot see, and He strengthens His servants even in hidden and difficult seasons.

This means we do not have to measure our worth by human recognition. We do not have to believe that being overlooked means being forgotten by God. The same God who saw David in the field and sustained Jeremiah in discouragement also sees us today. When we remain faithful in the quiet places, God is still working, shaping our hearts, and preparing us for His purpose.

Walking This Truth

There have been many times in my life when I felt overlooked. As a little girl, I often wondered why I wasn't protected by the way children should be. Instead of feeling safe and valued, I grew up believing that I simply didn't matter. Those wounds followed me into adulthood, shaping how I viewed myself for many years. Even after becoming a Christian, those feelings didn't disappear overnight. There were seasons when I questioned whether anyone truly saw me. I poured myself into caring for others, encouraging people, and trying to make a difference, yet there were still moments when I felt invisible.

Even while building this ministry, there have been days when discouragement crept in. There were papers to write, degrees to earn, websites to build, and Bible studies to create. Some days I questioned whether anyone would ever read these words or if God could really use this ministry to help hurting people around the world. Then God gently reminded me of David, who spent years faithfully tending sheep before anyone recognized what God was doing in his life. He reminded me of Jeremiah, who wasn't called to be successful in the eyes of people but to remain faithful to God.

That changed my perspective. God never asked me to measure my ministry by numbers. He asked me to measure it by faithfulness. Whether one person reads these studies or thousands someday, my responsibility remains the same: to faithfully share what God has taught me and trust Him with the results. I've learned that God's approval is worth far more than human recognition. He sees every late night spent studying. He sees every prayer, every tear, and every act of obedience that no one else ever notices. And if God sees me, that is enough.

Reflect with God

Take a few quiet moments with the Lord and honestly reflect on these questions. Ask Him to help you see yourself through His eyes instead of through the opinions of others.

1. Have you ever felt overlooked, rejected, or forgotten by others?
2. How has discouragement affected your walk with God?
3. Are you seeking God's approval or the approval of people?

Write your answers in your journal and ask God to remind you that your value comes from Him alone.

Today's Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for seeing me completely and loving me unconditionally.

When I feel overlooked or discouraged, remind me that You know my heart and that my worth is found in You alone. Help me stop measuring my value by what others think and instead find my identity in Your love. Give me the faithfulness of David to serve You in the quiet places and the perseverance of Jeremiah to continue trusting You even when life becomes difficult. Help me remain faithful in every season, knowing that You are working even when I cannot see the results. Thank You for never overlooking me.

In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Today's Challenge

Think about one area where you've been discouraged because you haven't received recognition or encouragement.

- Write it in your journal.
- Give that disappointment to God.
- Thank Him that His approval is all you truly need.
- Choose one act of obedience today that no one else may notice but that brings glory to Him.

Scripture to Memorize

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

"So, let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."

As you memorize this verse, remember that God sees every faithful step you take, even when no one else does.

Walking with Christ

Walking with Christ means remaining faithful whether people notice or not. Jesus Himself was misunderstood, rejected, and overlooked by many, yet He continued obeying the Father's will. As we follow His example, we learn that our greatest reward is not found in human recognition but in faithfully walking with the One who knows and loves us completely. Today Ask Yourself: **If no one ever recognized my faithfulness, would I still choose to faithfully follow Christ?**

Today's Truth. God sees me, knows me, and values me. My faithfulness matters because He sees it.

Today's Step of Faith. Today I will choose faithfulness over recognition and trust that God sees every act of obedience, even when others do not.

Tomorrow We'll Discover. Tomorrow we'll discover how God redeems our past and restores our weary hearts as we study the lives of Rahab and Elijah, learning that His grace is greater than our failures and His strength is sufficient for every season.

Today's Takeaway. People may overlook you, misunderstand you, or fail to recognize what God is doing in your life, but God never does. He sees your heart, honors your faithfulness, and is preparing you for the purpose He has planned since the very beginning.

Day 4 — Chosen, Not Rejected

Theme

God's acceptance is greater than the rejection you have experienced.

A Word of Encouragement

Have you ever wondered if the rejection you've experienced says something about your worth? Be encouraged people may reject, disappoint, or walk away from you, but your value has always been securely rooted in the God who chose you and calls you His own.

Opening Scripture

Ephesians 1:4–5 (NLT)

"Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure."

Understanding God's Word

Before another person ever rejected you, God had already chosen you. Before anyone spoke hurtful words, walked away, betrayed your trust, or failed to love you the way you deserved, God had already set His love upon you. Your identity was never meant to be determined by the acceptance or rejection of people. From the very beginning, God's desire has been to draw you into a relationship with Himself through Jesus Christ. His love for you has never depended on your performance, your past, or the opinions of others. It has always been rooted in His grace, His mercy, and His unchanging character.

The **apostle Paul** reminds us that through faith in Jesus Christ we have been adopted into God's family. Adoption is not an afterthought or a second choice—it is an intentional act of love. God did not reluctantly accept us; He joyfully welcomed us as His sons and daughters. As our heavenly Father, He gives us a new identity, a secure place to belong, and an eternal inheritance that can never be taken away. While people may disappoint us, reject us, or abandon us, God never withdraws His love from those who belong to Him. His acceptance is complete, permanent, and secure because it rests on the finished work of Jesus Christ rather than our own efforts.

When we understand this truth, the opinions of others begin to lose their power over our identity. Rejection may still hurt, but it no longer has to define who we are.

Instead of measuring our worth by how others treat us, we can rest in the assurance that we are fully known, deeply loved, completely forgiven, and forever accepted by God. The more we believe what God says about us, the less control rejection has over our hearts.

His love becomes the foundation of our identity, giving us the freedom to walk confidently in the life He has called us to live.

Walking This Truth

One lesson God has been teaching me is that healing from rejection does not happen by convincing everyone else to accept us. Healing begins when we become so secure in God's love that we stop chasing approval from people. For much of my life, I wanted others to understand me, including me, and love me the way I longed to be loved. Sometimes they did, but many times they did not. Each disappointment reminded me how painful rejection can be, but God gently began showing me that He was inviting me to find my security in Him instead of in people.

As I grew closer to Christ, I discovered something beautiful. His acceptance gave me the freedom to stop living for the approval of others. That does not mean rejection no longer hurts. It means rejection no longer defines me. When I remember that I am chosen, loved, and accepted by God, I can walk with greater peace, even when others do not understand me. The same freedom is available to you.

Reflect with God

Spend a few moments praying through these questions.

- Have you allowed someone's rejection to shape how you see yourself?
- Whose approval are you still trying to earn?
- What would change if you honestly believed God has already accepted you?
- How can you begin resting in His love instead of striving for acceptance?

Ask God to reveal any areas where rejection still influences your heart.

Today's Prayer

Father,

Thank You for choosing me before I could ever earn Your love.

There are wounds in my heart that still remember rejection, disappointment, and loss. Sometimes those memories make me question my value.

Today I choose to believe what You say instead of what my past has taught me.

Thank You for adopting me into Your family through Jesus Christ. Help me find my identity in Your love rather than in the opinions of people.

Heal every place where rejection has taken root and teach me to rest in the security of being Your child.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Challenge

Don't allow rejection to speak louder than God's acceptance.

Today:

- Print the names of people or situations that have made you feel rejected.
- Beside each one, write this truth: **"God has chosen me, and His love is enough."**
- Pray over each name or situation and surrender the pain to God.
- Read **Ephesians 1:4–5** aloud, reminding yourself that you are chosen and adopted in Christ.
- Thank God that your worth is secure in Him, not in the approval of others.

Remember, people may reject you, but God has chosen you. His love is greater than every wound rejection has left behind.

Scripture to Memorize

Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

"God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure."

Walking with Christ

Jesus understands rejection. He was rejected by religious leaders, abandoned by friends, betrayed by one of His disciples, and crucified by the very people He came to save. Because He understands rejection, He also knows how to heal those who have experienced it. Bring your wounds to Him today. Ask Yourself Today: **Am I allowing the rejection of others to define my worth, or am I choosing to believe that I am loved, accepted, and chosen by God?**

Today's Truth. I am chosen, deeply loved, and fully accepted by God through Jesus Christ.

Today's Step of Faith. Instead of seeking someone's approval today, spend that time thanking God for His acceptance.

Every time you feel rejected, quietly remind yourself:

"I belong to Christ, and that is enough."

Tomorrow We'll Discover. Tomorrow we'll discover how God transforms our past from a source of shame into a testimony of His grace and faithfulness.

Today's Takeaway. One of the greatest freedoms God has given me is learning that my identity is no longer determined by who rejected me but by the One who chose me.

People may disappoint us.

People may misunderstand us.

People may even walk away.

But our Heavenly Father never will.

Your identity is not built on rejection—it is built on God's unfailing love.

Day 5 — Your Past Is Not Your Identity

Theme

God redeems our past, so it becomes a testimony of His grace rather than the definition of who we are.

A Word of Encouragement

Have you ever felt like your past will always define who you are? Be encouraged—through Jesus Christ, your past no longer determines your identity; God's grace redeems your story and gives you a new beginning.

Opening Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Understanding God's Word

When we place our faith in Jesus Christ, God gives us a new identity. Paul does not say we receive a slightly improved version of our old life. He says we become a new creation. That means Jesus does more than forgive our sins; He gives us a new life, a new heart, and a new way to see ourselves. Our past may explain some of the wounds we carry, but it no longer has the authority to define who we are. What happened to us, what we regret, what others said about us, and what we once believed about ourselves do not get the final word. Christ does.

This does not mean our memories disappear or that every scar instantly heals. Healing is often a process, but identity changes the moment we belong to Jesus. We are no longer defined by shame, failure, rejection, abuse, grief, or regret. We are defined by the finished work of Christ. The enemy wants us to live looking backward, trapped in labels God never gave us. Jesus continually calls us forward into freedom, truth, healing, and obedience. Every day we have the opportunity to walk in the new life He has given us and believe that our identity is found in what Christ has done, not in what we have been through.

Walking This Truth

As I look back over my journey, I can see that God never wasted one painful experience. The abuse I endured gave me compassion for those who have been wounded. The seasons of depression taught me to cling to God's promises when my emotions told me otherwise. The rejection I experienced helped me understand the depth of God's acceptance. Even becoming a widow taught me that Christ truly is enough to carry me through life's deepest losses.

None of those experiences define me anymore. Instead, they remind me of God's faithfulness. When people ask about my life today, I don't want them to see how broken I once was. I want them to see how faithful God has been. That is the difference Jesus makes. He takes what once brought shame and uses it to become a testimony of grace. My past is

part of my story, but it is not my identity. **My identity is found in Jesus Christ, and because of Him, my story now points to hope, healing, and redemption.**

Reflect with God

Spend time honestly talking with the Lord.

- What part of your past do you struggle to leave behind?
- Are there labels you've continued to carry that God never intended for you?
- How has God already demonstrated His faithfulness through difficult seasons?
- How might He use your story to encourage someone else?

Ask God to help you see your past through His eyes instead of through your pain.

Today's Prayer

Father,

Thank You that my past does not surprise You or disqualify me from Your love.

Thank You for forgiving me, restoring me, and making me a new creation through Jesus Christ.

Help me stop defining myself by my wounds, my failures, or the painful experiences I have endured.

Teach me to see how You have been present through every chapter of my life, even the hardest ones.

Use my story for Your glory so others may find hope in You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Challenge

Don't allow your past to speak louder than God's grace.

Today:

- Make two columns in your journal.
- On the left, write the painful experiences or labels you have carried.
- On the right, write how God has shown His grace, faithfulness, or healing through each one.
- Read **2 Corinthians 5:17** aloud, reminding yourself that you are a new creation in Christ.
- Thank God for every evidence of His redeeming work in your life.

Remember, your past is part of your story, but it is not your identity. In Christ, God is redeeming your story for His glory.

Scripture to Memorize

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Walking with Christ

Walking with Christ doesn't mean pretending your past never happened. It means walking so closely with Him that your past no longer controls your future. Jesus doesn't erase your story. He redeems it. As you continue following Him, you'll discover that even your deepest wounds can become places where His grace shines the brightest. Ask Yourself Today:

Am I allowing my past to define who I am, or am I choosing to embrace the new identity God has given me through Jesus Christ?

Today's Truth. Because I belong to Christ, my past no longer defines me. His grace defines my future.

Today's Step of Faith. Choose one painful memory that still holds power over you. Bring it to God in prayer and thank Him that He is authoring a greater story than the one your pain began. Ask Him to help you see that memory through the lens of His redemption rather than your regret.

Tomorrow We'll Discover. Tomorrow we'll discover what it means to live each day with confidence as a beloved child of God and how embracing our identity in Christ changes the way we walk through every circumstance.

Today's Takeaway. One of the greatest lessons God has taught me is that He never asks us to hide our past. He asks us to place it in His hands. The chapters of my life that once filled me with shame have become the very places where God's grace is most clearly displayed. My prayer is that one day you'll be able to say the same. Your past may explain where you've been, but only Jesus can define who you are becoming.

Day 6 — Living as God's Beloved Child

Theme

When we truly know we are God's beloved children, we begin to live with confidence, peace, and purpose instead of fear and insecurity.

A Word of Encouragement

Have you ever measured your worth by people, circumstances, success, or failure? Be encouraged—before you are anything else, you are God's beloved child, and that truth gives you confidence, peace, and purpose in every season.

Opening Scripture

1 John 3:1 (NLT)

"See how much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are!"

Understanding God's Word

John does not say we might become God's children if we perform well enough, work hard enough, or prove ourselves worthy. He says that through Jesus Christ, we are His children. There is deep security in that truth. A loving father does not stop loving his child after a mistake, and our Heavenly Father does not withdraw His love every time we fail. His love is not based on our performance, our emotions, our circumstances, or our ability to get everything right. His love is based on His unchanging character.

When we understand this truth, we no longer live trying to earn God's acceptance. We live because we have already received it through Jesus Christ. Being God's beloved child means we can come to Him honestly, depend on Him daily, and trust that His love remains steady even when life feels uncertain. We do not have to live controlled by fear, insecurity, shame, or the need to prove ourselves. **Instead, we can walk with confidence, peace, and purpose because our identity is secure in Him.**

Walking This Truth

One of the greatest changes God has made in my life is teaching me to live from His love instead of striving for it. Years ago, I often wondered whether I was enough. I questioned my worth, my calling, my ability, and whether God could really use someone like me. Now I ask a different question: "How can I faithfully live today as God's daughter?"

That one change has transformed the way I approach ministry, relationships, suffering, and even ordinary days. It is why I can continue writing these Bible studies, building this ministry, and sharing my testimony. Not because I have everything figured out. Not because my life has been easy. But because I know the One who calls me His own. **That identity gives me the courage to keep taking the next step of faith, and it can do the same for you.**

Reflect with God

Take a few moments to sit quietly with the Lord.

- When you think about yourself, do you see yourself first as God's child?
- What circumstances have caused you to question your worth?
- In what areas are you still trying to earn God's approval?
- How would your daily life change if you honestly believed you are deeply loved by your Heavenly Father?

Spend time thanking God simply for loving you.

Today's Prayer

Father,

Thank You for calling me Your child.

Thank You that Your love for me does not depend on my past, my performance, or the opinions of others.

Help me live each day with the confidence that comes from belonging to You.

When fear, insecurity, or doubt begin to creep into my heart, remind me that I am held securely in Your hands.

Teach me to reflect Your love to others because I have first received it from You.

Help me walk today as Your beloved son or daughter.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Challenge

Don't allow your identity to be shaped by your circumstances instead of your Heavenly Father.

Today:

- Each time you look in a mirror, pause, and remind yourself: **"I am God's beloved child through Jesus Christ."**
- Read **1 John 3:1** aloud, thanking God for His unchanging love.
- Thank your Heavenly Father that His love for you does not depend on your performance or your circumstances.
- Ask God to help you see yourself through His eyes instead of through fear, insecurity, or the opinions of others.
- Choose one act of confidence today that reflects the truth that you belong to Him.

Remember, your identity is not found in what you do, what others think, or what you have been through. Your identity is found in the unchanging love of your Heavenly Father, who calls you His beloved child.

Scripture to Memorize

1 John 3:1 (NLT)

"See how much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are!"

Walking with Christ

Walking with Christ means learning to live as someone who already belongs. You don't have to prove your worth to God. You don't have to earn His love. Jesus has already made a way for you to become part of God's family. Walk today with the quiet confidence of someone who knows they are deeply loved by their Heavenly Father. Ask Yourself Today: **Am I living today as someone who is striving to earn God's love, or as His beloved child who has already received it through Jesus Christ?**

Today's Truth, I am God's beloved child, and nothing can separate me from His love.

Today's Step of Faith. Today, stop measuring your value by your circumstances or by the opinions of others. Instead, begin every decision, every conversation, and every challenge by reminding yourself: "I belong to my Heavenly Father." Then ask, "How would God's beloved child respond in this moment?" Let that truth guide your actions today.

Tomorrow We'll Discover Tomorrow we'll bring everything we've learned together as we discover how living in our true identity in Christ transforms every part of our lives and prepares us to help others find the same freedom.

Today's Takeaway. One of the greatest gifts God has given me is the assurance that I belong to Him. Everything else in my life has changed at one time or another.

My circumstances have changed.

My relationships have changed.

My address has changed.

My seasons of life have changed.

But one thing has remained constant:

I am, and always will be, a beloved daughter of God.

That truth has carried me through grief, suffering, healing, and into the ministry He has called me to.

Day 7 — Walking Confidently in Your Identity in Christ

Theme

As we embrace our identity in Christ, we can confidently walk in the purpose God has prepared for us.

A Word of Encouragement

Have you begun to see yourself the way God sees you instead of the way your past or others have defined you? Be encouraged—because you belong to Jesus Christ, you can walk confidently into the future, trusting that the One who gave you a new identity will faithfully accomplish His purpose through your life.

Opening Scripture

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."

Understanding God's Word

God never intended for us to stop at healing. Healing is not the final destination of the Christian life; it is preparation for the purpose He has planned for us. As God restores our hearts, renews our minds, and strengthens our faith, He also begins shaping us to serve Him and reflect His love to others. Throughout Scripture, we see that God often uses people who have walked through deep pain to encourage, strengthen, and minister to those facing similar struggles. Our greatest trials often become the very places where His grace shines most brightly.

Paul reminds us that we are God's workmanship—His masterpiece. The Greek word translated *workmanship* describes something carefully crafted by a skilled artist. Just as an artist patiently shapes every detail of a masterpiece, God is intentionally shaping every part of our lives. Even through seasons of suffering, loss, disappointment, or uncertainty, He has never stopped working. Nothing we experience is beyond His ability to redeem for His glory and our good. Although we may not always understand what He is doing, we can trust that His hands are always at work.

This means our identity is not found in our pain, our failures, or even our accomplishments. Our identity is found in the hands of the Master who lovingly created us, redeemed us through Jesus Christ, and continues transforming us into His image. Every step of healing, every lesson learned, and every act of obedience prepares us for the good works He has already planned for us. As we walk confidently in our identity in Christ, we can trust that God is faithfully completing the work He began in us and using our lives to bring glory to His name.

Walking This Truth

One of the greatest lessons God has taught me is that healing and purpose are connected. For years, my prayers centered on asking God to remove the pain. I prayed for healing from the wounds of abuse, rejection, grief, loneliness, depression, and the many

experiences that had shaped my life. While God certainly brought healing, He also began showing me that He wanted to do more than heal my heart—He wanted to use my story to point others to Jesus Christ.

Today my prayer is often different: "God, use every part of my story to help someone else find You." That change did not happen overnight. It came as I learned to trust His plan more than my own understanding and to believe that nothing I had experienced was beyond His redeeming grace. As I write these Bible studies, build this ministry, share my testimony, and encourage those who are hurting, I am reminded that only God can take what once caused pain and transform it into a testimony of hope. Your story may be different from mine, and your wounds may look different, but the same Savior who has faithfully walked with me will faithfully walk with you. **As you continue following Christ, He will not only bring healing to your heart—He will also use your life to encourage others and bring glory to His name.**

Reflect with God

Spend time thanking God for what He has shown you this week.

- How has your understanding of your identity changed?
- Which truth has spoken most deeply to your heart?
- What lies are you ready to leave behind?
- How is God preparing you to encourage someone else through your story?
- What step is He asking you to take next?

Write a prayer of gratitude in your journal.

Today's Prayer

Father,

Thank You for walking with me throughout this week.

Thank You for reminding me that my identity is not found in my past, my failures, or the opinions of others.

Thank You for calling me Your child.

Continue transforming my heart and renewing my mind through Your Word.

Help me live each day with confidence, humility, and joy as I follow Jesus.

Use my story to encourage others and point them toward the hope found in Christ.

May my life always bring glory to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Today's Challenge

Don't rush past what God has been teaching you this week.

Today:

- Review everything you have written in your journal this week.
- Highlight the truths that have impacted your heart the most.
- Choose one identity statement to carry with you throughout the coming week.
- Repeat that truth every day until it begins to take root in your heart.
- Thank God for the healing, freedom, and confidence He is building in you through Jesus Christ.

Remember, your identity is not found in your past, your pain, or the opinions of others. Your identity is found in Jesus Christ, and He is faithfully leading you forward.

Scripture to Memorize

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."

Walking with Christ

Walking with Christ is a lifelong journey of becoming who God has already declared you to be in Jesus. Some days bring big steps, while other days faithfulness simply means taking the next step. Keep walking, keep trusting, and keep believing His promises—the God who began this good work in you will faithfully complete it. Ask Yourself Today:

Will I continue allowing my past and circumstances to define me, or will I confidently walk in the identity, and purpose God has given me through Jesus Christ?

Today's Truth. I am God's masterpiece, created in Christ to reflect His love and fulfill His purpose.

Today's Step of Faith. Today, thank God not only for what He has brought you through but also for what He is preparing you for. Choose to walk forward with confidence, knowing that your identity is secure in Christ and your future is safely held in His hands.

Tomorrow We'll Discover. As this week's study comes to a close, remember that discovering your identity in Christ is not the end of the journey—it is the foundation for everything that follows. Continue walking with Him each day, allowing His truth to shape every area of your life.

Today's Takeaway

When I began following Jesus, I thought He wanted to repair my broken pieces, but He was doing something far greater shaping me into the woman He created me to be. As you leave this study, carry these truths with you: answer the enemy's lies with God's Word, remember the cross when your past tries to define you, and take another step with Jesus when fear tells you to stay still. Your identity is forever found in the One who gave His life for you.

Your Journey Continues

Over the past seven days, you've discovered that God delights in using ordinary, imperfect people for His glory. You've seen that your weaknesses do not disqualify you, your past does not define you, and your identity is securely rooted in Jesus Christ.

But God's work doesn't stop there.

Once we understand who we are in Christ, He begins another lifelong work within us—transforming our character so we become more like Jesus every day.

In Book 5 — Becoming More Like Jesus, we'll discover how the Holy Spirit shapes our hearts, renews our minds, develops Christlike character, and teaches us to reflect Jesus in every area of life. Spiritual growth is not about trying harder—it is about surrendering more completely to the transforming work of God.

I look forward to continuing this journey with you as we keep walking with Christ together.

A Personal Note from Christie

Thank you for allowing me to walk beside you through these seven days. My prayer is that this study has helped you take meaningful steps toward Jesus Christ and reminded you that God sees you, loves you, and continues His work within you. If you would like additional Bible studies, personalized resources, or prayer, I would be honored to hear from you through my website or by email. May God continue strengthening your faith as you walk with Christ.

Simply email me at:

servantofgodchristie@yahoo.com

Please share a little about yourself, the area where you are seeking God's guidance, and how many additional days you would like your study to include. Together, we will seek God's truth and discover what His Word says about your situation. My prayer is not only to provide another Bible study, but to help you continue growing into the person God created you to be through the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:24 (NLT)

"The One who calls you is faithful, and He will do it."

May God's grace, peace, and love continue to guide you as you walk faithfully with Jesus Christ every day.

Spiritual formation is a lifelong journey. As you continue in Scripture, prayer, worship, obedience, and fellowship with other believers, remember this: God is faithfully working in you, even when you cannot see it.

As you continue walking with Christ, remember His promise:

Philippians 1:6

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."

Trust Him with your next step. One day, one prayer, one Scripture, and one step of faith at a time.

Final Reflection

Spend a few quiet moments with the Lord and prayerfully reflect on these questions.

1. What has God taught me most during these seven days?
2. Which Scripture spoke most deeply to my heart, and why?
3. What lie has God replaced with His truth?
4. What burden have I surrendered to Him?
5. How has my understanding of my identity in Christ grown?
6. What area of my life is God continuing to transform?
7. What is one step of faith I will take this week to continue walking with Jesus?

Take time to write your answers in your journal. Revisit them often as God continues His work in your life.

My Prayer for You

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for every person who has completed this study. Thank You for the work You have already begun in their hearts. Continue drawing them closer to You each day.

Replace fear with faith, shame with grace, sorrow with hope, and uncertainty with confidence in Your promises.

Help them continue growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Fill them with the wisdom of Your Word, the guidance of Your Holy Spirit, and the peace that only You can give.

Strengthen them for every challenge they face, remind them of their identity in Christ, and help them become more like Jesus each day.

May their lives bring glory to You as they faithfully walk with Christ.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Remember: Transformation does not happen in a single day. It happens one step of faith at a time as we walk with Jesus Christ.

May God richly bless you as you continue your journey with Him.

Prayerfully prepared by

Christie Johnson

Christie Johnson

Servant of God

“Pointing people to the hope, healing, and transformation found in Jesus Christ.”