

**INSPIRATIONAL
READINGS FOR
THE
CHRISTIAN WOMAN**

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FOREWARD

“Inspirational Readings for the Christian Woman” is composed of various presentations that I have given over the years and lessons that I have taught in the Ladies Sunday Morning Bible Class. This book is geared, primarily toward women, and contains twenty-eight short readings that are spiritually oriented and scripturally based. The readings are grouped according to central themes. It is my prayer that this book will serve as encouragement to the readers and their understanding of the scriptures, while strengthening their walk with Christ.

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JESUS

A Focus on Jesus

Philippians 2:10 “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow of the things in heaven and things in earth and things under the earth”.

It is important for Christian women to remain focused on Jesus, even though the devil sends all kinds of distractions to cause us to lose focus. We must rebuke the devil and hold fast to Christ. When problems arise on the job, or in the home, many times we forget the ONE to whom we should turn. We often forget that Jesus is the “burden bearer”, “the solid rock”, “the refuge in time of trouble”. Sometimes we become so overwhelmed with the circumstances that surround us, we forget the One who can deliver us from all problems, hurt and harm. In the midst of all of the storms of life, in the face of adversity and problems, we must stay focused on Jesus in order to be at peace on this earth and make heaven our home.

The name of Jesus is powerful and worthy to be praised. The name of Jesus is to be exalted above all names by those who believe that he is the “Christ the son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). When we read Acts 4:12, we can clearly understand the importance of the name of Jesus, “...for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”.

As Christian women, we must stay focused on the fact that Jesus is “the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and Omega”. If we believe that He is the Christ, we will have no problem proclaiming His name and submitting to His will. Our talk will reflect that we know Jesus. Our actions will reflect that we are walking with the Savior and that HE is the center of our lives. If we stand for Christ now, he will stand for us in the judgment. He will take our burdens and make them HIS.

Being a Christian is not easy and it was never promised to be easy. We are told in 2 Timothy 3:12 “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution”. Even when faced with problems that are not of our own making, we should hold fast to the Lord, trusting in His word and expecting a deliverance from the situation. We must rest on the scripture that says, “...no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly” (Psalm 84:11). If there is something that we want and we are denied that request, as Christians we, must believe that it was not the Will of God for the request to be granted because he could be saving us from something or saving us for something else. Still our faith must be grounded and rooted in the Lord.

Christian women must remember that our purpose for being here is to (1) prepare us to live eternally with God (2) try to influence others to live a Christian life and (3) be examples to the world. Remaining focused on Christ and doing His Will, ensures that we can be with HIM in eternity. Though the world is unfocused and yields to the many distractions of life, Christian women must remain focused on the true source of life and power – Jesus Christ.

Thought Questions

1. Do you sometimes feel alone although others are around

you?

2. When this happens, do you think about how Jesus may have felt on the cross?

3. Have you ever sat down and really counted your blessings?

Jesus – The Great Burden Bearer

Matthew 11:28-30 – “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light”.

In dealing with the struggles of this life and the many problems that beset us, as Christians we should take comfort in knowing that “we do not bear our burdens alone”. Problems that arise in relationships between friends or loved ones can be eased through a reliance on Jesus who is Lord. Our trust often times is mislaid when we place it in man. We may become dismayed by the behavior of those that we have trusted. Our faith, hope and trust should rest solely in the ONE who has never forsaken us, and who will never forsake us.

Trying to carry the weight of families and responsibilities of jobs can cause women to become disheartened. When we rely on our own abilities and strength, we soon find out that we are weak and not able to sustain. Drawing on the strength of the Lord opens up a whole new reservoir of energy, resilience and sustenance. Jesus has unlimited amounts of power to hold us up when we, of our own strength, begin to sink. Burdens become easier, when we know we do not carry them alone.

Problems that we face in relationships often are harder to endure than problems of finances, and those that are job related. Working through the difficulties of misunderstandings can be a hard task. When friends betray you, know that the Lord is still in control and He will fortify you in your time of dismay. Jesus is an “everlasting friend” who will take your problems, own them and resolve them. JESUS IS THE GREAT BURDEN BEARER.

There is no need for us to carry our burdens alone. Jesus, who is our “everlasting friend”, has offered us assistance, peace and rest. Jesus knows our limitations and “he knows how much we can bear”. He knows all about us and is willing to be our source of comfort and strength. He will never betray us and will support us when no one else does. He will be with us always. From the beginning of time- there was Jesus; throughout time- there is Jesus, and when time shall be no more - there will be Jesus. From the beginning to the ending, there is Jesus.

Thought Questions:

1. When facing problems do you ever feel overwhelmed?
2. Do you turn to the word to receive comfort from the Lord?
3. Do you know that there are women in the Bible who faced many problems and received comfort through the words of Jesus?