

-Day 1-

Don't Despair

SCRIPTURE

“I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the LORD.”

Psalm 27:13-14

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for...

Hebrews 11:1

PRAYER

Lord, I ask that you would breathe faith into *Jennifer's* heart so that she knows beyond a shadow of a doubt that one day she will enter the land and see the full measure of your goodness to her. Give her the assurance of those things she hopes for. And between now and then, give her the strength and courage to wait for you LORD, yes to wait for you. Amen.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Believe. Be strong. Take courage. Wait. You can do this.

Notes

-Day 2- *Close to the Brokenhearted*

SCRIPTURE

The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right; his ears are open to their cries for help...

The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles.

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

The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.

Psalm 34:16-19

PRAYER

Lord, I pray that you would encourage *Jennifer's* heart to know that she is doing right, that your ears are hearing her cries for help, and that you are even now rescuing her from her troubles with a tapestry woven by your sovereign hand. I ask that you would double her portion of comforting angels, and brush her often with their wings so that she does not question your sweet presence. Touch her heart with your fullness, your comfort, your peace, your hope, your faith, and even a taste of your joy here and there... touch it deeply, and touch it often I pray. Amen.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Even this time He will come to the rescue... yes, even this time.

Notes

-Day 3- *Forgiven*

SCRIPTURE

For the choir director: A psalm of David, regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just...

Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice. Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you. Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you.... The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Psalm 51 (selected verses)

PRAYER

Lord, I ask that you would flood *Jennifer's* heart with a profound sense of your complete forgiveness. I ask that you would help her to know that even this can be forgiven; that there is no sin that is so great that your

powerful love cannot reach it, and your atonement cannot pay for it. Help her to feel the wash of your forgiveness deep within. Restore her confidence before you and before man. May she continue to move forward in ministry, knowing that you are pleased with a broken and repentant heart, and that your powerful Holy Spirit resides within her. And may the condemning eye of judgmental Christians pale into insignificance, as she sees the brilliance of your forgiving and empowering love. Amen.

ENCOURAGEMENT

You are forgiven. Get up, brush yourself off, hold your head high, and move forward with the applause of Heaven.

Notes

-Day 4- *The Sting of Discipline*

SCRIPTURE

5 And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said,

“My child, don’t make light of the Lord’s discipline, and don’t give up when he corrects you.

6 For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.”

7 As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father?

8 If God doesn’t discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. 9 Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn’t we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever?

10 For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God’s discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness. 11 No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it’s painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way. 12 So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. 13 Mark out a straight path for your feet so that the limb which is lame will not be put out of joint further, but rather will be healed.

Hebrews 12:5-12

PRAYER

Lord, *Jennifer* has felt the heaviness of your discipline in recent days. You have been a loving and firm Father to her. You have shown the strong part of your love to her by using the sting of the consequences that flowed from her actions. Thank you for pressing that pain

into her life, and for using that pain to produce the fruit of obedience. Because of her repentance, I ask that over the coming days you would pour a healing balm into her wounds. Refresh her. Give relief. Renew her perspective. Strengthen her. I pray that she would feel your smile as she walks a straight path, and that the memory of the pain of your discipline will keep her from wandering off that path. May she join that honorable band of sinners like King David, who repented, endured, healed, and went on to have an even more precise and powerful impact for you. Amen.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Don't give up. Stay close to the Shepherd of your soul. He has healing and hope on your horizon.

Notes