

READER'S RESOURCE

ONLY BELIEVE LEARNING TO WALK WITH GOD IN TRUST

BERYL ADAMSBAUM

PREFACE

1. What was the author's aim in writing this book? (See pages 11 and 12.)
2. What is the foundation of our relationship with God? (See page 12.)
3. Read Mark 5:22-24, 35-43. How was Jairus' faith rewarded?

CHAPTER 1 - FOG

1. To what spiritual reality does the author liken the fog? (See page 14.)
2. Read Job 1:1-3, 8-2:7. Why do you think God allowed Satan to test Job? (See pages 15-17.)
3. Share with the group what you have learned from difficult situations you have been through. What do you think of the author's comments on page 18?

CHAPTER 2 - DISCERNING OR NOT? - READ LUKE 7:1-10

1. How did the centurion's opinion of himself differ from that of the "elders of the Jews"? (See pages 19 and 20).
2. Why was Jesus "amazed" (verse 9)? (See pages 20 and 21).

CHAPTER 3 - PLEADING WITH GOD

1. What can you learn from James 2:14-24 about the relationship between faith and actions?
2. What was Abraham commended for in James 2:21-23? (See pages 23 and 24.)
3. Read Genesis 22:1-14 to see the incident in Abraham's life to which James refers. (See also page 25.) How will you show that you are "God's friend"? (See pages 25 and 26.)

CHAPTER 4 - BE EXPLICIT!

1. What can you learn from Abraham's servant's prayer in Genesis 24:12-14? (See pages 27 and 28.)
2. How did God answer his prayer? (See pages 28-30).
3. Read page 31 to discover what the author shares about answers she received for specific prayers that she prayed. Share with the group some of the answers you have had to prayer. Thank God together.

CHAPTER 5 - WRESTLING WITH GOD

1. What examples of "wrestling" in prayer does the author give on pages 33 and 35?
2. Share some of your experiences of "wrestling with God." What was the outcome? (See also the final paragraph on page 38.)
3. Read pages 36-38 and explain why Jacob wrestled with God. What was the result?

CHAPTER 6 - NOT CONVINCED?

1. Tell the group about some instance in your life when you felt incapable of doing what you knew you had to do. How did you manage?
2. Read pages 39 and 40 to see the author's examples of how God equips those who obey him.
3. What did Moses say when God called him to deliver the Israelites from Egypt? (See Exodus 3:11; page 40.) What can you learn from Moses' ongoing debate with God? (See pages 41 and 42.)
4. What can you learn from Jeremiah's experience? (See pages 42 and 43.)

5. Read aloud Jeremiah 29:11-14 (see on page 43); thank God together for his promise of provision and prosperity.

CHAPTER 7 - JOY AND TRIALS

1. How would you answer the author's question on page 47, "How do you handle the two conflicting emotions – joy and pain?" (See also the examples given in this chapter, pages 46, 47 and 51.)

2. Read James 5:13. What does James suggest we do when we are in trouble? ---when we are happy? How do you live out this verse in practice?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Who gave Paul his "thorn in the flesh"? ---Why? (See page 50.)

4. Read Acts 2:23. Who was responsible for Jesus' death? (See page 51.)

CHAPTER 8 – HEARD - READ 1 SAMUEL 1:1-20

1. What was the cause of Hannah's sadness and distress (verses 2, 5-7)? (See page 55.)

2. What is the essence of Hannah's prayer (verses 10-16)? (See page 54.)

3. How do we know, implicitly, that Hannah trusted God? (See verse 18, page 55).

4. How did God answer her prayer (verse 20)?

5. What do you do when you are deeply troubled? (See pages 56, 57.)

CHAPTER 9 - WHY PRAY – AND HOW?

1. How can you be sure that God loves you? (See page 60.)

2. What difference does it make to your praying to know that God is almighty and sovereign? (See pp. 60, 61.)

3. What can Hannah teach us about the way that we can pray (1 Samuel 1:12-16)? (See pages 61-63.)

4. Read aloud together Habakkuk 3:17, 18 (quoted page 64). What can these words teach you?

CHAPTER 10 - A DISCERNING HEART

1. If God said to you, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you," what would you ask for? (See page 65.)

2. What did Solomon ask for? Why? (See 1 Kings 3:9 and 2 Chronicles 1:10.)

3. In what areas of your life do you particularly need wisdom and discernment? (See examples on page 66.)

4. What promise is given in James 1:5? On what is this promise conditional? (See James 1:6.)

5. How did God answer Solomon's prayer? (See page 68.) What does God give to us beyond what he gave to Solomon? (See pages 68-71.)

CHAPTER 11 - ASHAMED AND DISGRACED

1. How would you explain repentance? (See page 73.)

2. What particular sin led to the downfall of God's people in the Old Testament? (See pages 73 and 74.)

3. To what other sin did God liken idolatry? (See Hosea 1:2, quoted on pages 74 and 75.)

4. When his people were unfaithful, how did God feel? (See pages 74 and 75.)

5. How did Ezra and Nehemiah identify with both God and their people? (See pages 75, 76.)

6. How must sin be punished? (See Romans 6:23a.)

7. How did God deliver you from this punishment? (See page 78 and Romans 6:23b.)

8. The author explains briefly on pages 78 and 79 how she came to accept Jesus as her Savior. Share with the group how you came to know the Lord.

CHAPTER 12 - HOW LONG?

1. How do you feel when you have to wait for something? (See other examples on page 81.)
2. Under what circumstances have you been tempted to echo the words of Habakkuk (Habakkuk 1:2) and the psalmist (Psalm 13:1, 2): “How long?” (See page 82.)
3. What is the underlying sense of “waiting” in the Bible? (See bottom of page 83-85.)

CHAPTER 13 - FOCUS

1. What lesson did the author learn from her experience of the Filipino dance? (See pages 87-89.)
2. What problems does David evoke in Psalm 25:16-19? (See page 89.) What does he do in the light of his difficulties (Psalm 25:1, 15)? (See page 89.)
4. What is your focus in life? (See pages 89 and 90.)

CHAPTER 14 - UNFAILING LOVE - READ PSALM 143

1. Make a list of all the specific prayer requests in Psalm 143.
2. What is the psalmist's main concern? (See verses 3, 4, 12 and page 93.)
Who is your enemy? (See 1 Peter 5:8.)
3. How can you best resist him? (See 1 Peter 5:9, page 93.)
What good example does David set in Psalm 143:5? (See pages 94 and 95.)
4. How can David be so sure that God will not let him down? See comment on Psalm 143:11, pages 95 and 96.
Read pages 96 and 97 to see examples of the precise requests that David brought to God in this psalm.
--- Spend some time thanking God for his unfailing love to you. Take time to bring your precise requests to God in prayer.

CHAPTER 15 - SAVED FROM AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION

1. Have you ever tried to run away from God? Why? How? (cf Jonah, pages 100 and 101.)
2. What kinds of distractions prevent you from hearing God's voice? (See end of page 100; see ex. page 102.)
What can you do about this?
3. What hope can you glean from Jonah's experience? (See pages 102-104.)

CHAPTER 16 - POWER

1. How do you understand and relate to the concept of power? (See pages 105 and 106.)
2. What signs do you see around you of the truth of Paul's words to Timothy (2 Tim. 3:2-5; see page 106)?
3. Read Paul's prayers recorded in Ephesians 1:17-19 and Ephesians 3:16-19. What reference does Paul make to power in these prayers? --- What kind of power is he referring to? --- To whom is this power made available? (See pages 106 and 107.)
4. When did the apostle Paul experience God's power? (See 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, page 107.)
5. Read 1 Samuel 17:1-50. What does this incident teach you about power? (See page 108.)
6. Why would a Christian want to experience the power of the Holy Spirit? (See pages 108-110.)
--- How might this power be manifest in the life of a believer?

CHAPTER 17 - GOD'S TOUCH

1. How did the sunrise in the Swiss Alps speak to the author about God? (See pages 111-113.) What did the sunrise over the Pacific Ocean remind her of? (See page 114.)
3. Share with the group an experience you might have had which opened your eyes in a new way to a biblical truth.

CHAPTER 18 - GLORY!

Read John 17:1-5

1. What was Jesus referring to when he said, "Father the time has come" (verse 1a)? (See page 115.)
2. How was Jesus glorified and how did he bring glory to his Father (verse 1b)? (See page 116.)
3. What do you understand by the word "glory"? (See pages 115 and 118.)
4. How did God choose to reveal himself to people? (See John 1:18, page 116.)
5. Where was Jesus' true glory manifested? (See page 116.)
6. What did Jesus mean when he said, "It is finished"? (See page 117.)
7. Read John 17:20-26. Where does your glory lie? (See pages 118 and 119.)
8. Read aloud together in the group the final paragraph on page 119. Thank God together for the wonderful hope and assurance you have in Christ.

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