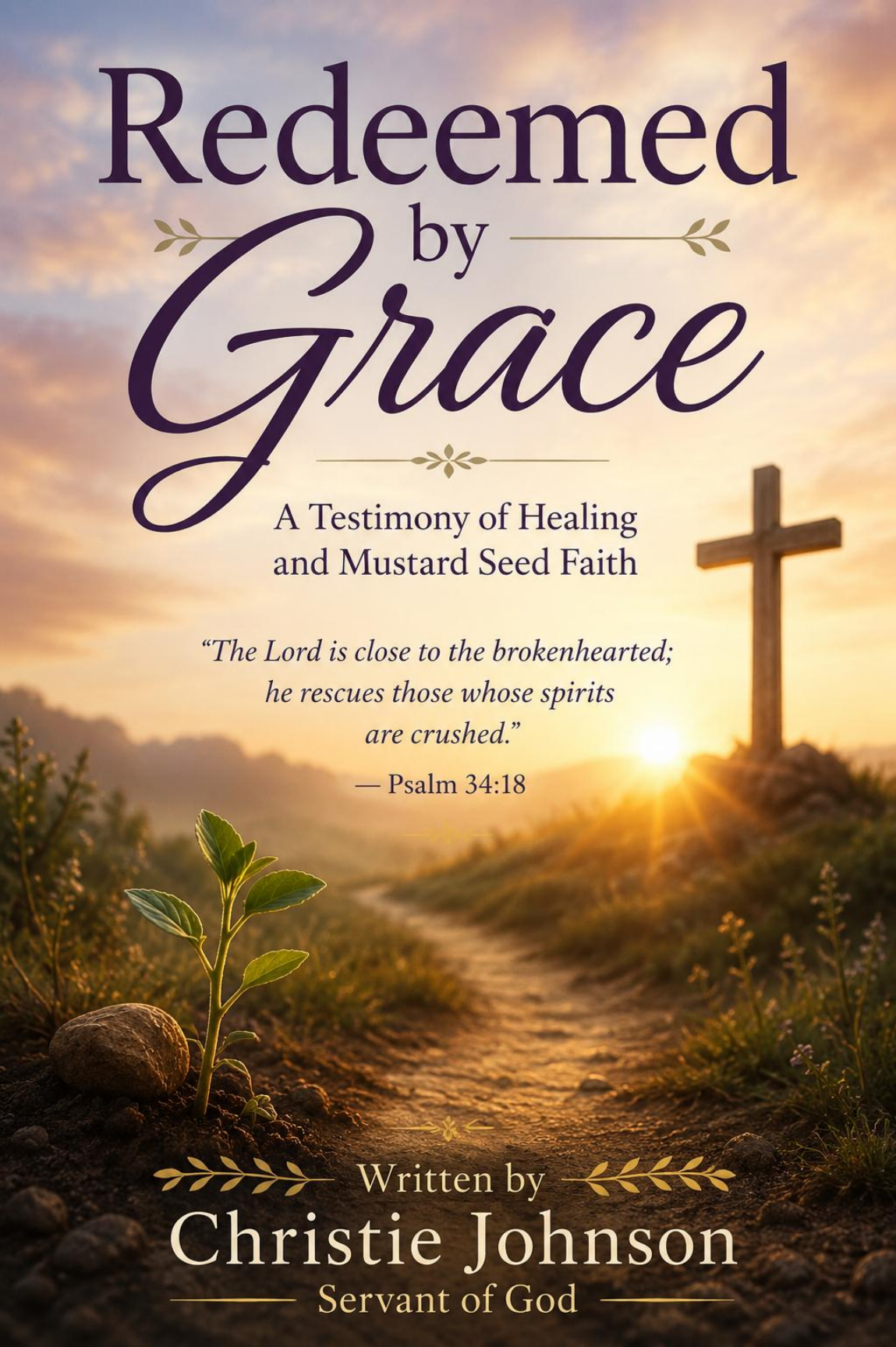


The background of the entire page is a photograph of a landscape at sunset. A dirt path leads from the bottom center towards a wooden cross standing on a small hill in the distance. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. In the foreground, a small green seedling grows out of the soil next to a large, smooth rock.

Redeemed by ————— *Grace* —————

A Testimony of Healing
and Mustard Seed Faith

*“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;
he rescues those whose spirits
are crushed.”*

— Psalm 34:18

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Written by —————
Christie Johnson
—————
Servant of God —————

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This resource is intended to provide biblical encouragement, spiritual guidance, discipleship, and leadership development rooted in the truth of God's Word.

It is not intended to replace the care of a local church, pastoral counsel, professional counseling, legal advice, medical treatment, or mental health services. 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, healing, and strength.

A Personal Note

Thank you for taking the time to study God's Word through this resource.

My prayer is that every page points you to Jesus Christ rather than to me. Any wisdom found in these pages comes from God's Word and from His faithful work in my own life. My desire is simply to faithfully teach His Word, encourage your walk with Him, and help you continue growing into the disciple He has created you to be.

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, I pray this study strengthens your faith, deepens your understanding of God's truth, and encourages you to live as a faithful follower of Jesus Christ.

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

Contact

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

Email: servantofgodchristie@yahoo.com

Website: www.servantofgodchristie.com



Introduction

For years, I allowed fear, shame, and pain to silence me. I believed the lie that somehow, I caused what happened, that my voice did not matter, and that I did not deserve love or protection. Looking back now, I see that even when I did not know Him, God pursued me.

He held my life in His hands, loved me faithfully, and planned a purpose for me greater than I could have imagined.

I do not share my testimony to focus on the pain I endured or to draw attention to myself. I share it because I want others to see the faithfulness of God. As you read these pages, my prayer is that you will see a God who never abandons His children, heals what seems impossible, and transforms broken lives into testimonies of His grace.

This story does not center on what the enemy tried to destroy. This story centers on what Jesus Christ redeemed. Jesus met me in my deepest brokenness, walked with me through years of healing, and continues to transform my life each day. My journey reminds me that spiritual formation does not happen overnight. It is a lifelong process of surrendering more of ourselves to Christ and allowing Him to shape us into His image.

Today, I no longer define my identity by my past, the wounds others caused, or the lies I once believed in. Through Jesus Christ, I have found a new identity rooted in His love, His grace, and His truth. Although my healing continues, I have learned that God's grace is sufficient, His promises are trustworthy, and even faith as small as a mustard seed can become the beginning of a transformed life.

If my story points you anywhere, I pray it points you to Jesus — the One who heals the brokenhearted, restores hope, and gives new purpose to every life surrendered to Him.





When Brokenness Entered My Story

When I was eleven years old, someone who should have loved and protected me deeply harmed me. When I found the courage to speak, my family did not believe me, and instead of receiving comfort and protection, I felt rejected, misunderstood, and alone. As a child, I carried shame that never belonged to me and believed the lies that I caused what happened, that my voice did not matter, and that I did not deserve love. For more than forty years, those wounds shaped my self-worth, relationships, and identity. Yet looking back, I see that the enemy wanted my pain to define me, but God was preparing to show me who I truly am in Him.

Yet even in those darkest years, God never abandoned me.

At that time, I did not know God. I did not know His Word, His promises, or His love. But God knew me. He saw every tear, every unanswered question, and every silent cry of my heart.

Even when I could not recognize His presence, He stayed faithful. Looking back now, I see how He preserved my life and prepared my heart for the day I would truly come to know Him.

Jesus said, **“The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life” (John 10:10).** For years, I experienced the pain and brokenness that sin brings into this world.

But God taught me that His purpose is greater than anything the enemy tried to do. What others meant for harm did not have the final word—God did.

One of the greatest lessons God has taught me is that my wounds do not determine who I am—He does. My past cannot define my identity because God has already defined it through Jesus Christ. Healing does not happen all at once, and it does not erase the past. Instead, healing begins when I invite Christ into my broken places, allow Him to replace lies with **His truth, and trust Him to transform me from the inside out.**

My journey of healing began when I chose to trust the One who had been pursuing me all along.





Learning I Was Loved by God

For years, I believed the lies my past taught me. I thought I was unlovable, unworthy, and beyond hope. I had learned how to survive, but I had not experienced the unconditional love my heart needed. I searched for acceptance without realizing that only Jesus Christ could give me the love I longed for.

When I was thirty-three, God began changing my life. He brought my second husband, Joe, into my life, and through him, God showed me what genuine love looked like. Joe loved me with patience, grace, and compassion when I struggled to believe I had value. He encouraged me, stood beside me, and became one way God drew me closer to Him.

God also used Joe to lead me to a pastor who introduced me to the truth of the Gospel. Through prayer, biblical teaching, and the love of God's people, I began to understand who Jesus really is. For the first time, I realized my worth did not come from what happened to me.

My worth came from the One who created me, loved me, and gave His life for me.

Romans 5:8 says, "But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." That truth changed everything. I finally understood that I could not earn God's love. He freely gave it through His grace, and His love reached me long before I reached for Him.

As my relationship with Christ grew, I began to see my life through a new lens. Instead of asking, "Why did this happen to me?" I began asking, "Lord, what do You want to teach me through this?" **God replaced fear with faith, shame with His truth, and hopelessness with His promises.**

Jesus said, "And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). Christ helped me discover my identity in Him. God taught me that I am His beloved daughter—forgiven, accepted, and deeply loved.

Looking back, I see God's fingerprints throughout my life. What once looked like random pain became evidence of how God preserved me, prepared me, and patiently drew me to Himself. My circumstances did not change immediately, but my heart began to change as I learned to trust the One who never stopped loving me.





Mustard Seed Faith: Learning to Trust God One Day at a Time

After I came to know Jesus Christ and experienced His transforming love, my healing journey continued. God did not remove every struggle overnight. I still faced painful memories, grief, chronic pain, insomnia, and moments when I questioned whether I had the strength to keep moving forward. **Through each season, God taught me that healing is a journey, not a single moment.**

One of the greatest lessons He taught me is the power of mustard seed faith. Jesus said, **"I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed... nothing would be impossible"** (Matthew 17:20). My faith has felt that small at times. Yet God never asked me for perfect faith. He asked me for a willing heart that would trust Him one step at a time. At times I feel strong, and at times I still feel like the wounded little girl who longed for love and protection. I continue to live with chronic pain and sleepless nights, but these struggles no longer define me. **Every day, I choose to place my hope in Jesus and trust Him to continue the work He began in me.**

God has shown me that spiritual growth does not mean living without struggles. It means surrendering my heart to Him through every season. Each challenge gives me another opportunity to depend on His strength instead of my own. Through this process,

God teaches me patience, perseverance, humility, and a deeper understanding of His grace.

Romans 8:28 has become a promise I hold close. I do not always understand what God is doing, but I trust His character. He does not waste my pain; He uses every trial to draw me closer to Him and prepare me to encourage others.

Today, I no longer see my scars as signs of defeat. They remind me of God's faithfulness. They remind me that He has carried me through each difficult season and continues to shape me into the woman He created me to be. My faith still grows, and my healing still unfolds, but I place my confidence in the God who never leaves me, never gives up on me, and walks beside me through every step of the journey.

The **apostle Paul** wrote, *"I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished"* (**Philippians 1:6**). That promise gives me hope every day. God still authors my story, and I know that the One who began His work in me will faithfully complete it.





Called to Share His Hope

As I look back on my life, I no longer see only pain, loss, or brokenness. I see God's faithful hand guiding me through every season. Even when I questioned His presence, He was working behind the scenes, drawing me closer to Himself, and preparing me for the calling He planned long before I understood it.

Today, I know God did not heal me simply for my own benefit. He has called me to share the hope, healing, and truth I found in Jesus Christ with those who are broken, rejected, discouraged, and spiritually weary. Because I have experienced His grace, I understand what it feels like to believe there is no way forward. That is why my heart longs to point others to the One who restores hope and transforms lives.

Through biblical teaching, personal testimony, prayer, discipleship, and Spirit-led encouragement, I desire to walk alongside others as they discover their identity in Christ and experience His transforming love. I do not claim to have every answer, or pretend life is free from struggles. I want others to see that God remains faithful and His grace is always sufficient.

One of the greatest truths God has taught me is that spiritual formation is a lifelong journey. As we surrender our lives to Him, He uses both joys and hardships to shape us into the image of Jesus Christ. He does not waste our suffering. He strengthens our faith, builds our character, and prepares us to comfort others.

The **apostle Paul** reminds us, "**He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others**" (2 Corinthians 1:4). This verse has become one foundation of my ministry. God has comforted me throughout my journey, and now He gives me the privilege of sharing that same hope with others searching for healing and purpose.

God has also taught me that my identity is not found in my past, my failures, or the wounds others caused. My identity is found in Jesus Christ. Through Him, I have become a new creation, redeemed by His grace, and transformed by His love. My testimony is about what God has done through His faithfulness. Today, I continue to walk with Jesus one day at a time, trusting Him to complete the work He began in me. My prayer is that every word I write, every message I teach, every prayer I offer, and every person I encourage will point others to Jesus Christ. **Remember this: no matter what you have been through, God has not given up on you.** Your past does not define your future. Through Jesus Christ, healing is possible, hope is real, and God's purpose for your life is greater than anything you have experienced.





A Declaration of Faith

Today, I choose to trust God with every part of my life—my past, my present, and my future. I believe He will complete the work He began in me. I find my identity in Jesus Christ alone, and I will follow Him wherever He leads. By His grace, I will use my story to glorify Him, encourage the brokenhearted, and proclaim the hope found only in Jesus Christ. I trust that God has guided every step of my journey, and I will continue to follow His perfect will.

Closing Scripture

“I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for Your unfailing love, amazing grace, and endless faithfulness. Thank You for pursuing me long before I knew You and for never giving up on me. Thank You for healing the deepest places of my heart, replacing lies with Your truth, and teaching me to find my identity in Jesus Christ.

Thank You for every trial You have used to strengthen my faith, every blessing that has reminded me of Your goodness, and every opportunity You have given me to share the hope found in Your Son. I praise You because You are always faithful, and Your grace is sufficient for every season of life.

May everything I write, teach, and share bring glory to You alone and point others to Jesus Christ.

In His precious name,

Amen.





A Prayer for the Reader

Heavenly Father,

I lift every person reading this testimony. You know their story, their hurts, and the burdens they carry. Draw them close to You and remind them that they are deeply loved, never forgotten, and never beyond the reach of Your grace.

For those who are brokenhearted, bring healing. For those who are discouraged, give hope. For those who feel trapped by fear, shame, or guilt, replace every lie with the truth of Your Word. Help them trust You, even when their faith feels as small as a mustard seed, knowing that You are faithful to complete the work You have begun in them.

May they discover their identity in Jesus Christ, experience the transforming power of Your love, and walk confidently in the purpose You have prepared for their lives. May Your peace guard their hearts, Your Spirit guide their steps, and Your presence be their constant strength.

In the precious name of Jesus Christ,
Amen.

Prayerfully prepared by

Christie Johnson

Christie Johnson

Servant of God

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

