

A Study and Prayer Journal

Dwelling Place



Pastors' Wives' Renewal

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Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Colossians 3:16 NIV11

Assembled by
Valerie K. Johnson



Pastors' Wives' Renewal

Encouraging one another in Faith, Life and Ministry

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Pastors' Wives' Renewal serves women married to pastors
of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

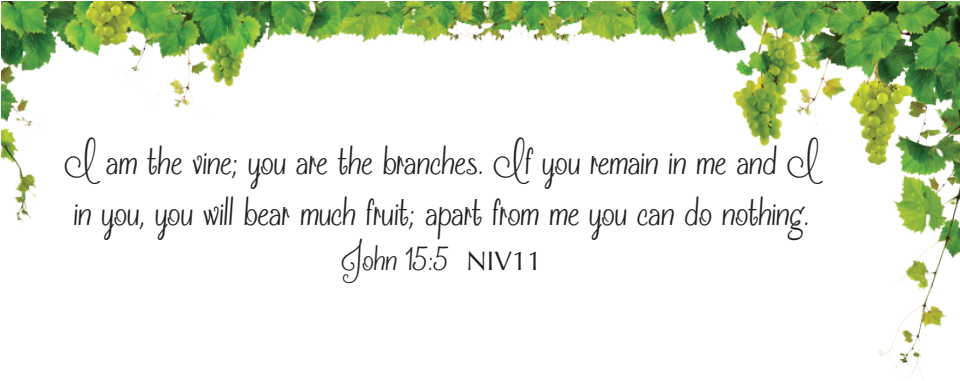


DWELLING PLACE
A STUDY AND PRAYER JOURNAL

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I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I
in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5 NIV11

Using Your Journal

As busy as my days get, I always find that they go better when I have made time to study God's Word. Some days I think, "I just don't have that 30 minutes to spare. I can't find time to sit down and read or go to Bible study." Other days, life is even busier, but I force myself to make time, because I have learned from experience that when I take even just a short time to be with Him, He blesses me in some way. My day goes more smoothly, my attitude is less frantic, and I am better prepared to patiently handle whatever situation may arise.

This journal is intended to be one tool to help you find time in your day to read God's Word.

Read. Each entry in this journal begins with a suggested reading from the Bible. These were selected by the individual contributors. These women felt drawn to these portions of Scripture and were encouraged by them. Each day, open your Bibles and dwell in God's Word.

Reflect. Use the journal space to write whatever is on your heart. Record something new that you learned or a personal response to the Scripture reading. Jot down any questions that may have occurred to you. Write out a prayer for a friend or yourself. Use this space for whatever is most beneficial for you.

Connect. Then read what another Christian women has shared. It may reflect your own thoughts or give additional insight to the reading. You are not alone. Your sisters are here to encourage and support you.

Pray. Close your devotional time with prayer. Read the short prayer provided, pray what you have written, or pray from your heart.

The Prayer of Faith

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:13-16

In the End

Extra Journal Pages. If you find yourself reading a portion of Scripture other than the ones chosen, utilize the blank pages at the end of the journal for those devotional times.

Meet the Writers. The ladies who selected the readings for this journal shared their favorite Bible passages. Just one way to get to know the ladies who have been reading “with” you.

Genesis 2:1-25

Date:

The Gift of Work

I don't think I've ever noticed the level of intimacy here between God and His creation. He is so aware of their every need and provides for each one. From work to relationships, God knows what we need and provides.

Heavenly Father, You know me intimately and know what I truly need. Please provide for me in your love and lead me to see your amazing grace and tenderness. Amen.

Exodus 3:1-14

Date:

Al Ad Sends Out

The LORD is the God of all people and is the same yesterday, today and forever. He will deliver us when we are distressed.

It is so comforting to know You, O God. Be with me as I carry out my personal ministry in your name. Amen.

Exodus 20:1-21

Date:

10 Ways to Show I Love You



What love and care God showed in establishing the 10 commandments for Israel and for us. Our sinful nature bars at those seemingly constricting rules and society tears down those protective boundaries in the name of freedom.

Dear Lord, forgive us when we fail to respect and trust your Word. You share it with us because of your great love for us. Open our eyes to see those who need You in their drifting lives; open our hearts to reach out to them as we reflect Your love. Your grace is daily worthy of praise!

James 2 (note verse 5)

Date:

Poor in the Eyes of the World

Have you ever been put on a pedestal at church or work? A king is on a pedestal. Really great kings are remembered for their kindness and respect shown to the “little people” of their kingdom; those seen as having less value. Your actions to the people who are “poor in the eyes of the world” can point to the King you worship and draw others to Him.

Dear King of Kings, help me to humble myself in service to the people the world thinks little of. Thank you for the example You have set for me and the lessons I will learn from those I serve. Amen

3 John 2-4

Date:

No Greater Joy

It is a humbling experience to be the instrument God uses to bring a person to faith. My husband has been blessed to be part of that experience a number of times. As those new converts grow in their faith, it is a source of joy and satisfaction for him.

O God, thank you for working through my husband to bring people into your kingdom. Please bless my husband and all pastors as they strive to carry out your Great Commission with humility and obedience. Amen.

Jude (note verses 24-25)

Date: _____

Keep my from Falling

Satan works hard to deceive us with false teachings and by twisting the words we know are true. God keeps us from falling through daily Bible study and prayer. These are the weapons that fight the devil, the world and our own sinfulness.

I praise you, sweet Jesus, for keeping me from falling. When You present me to your Father without fault and with great joy, all praise and honor go to You! Amen.

Text: _____

Date: _____

Topic: _____



The Writers Dwelling in the Word

Each of the writers shared their favorite Bible passages.

Alicia Conright

“For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.”

Isaiah 41:13

Helinda DeGier

I love this one from David.

“David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty...”

1 Samuel 17:45

Rachel Hartman

“I can do everything through him who gives me strength”

Philippians 4:13

Valerie Johnson

This one has become very personal for me.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28

Julie Luetke

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:38-39

Carly Seifert

“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

Deuteronomy 31:8

“The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

Exodus 14:14

Emily Strey

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20-21

Paula Sulzle

My favorite section of Scripture is Philippians, specifically 4:4-7.

“Through the joys of my life, God is there. Through the trials of my life, God is there. It is such a comfort to me that because of Jesus, I will have the kind of peace on my heart and in my mind that only comes from God. What a reason to rejoice! It has been an honor to be a part of this project. Rejoicing!”

Rebecca Wendland

One of my long-time favorite Bible passages is my high-school graduating class verse.

“If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.”

Psalms 139:9-10



Finding time in The Vine

Our Savior reminds us to “remain in me,” the vine (John 15:5). In Him we will bear fruit. Apart from Him we can do nothing.

Remaining “in the vine” and spending time in His Word sounds great doesn’t it? It’s quality time with our Lord and Savior. It’s a shot of “caffeine” to give us that needed boost during our hectic day. It’s time to place our worries and cares on His shoulders and let our Heavenly Father take care us.

Dwelling Place is a tool to encourage you as you dwell in God’s Word. Each page has a suggested reading from Scripture as well as a short thought and prayer written by a WELS pastors’ wife. You aren’t alone. Other women, wives, and mothers are struggling with the same things you are. Be encouraged by fellow Christian women. Grow in The Vine. Find your dwelling place in the message of Christ.



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