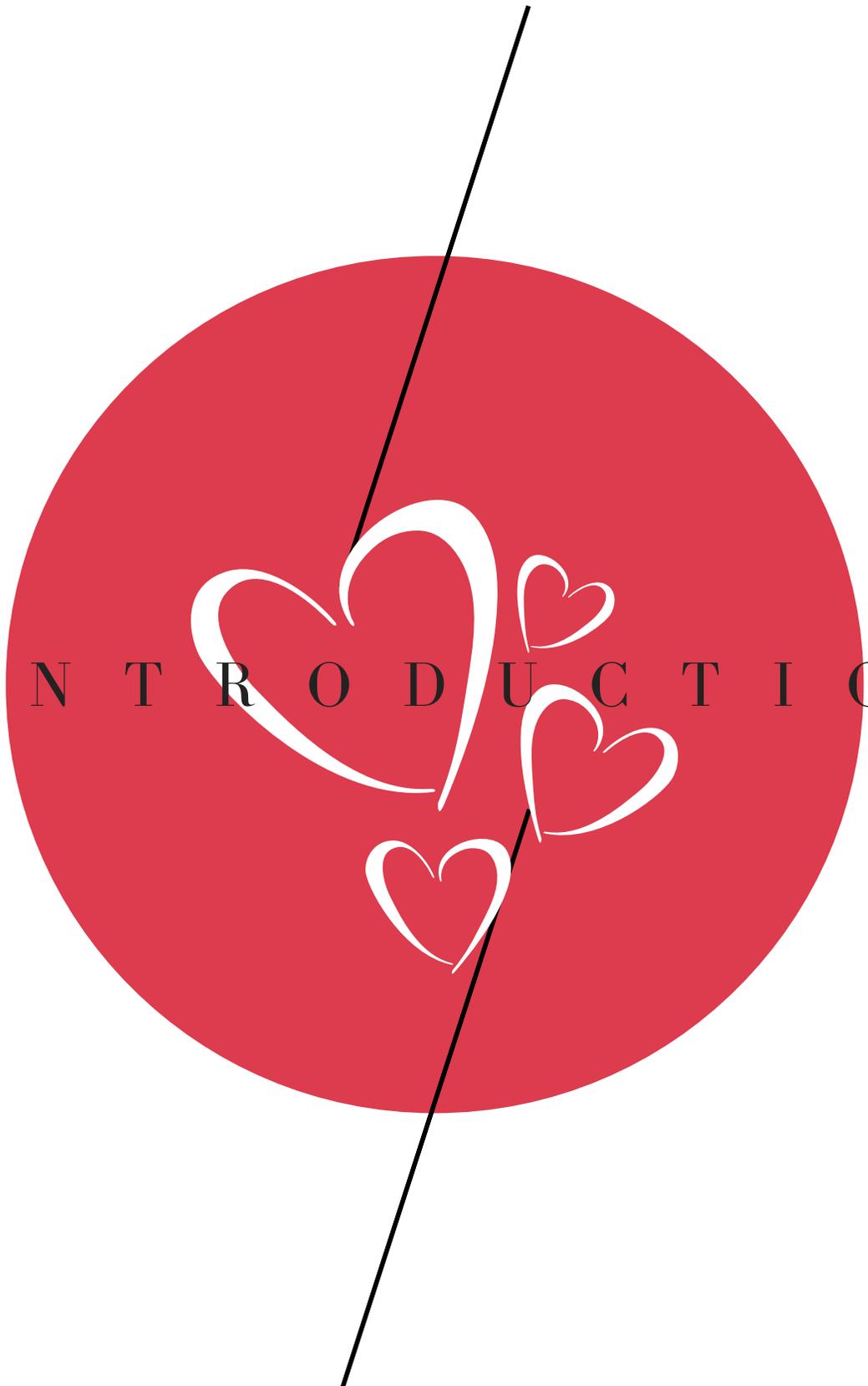
The cover features a vibrant red background. On the right side, a black line-art profile of a woman's face is shown, looking towards the left. The profile includes the forehead, nose, lips, and chin. On the left side, there are two clusters of hearts. Each cluster consists of a large heart with three smaller hearts of varying sizes positioned around it. The hearts are drawn with simple black outlines. The title text is centered on the left side of the cover.

Woman after God's own Heart

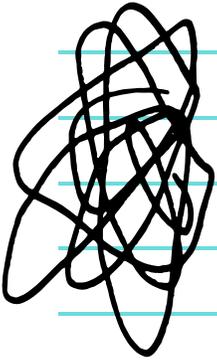
A DEVOTIONAL TO BECOME
A BETTER WOMAN

DEVYN J. BROWN



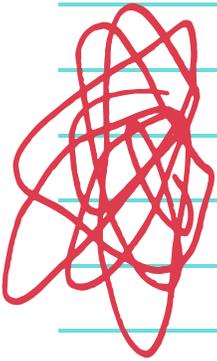
I N T R O D U C T I O N

KEEPING IT REAL



Originally, this started as a promise book for everyone. However, I began to think about women; young, old, and in-between. Thoughts of what I dealt with as a young woman came to mind. I began to remember the things that God delivered me from, what he's still working on in my life, and the process of me acknowledging that I am a woman who is still currently being set free.

To the young women who may be reading this, the older woman who may come across this, and to the teenage girl who may take a look inside: I need you to know that you are not alone. Many women all around the world are going through the same heart issues whether they talk about it or not.



What I want to share with you is something I found out: You are a daughter of the King of all Kings and you matter. You are loved. You were created on purpose with purpose for a purpose. You are whole in Christ. You are beautiful, chosen, and His forever. Believe it, know it, and receive it.

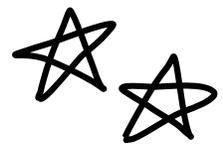
So with that being said, here is what this book will include: Powerful affirmations, Quotes, and Scriptures that go along with various topics to meet the hearts of all women. As well as any other items that the Holy Spirit places on my heart. You have been warned so sit back, sip tea, and read the covers of my heart.



-Devyn

WOMAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

YOU ARE
LOVED,
GIRL



Romans 5:8 NLT

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

This screams that God loves us at our darkest. When we were out partying, getting drunk. When we were sneaking boys out of the dorm or doing the walk of shame. When we cut off that person in traffic.

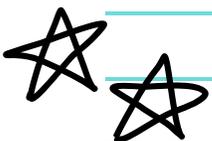
When we were so high off of weed that we couldn't form a sentence that made sense. When we were strung out from those pills and other drugs that we won't dare to name.

When we denied helping our parents before they passed away. When we made up a lie not to go somewhere with our friends.

When we got that abortion. When we settled in that marriage knowing that was not God's best for us.

When we wanted approval from everyone around us but didn't give God the time of day.

Through everything, God still loves us. Jesus loved us because he willingly took lashes from a whip with a nail at the end, spit, nails in the palm of his hands and feet, and many other forms of abuse just so that we can be free.

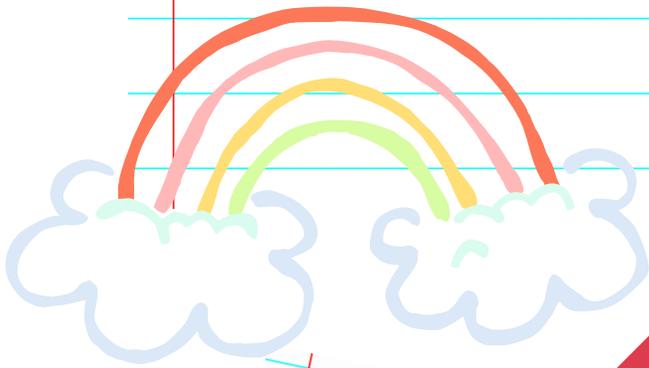
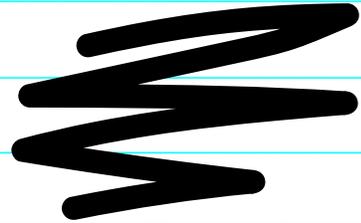


Girl, you are loved!

Quote:

And in the middle of my chaos,
there was you.

-Unknown



Affirmations:

- I am unconditionally loved by God.
- I am unaffected by the judgment of others.
- My sins don't define me, He calls me by my name.
- I am surrounded by the evidence of love.
- I am worthy of love because He died for me.
- Jesus thought I was worth dying for.



WOMAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

Girl, know your worth!



1 Corinthians 3:16 ESV

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

How many of us place ourselves in situations we know we do not belong in? This could be a relationship, a job, a friendship, a move to a different state or country, attending a school, or even going to a business meeting that we know we should not be a part of.

Whatever it is or was, we knew that we didn't belong there because of the feeling in the pit of our stomachs during or after attending.

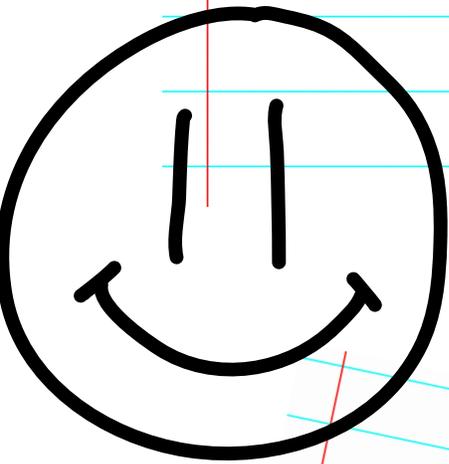
We also are aware because of the voice in our head telling us to go the other way. For those who do not know what or (should I say) who that voice or gut feeling is; I would be happy to introduce you to him. He is known as the Holy Spirit. He is $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Holy Trinity. He is the "Know your worth" King. He is our guidance, our comforter, and our wise counselor. He is kind of like our built-in adviser.

He is God. Now that you have been acquainted with him, it is time that you start to listen and take the advice he gives. He will never lead you wrong. He will keep you out of trouble and help you to discover and to know your worth girl!

Quote:

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.

~C.S. Lewis



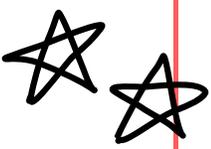
Today I:

Welcome the Holy Spirit into my life and I dismiss the need to control my own life. I welcome you to show me where to go and who to get in connection with. Please teach me to know my worth in you Jesus. Thank you for continually teaching and prompting me.

Woman after God's own heart

You
are
not
their
Savior
girl!





Isaiah 43:11

I yes, I am the Lord, and there is no other Savior.

Women have this natural desire to want to nurture and mother even if we do not have kids. It is just something God had placed into the pot, when he was cooking up the masterpiece known as woman.

Although we are natural nurturers, we tend to think that when we have a significant other or an intimate friendship that we can change the person.

We begin to look past the red flags and say things like:

"I just see so much potential in you",

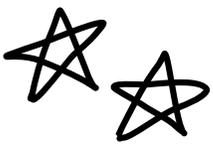
"They have just been through too much, they will change",

"Oh, boys take longer to mature than girls"

"You don't see what I see in him"

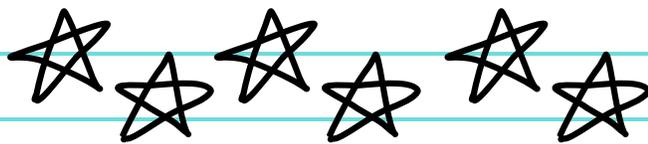
"I have to be there for them because no one else is".



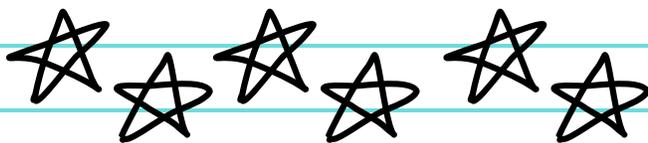


No matter what the excuse is, we cannot save them.
Parents you cannot save your kids from everything.

I'm not saying to give up on anyone but what I am saying is you cannot do more than you are already doing. When a person shows you who they are, believe them.



Please do not ever stop hoping for the best and praying for them though! Just understand that the only One who can change their heart is the Holy Spirit and the only One who can save them is Jesus.



This is the literal reason Jesus came to the earth: to save. Let God do his job sis and you keep living, growing, and praying.

Some of us need to start removing ourselves and begin to pray from a distance.

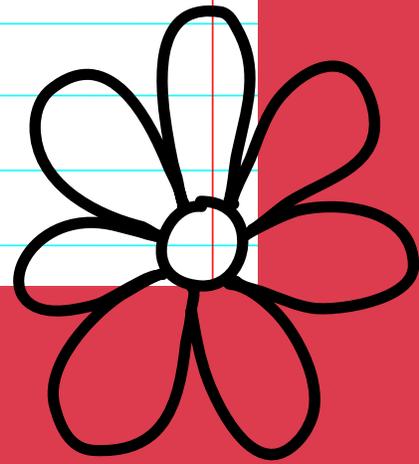
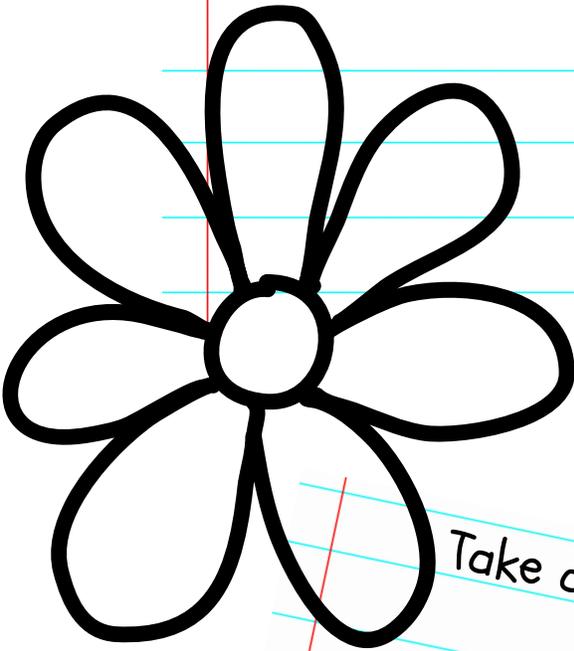
The Lord will guide you only if you let him.



Quote:

Burnout happens when you avoid
being human

~TheBlissfulMind



Take a breather, relax, get you some you time.
Self care is not selfish.

Here are some ideas to practice self care:

Go for a walk

Read your Bible and pray

Go to bed early

Take a bubble bath

Create a playlist and dance it out

Mani/Pedi

Write a love letter to yourself and open it a year
from now

Woman after God's own heart

Oh, don't forget you
were created with a
purpose!

Romans 12:6 NLT

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV

Eyes haven't seen, ears haven't heard nor has it entered into the hearts of men the thing God has prepared for those who love Him.

I had to double up the dose of scripture for this one ladies. Most of us get caught up in the lie that because we cannot dance, sing, write, draw, or speak that God must've forgotten about us. Let me debunk that lie really quick! God said he has given each of us a gift of doing certain things well.

So think about something you may do well. You may listen well, you may have a keen eye for detail, you may be a very forgiving person, or you may organize things very well. No matter what, you possess a gift because the word of God doesn't lie. If you don't know, you can ask him and he would love to tell you.

For those of who God has given a prophetic vision:

It is time to kill the spirit of comparing and competition. If God has shown you that you are going to have a hair shop, but you are looking around thinking that everyone does hair. I need you to take a trip to the grocery store. The grocery store is full of items that are the same.

Next time you are there, take a look down the bread aisle, the cereal aisle, or the candy aisle.

Each of those aisles have the same type of items but the "touch" upon the item is different.

Even if it seems similar, it is not even close to being the same.

My girl, you are the only one who can carry out the vision that God has given to you.

He gave you that idea because your "touch" will make the difference.

You were made for whatever vision he has given you.

There is no one that can do it like you, so go for it!

God has already given you his stamp of approval.

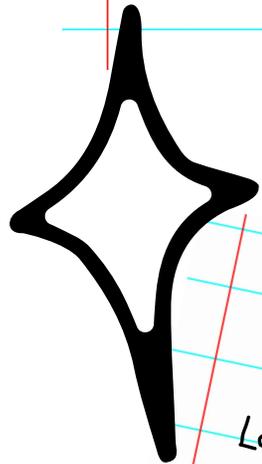
You are anointed!

Quote:

Don't let the enemy use the daily grind to minimize the anointing God has put on you.



Chris Bassett



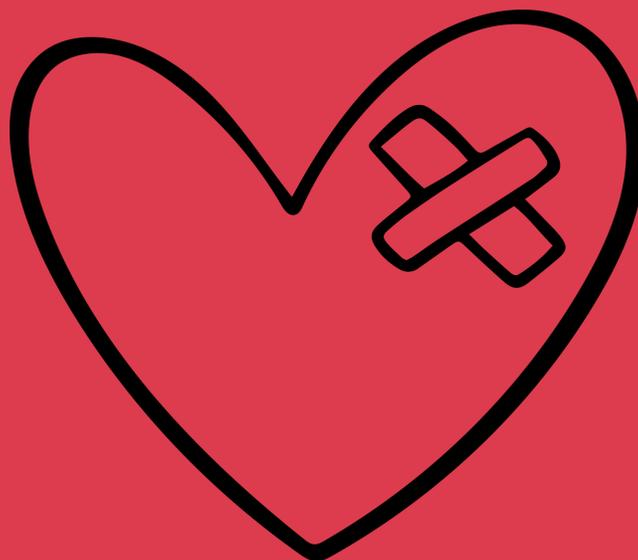
Prayer

Lord Jesus help me to see that you called me for such a time as this. Lord thank you for choosing me to do _____ and preparing me for it. Lord I understand that this is a heavenly vision and I will be in tune with your Spirit so that you can instruct me in what to do. I know that this will not be out of my own strength but in yours. I am following your lead Lord and I'm asking you to move me out of the way when the feelings arise for me to take control. Lord I want to trust your perfect timing and plan. I ask all of this in Jesus name. Amen.

Woman after God's own heart



You are not
what
happened to you



There was a time in my life where I thought because someone has misused me that I was not worthy of proper love. I was molested 3 times before the age of 12 and this tainted my vision of love with the opposite sex. I became a ball of confusion.

I began to think that every man wanted or looked at me in a sexual way.

If I can be honest, there were thoughts of my own dad and even God looking at me in that light.

I'm here to tell you that you are not alone and you are NOT what happened to you.

God will reassure you and help you heal from the roots to the branches if you let him.

It took so much to actually get this written down to you, but I needed you to know that you are definitely not alone in this. Your story, your voice will help many people.

You are not defined by anything that has happened to you. God sees you just as he sees Jesus, perfect.

You are his masterpiece, created and crafted by him. He chooses not to define you by your past no matter if you were sexually abused or not. The abuse not your fault!

To anyone who has stolen something, committed insurance fraud, fought someone just because, got an abortion, killed someone, know that you are forgiven through Jesus Christ if you ask and accept him into your life. You are not defined by your past and you can talk to him about ANYTHING without judgment.

Psalm 32:5 NLT

Finally I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt.

I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion".

And you forgive me. All my guilt is gone.

If someone has hurt you, one thing that I ask as hard as it may be is to forgive them. The longer you hold onto it, the more it will hurt you.

Set yourself free from the pain. All you have to do is ask the Lord to guide you and start to confess that you forgive them.

It may seem like it's not working right there at the moment, but it will get easier as you go on speaking out loud that you forgive. You are going to notice an ease of tension within your body.

The hardest part of anything is starting. There are things in life that people will do that seem unforgivable, but we have to remember our God and what he has done through Jesus. If we want God to forgive us then we ought to forgive others.

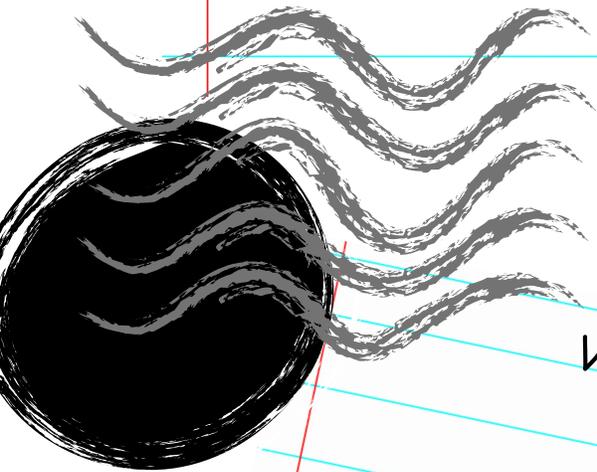
Mark 11:25 NLT

But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.



Confession

Dear God,
I am who you say I am...



Who am I? Who does God say I
am?

Daughter of the King-Galatians 3:26

Free- Isaiah 43:4

Precious-Isaiah 43:4

His Bride- Isaiah 62:5

Royalty; God's very own possession-1 Peter 2:9

Strong-Phillippians 4:13

Woman after God's own heart

Sex ain't better than
love

Song of songs 8:4



Promise me you will not awaken love until the right time.



- When you were growing up you may have heard people say save yourself until marriage. It may have sounded like this:

"Girl don't have sex until you are married".

"You better stay a virgin or you will get pregnant"

I heard these things in one form or another, but I never understood why I couldn't have sex. It actually made me afraid of sex for the simple fact of maybe getting pregnant.

It wasn't until after the deed was done that I understood why sex after marriage was God's protection for his children. Everyone makes it seem like sex is dirty and it shouldn't be done, but the truth is God made sex! He made us sexual beings.

The danger of having sex outside of marriage is an unplanned pregnancy, STDs, and SOUL TIES. We will discuss soul ties. A soul tie comes because when two people have sex with one another it is powerful. You have heard that two become one when married right? This is what happens when you have sex.

You do not only exchange bodily fluids with the person, you are exchanging souls. When you see the person or people that you previously had sex with how do you feel?

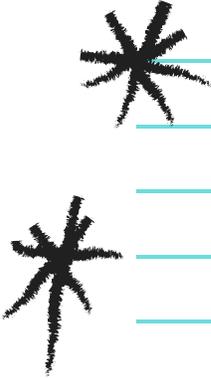
Does it remind you of the time you spent together? Do you find yourself thinking of him no matter who you are with wondering why this person seems to act like your ex?

Do you find yourself running into the same "type" of man? Do you find yourself picking up slang or certain habits from the person you are having sex with? That's not by chance sis!

You have a soul tie. Now I know we live in an era where women are acting like they don't care and we can do whatever we want because "it's our bodies" and there will be no slut shaming; but baby that doesn't stop the hurt! You aren't fooling anyone!

Bottom line sex is not better than love. From my personal experience, I thought sex meant love. It was such a huge deal to me, I wanted to get it right and do it with the right person.

I fell in love with a boy and things got pretty rocky. Red flags were everywhere and I felt like the only way for me to prove my love for him was to give him a piece of me that no one else had.



Ladies, that was the biggest mistake of my life. It left me tired, burnt out, and all tied up. It took years for that soul tie to be broken by Jesus. Over and over I found myself back in the bed with him because there was "something about him" and each time conviction would eat me alive. I always wondered why I felt so bad after feeling so good.

It's because it was wrong and nothing about it was right.

My advice to you would be to wait. You are worth the wait. I know that if you are a young lady you may be curious, but it is not worth it trust me. Even if you think you may be in love right now, if he really loves you, he will respect your decision to wait and will not press the issue.

Sex is a huge deal and everyone (even the man you love) does not need access to your body.



If you are having sex right now, my best advice would be to stop and seek God. Allow God to realign and transform your way of thinking when it comes to sex.



Take the time to stay celibate. As I am writing to you, I am one year into my celibacy and girl it is a beautiful thing to learn and practice purity. Practicing celibacy will reveal a man's true motives with you.

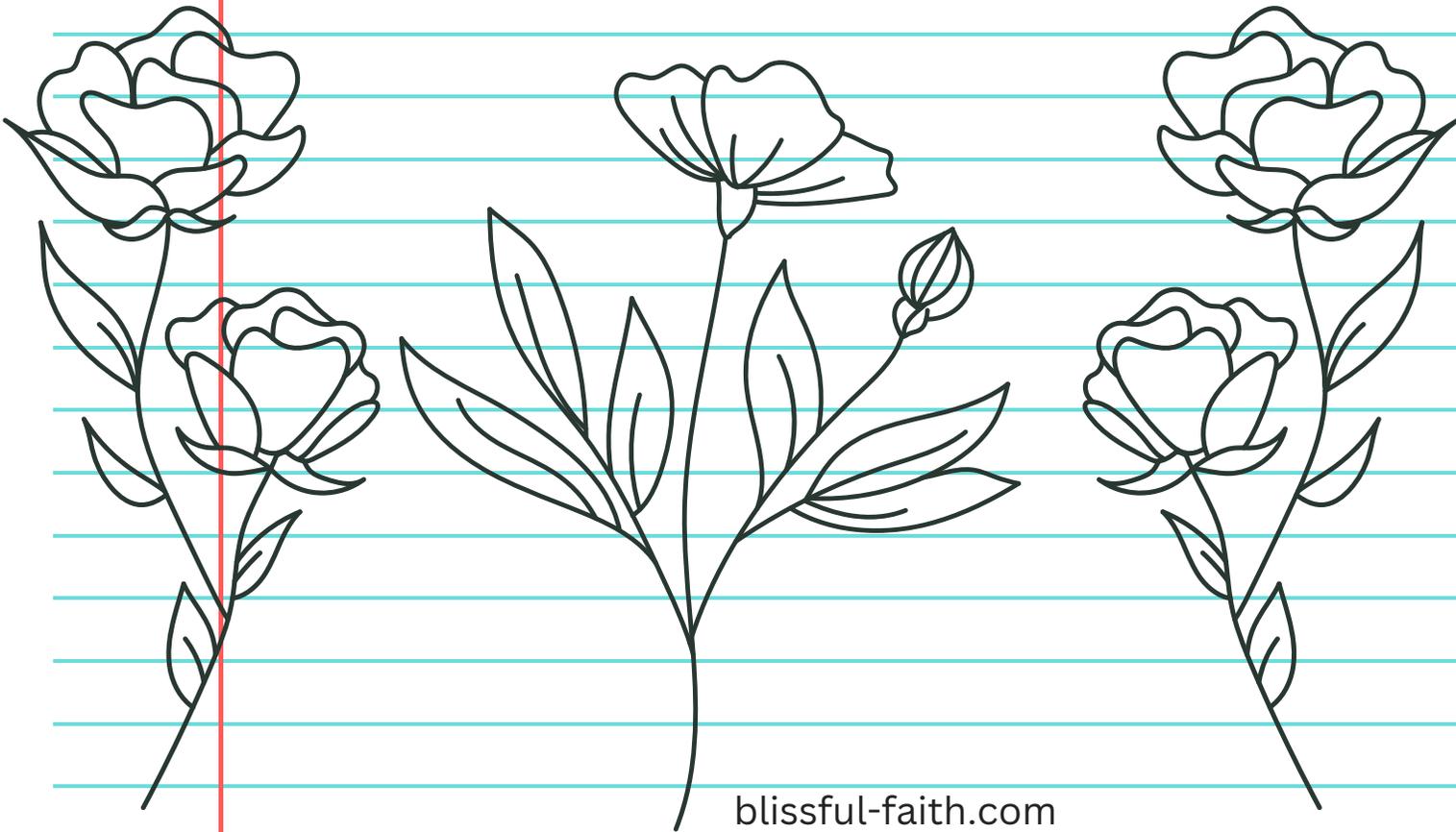
You will be able to discern if the person likes you for what's in between your shoulders or what is between your legs.



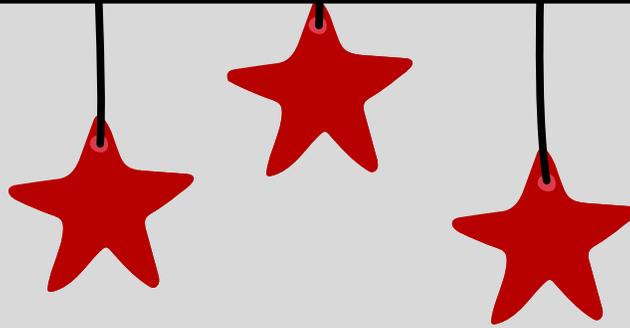
- Remember your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. You do not belong to yourself.



You were bought at a very high price so honor God with your body sis. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

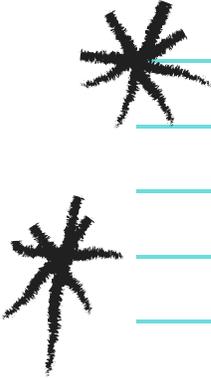


Woman after God's own heart



You are a
daughter
before a wife.





Most women desire to be married at some point in their lives. We tend to have our dress style picked out, the selection of music, the venue, and the image of the man we want to marry. If the man isn't everything on our list, then he's not God's best for us. This is so wrong.

First off, let's get this straight: How are we going to be a good wife, if we cannot even be a good daughter to the Lord? How are we going to be submitted unto a man and we can't even follow the basic instructions from the Lord? We look at marriage as the destination but all the while marriage is only a part of the process. What we need to do is focus on the now and stop missing the lessons we are being taught in this current season.

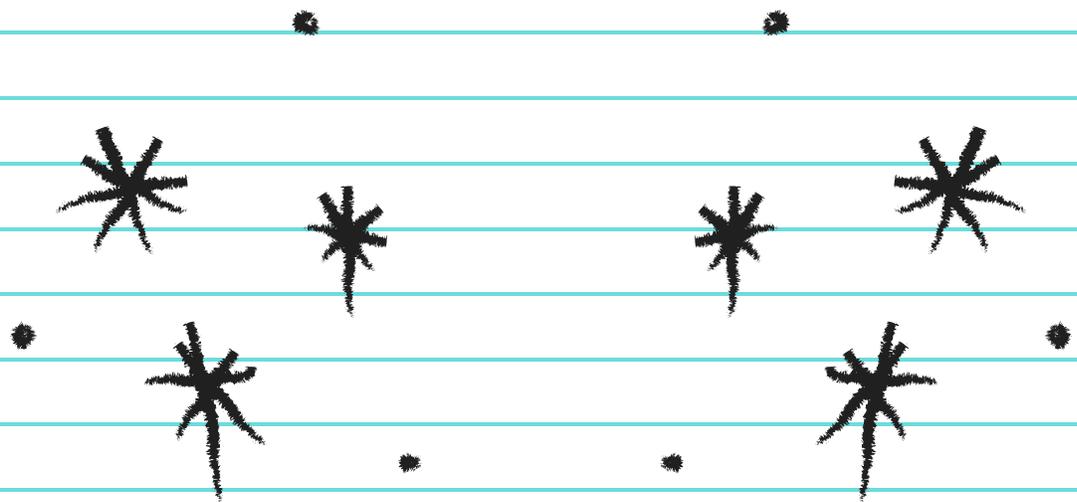
Do you understand that being a godly Christian woman is much more important than being a wife? What is the meaning of being a wife if you are not even practicing being a good Christian? Do you realize that being a wife comes with responsibilities?



It isn't going to be just you anymore. There is no room for selfishness in marriage. You are no longer doing what you want. Girl, don't rush into marriage.

Marriage will come. God wouldn't have placed that desire within you for nothing. Let him work on you until then. Soak up all the lessons that he is teaching you so when it is time for marriage you will be ready for the tests.

For those who are currently married, I encourage you to speak up about marriage when led. There are younger women that need guidance. In the book of Titus, there is instruction from God for older women to teach younger women how to love their husbands. (Titus 2:4)



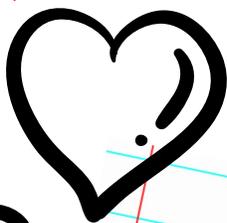
I know in this day and age, marriage is not promoted as heavily as singleness. Marriage is still sacred and very important to God. This is not something that should be rushed into. Begin to ask yourself, why. Why do I want to be married? Why is marriage a thing? Why is marriage important to me? Once you realize the answers to these questions with God, then you will begin to understand yourself a bit more. Allow God to work on you girl. It will be okay. I know all of your friends are getting married, I know you see all the cute couples on Instagram and Twitter, but remember that behind every photo is a problem that you cannot handle! Don't wish for what someone else has.

Self discovery assignment

Who are you?

What do you like?

What are some things that you dislike?



Continued...

Identify some triggers in your life.

Do you have self awareness? Look up self-awareness

What are you doing today to become a better you?

What is your purpose?



*Girl if it was
for you, then it
would have
made its
appearance in
your life*

Genesis 2:18

It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a suitable helper.

Let's make a promise to ourselves that we will no longer go after the things that may ultimately hurt us. We have to begin looking past the present moment and think about the overall outcome.

Think about it sis. God said in Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope".

Most of us in this generation believe in the notion of "shooting our shot", but sis don't you realize that a man knows who his wife is by looking at her. Let's take it back to the garden.

For those who are not familiar with the bible don't worry I got you. God created a man and named him Adam. Adam was not whole by himself so God was like ahaaa I need to create you a suitable helper. He proceeded to put Adam to sleep to take out his rib and he created a woman.

As soon as Adam woke up and saw her...he knew that she was his wife. Here were his words : "This is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh". Adam knew. It didn't take Eve to say anything to him for he simply knew. Sis, a man knows who his rib is.

You don't have to do anything to impress or lure in the man that is for you. I know some of us have that Jezebel spirit, but God heals. The word says "He who finds a wife finds a good thing" Proverbs 18:22.



It doesn't say "girl go find you a man" nor does it say "take that other woman's husband/boyfriend/fiance". Yall we have to stop going after what is not meant to be ours. I get it you want companionship, but is it worth getting entangled with a soul that you never meant to go past "hi" with? Let me know.



I will never advise something I have not already been through.

Transparency moment**

There was a time in my life where I loved a challenge. Here was the challenge: There was a young man that I used to have conversations with who was not necessarily taken, but he wasn't single either (we know how that goes). The girl he was talking to got a whiff of him starting to like me and she did not like that.

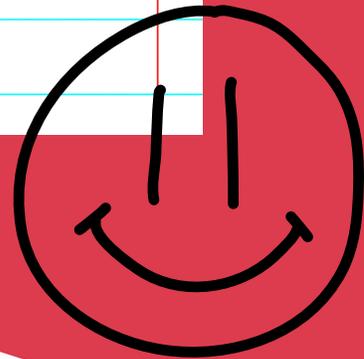
I heard a word from a bird that she didn't like that and it fueled my fire to go ahead and start entertaining him. WRONG IDEA! My thought process was if she is going to be mad anyway I might as well give her something to be mad about.



This my friends is very wrong and the same way I got him is the same way I lost him. Can you say karma? What goes around truly comes around! This is why God says to treat others how you would like to be treated.

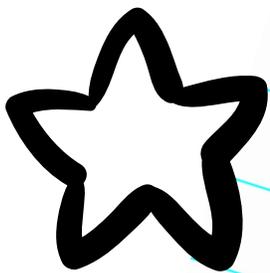
Questions to ask yourself

1. What makes me want to "shoot my shot"? Is this my own beliefs or what culture says is the thing to do?
2. How can I focus on my own life rather than someone else's to put a stop to comparison?
3. Am I actively pursuing Jesus? Did I shoot my shot in the Kingdom?



Continued..

4. Is going after someone else's man really going to make me happy?
5. Do I really want the problems of another broken person when I have my own issues to work out?
6. Is my mindset right in the area of relationships or am I seeking to fill a void?





How do I take the
steps into becoming
a godly woman?

Lay your life down to Jesus.

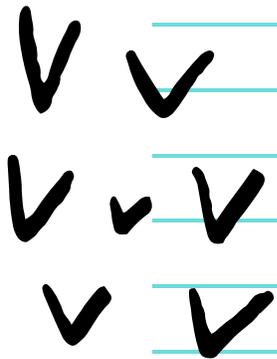


It is time to surrender. There is no way we are able to understand who we are as women if we first do not go to the one who created us. Only God can teach us about ourselves as women because he created us.



This is the only step I will give you because truth be told, I am only a vessel and I am still on this journey of finding out who I am as a woman of God. This is by far the most important step because it is the foundation of it all.

Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If you haven't, do not worry you have the opportunity to do it now! The bible says all you have to do is confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is Lord and you are now saved.



Repeat this statement: "Dear Jesus, I believe you came lived, died, and rose again just for me. I want to accept you today as my Lord and Savior. Please come in my life and be my Bestie Forever. Amen"

Congratulations to you because you are now saved!!
Welcome to the Kingdom Team Sis!