

TWO QUESTIONS for you to consider...

How do you determine your VALUE as a person?

Do you find it in your accomplishments?

The **grades** you get?

Your boss's approval?

Your athletic achievements?

The **admiration** of your friends?

Success in your career?

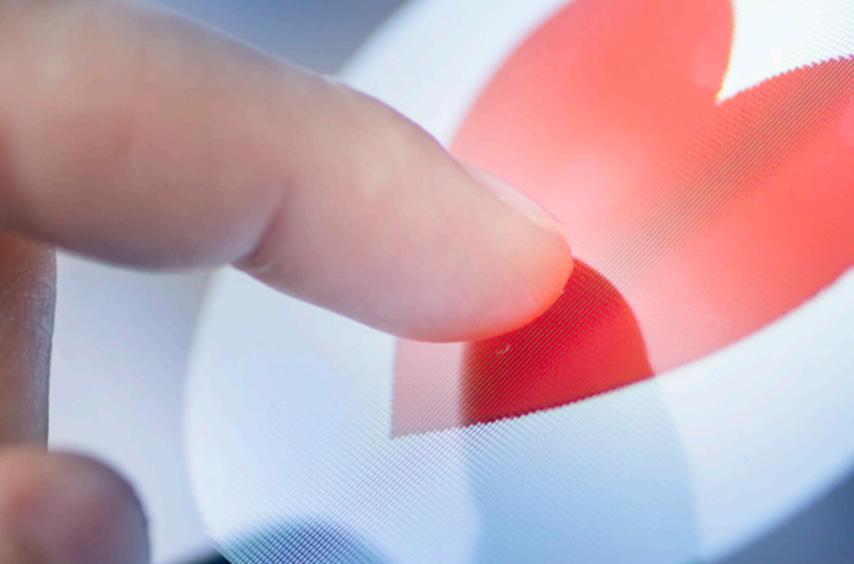
The things you own?

Is this working for you?



Or do you find it in how you **FEEL**—the times you're **happy**?

Whether you have good friends or someone special in your life, or when things are going well in your family?



Does your value or worth really ebb and flow like that?

Is it determined by someone else's opinion of you, how they treat you?

Are they trustworthy of this power to determine your identity?

#2 Says WHO?

This question can be tricky. Surely when it comes to our self-value the answer to the question of "Says who?" must be "Me! I determine my value."

The problem is, when it comes to our value and worth, what our spirit longs for is something stable, strong, and right.

But we know ourselves.

We know we are not stable or strong, and life has taught us we are rarely right. And nor is anyone else. Our spirits
will never be at rest
as long as the answer to the
question of "Who determines
my value?" is either
"I do!" or "You do!"



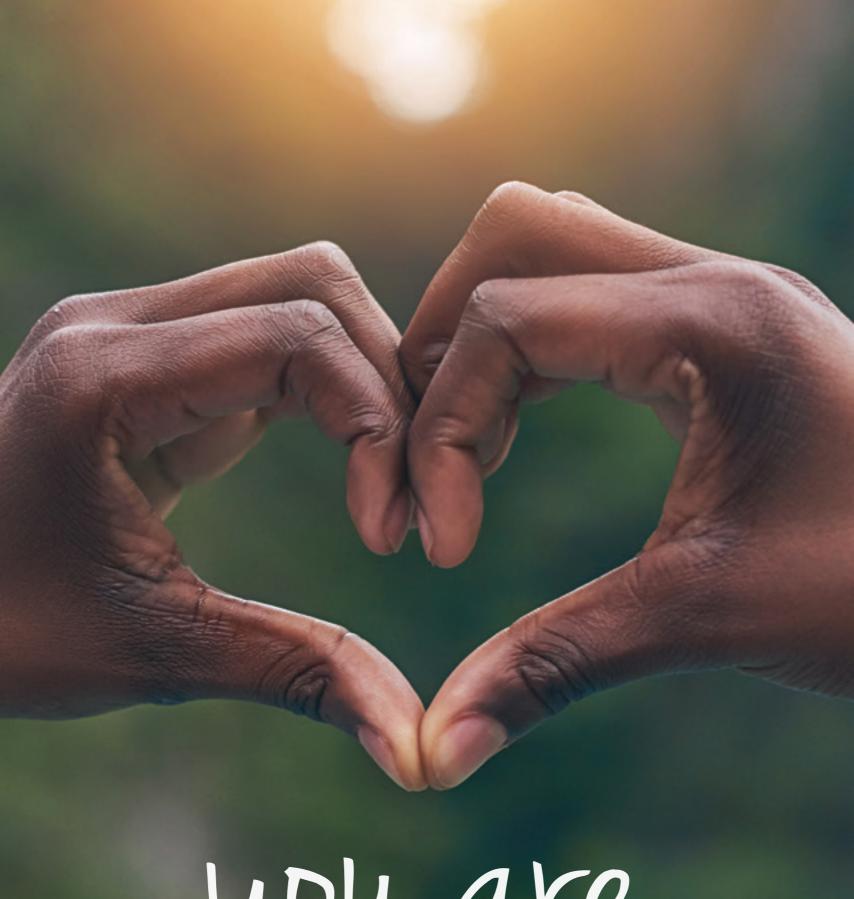


You'll find six statements that define who you are in God's eyes, and several verses from the Bible about each one.

Through these verses, you'll discover what God says about who you are, what He thinks of you, does for you—and how he cares for you.

And you'll discover just how good it is when you have your identity rooted in Him.

NOTE: tap on the Bible references to read the verses in context using the NewLife app or online at www.newlife.bible

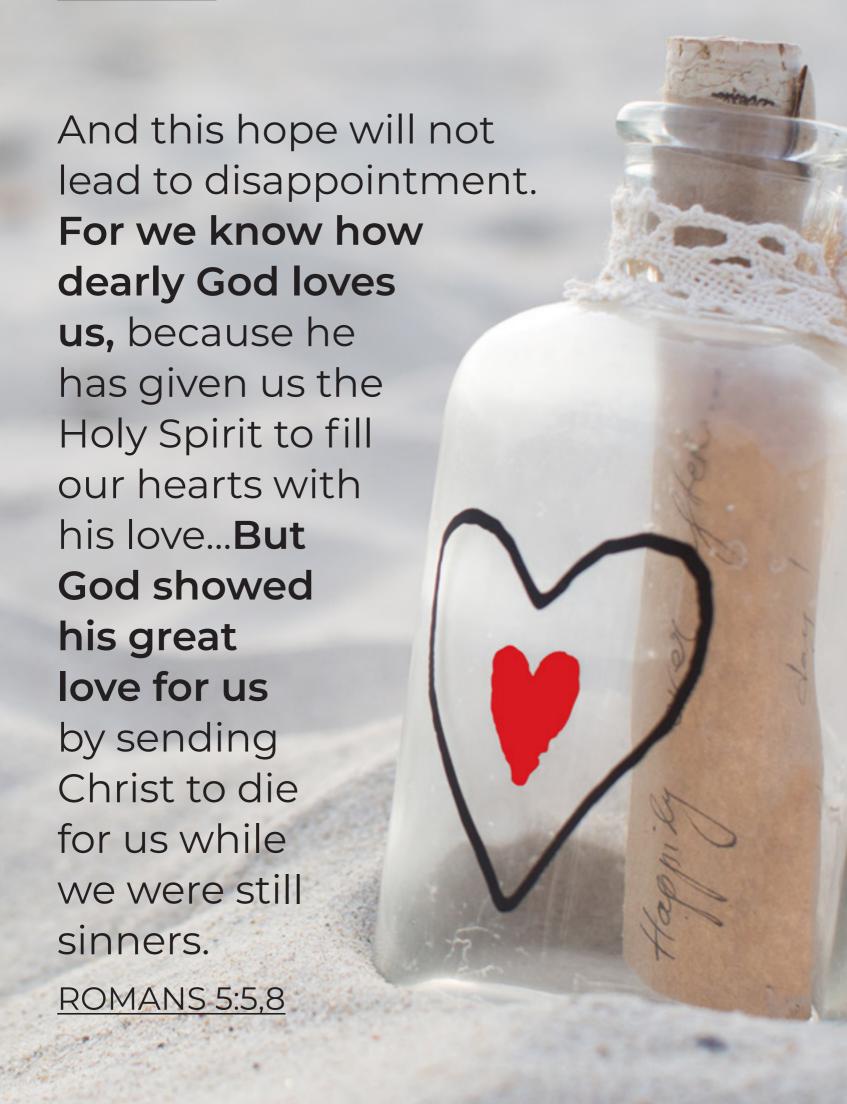


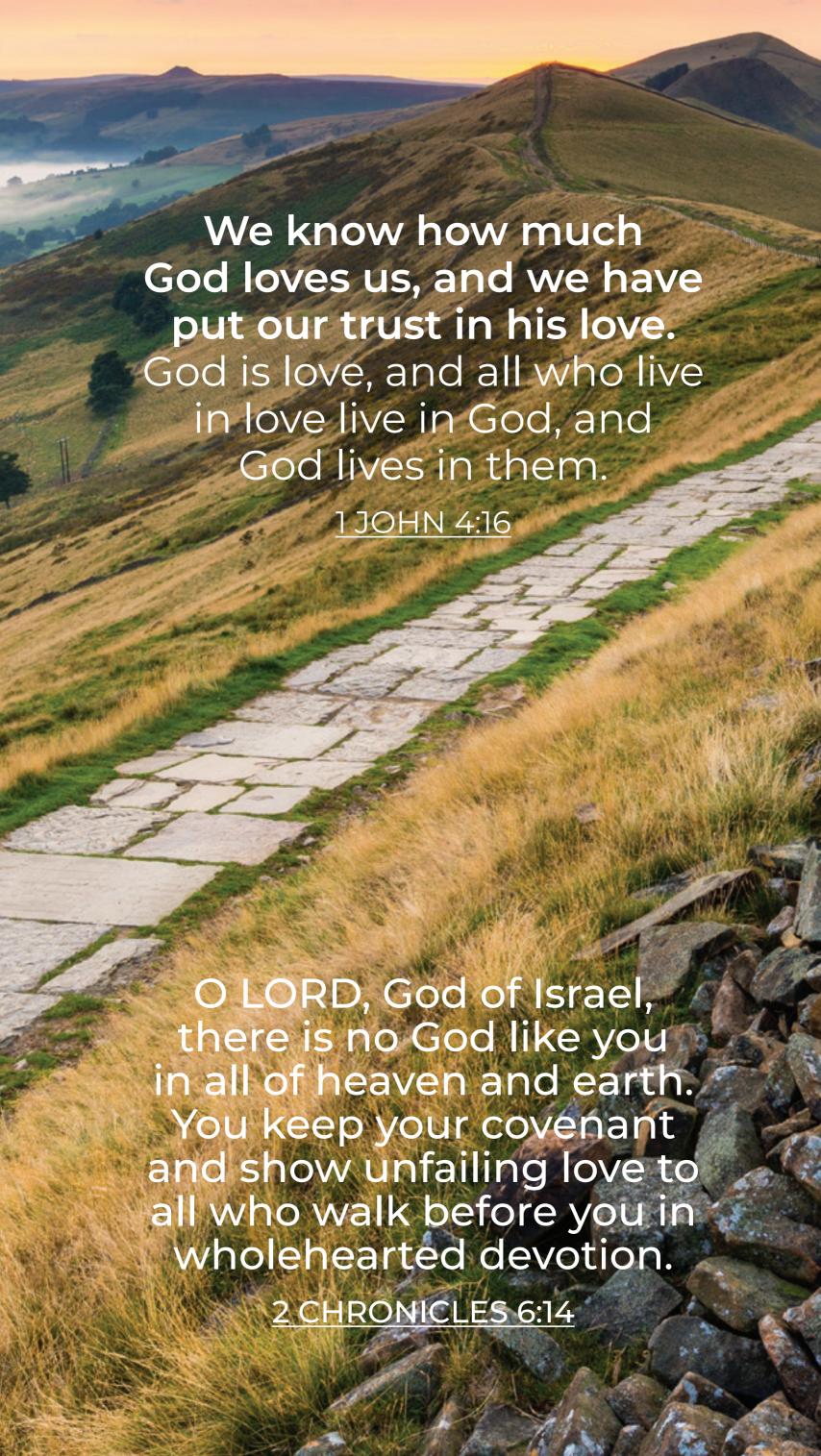
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For this is how God loved the world:

He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16







But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession.

1 PETER 2:9

Even before he made the world,

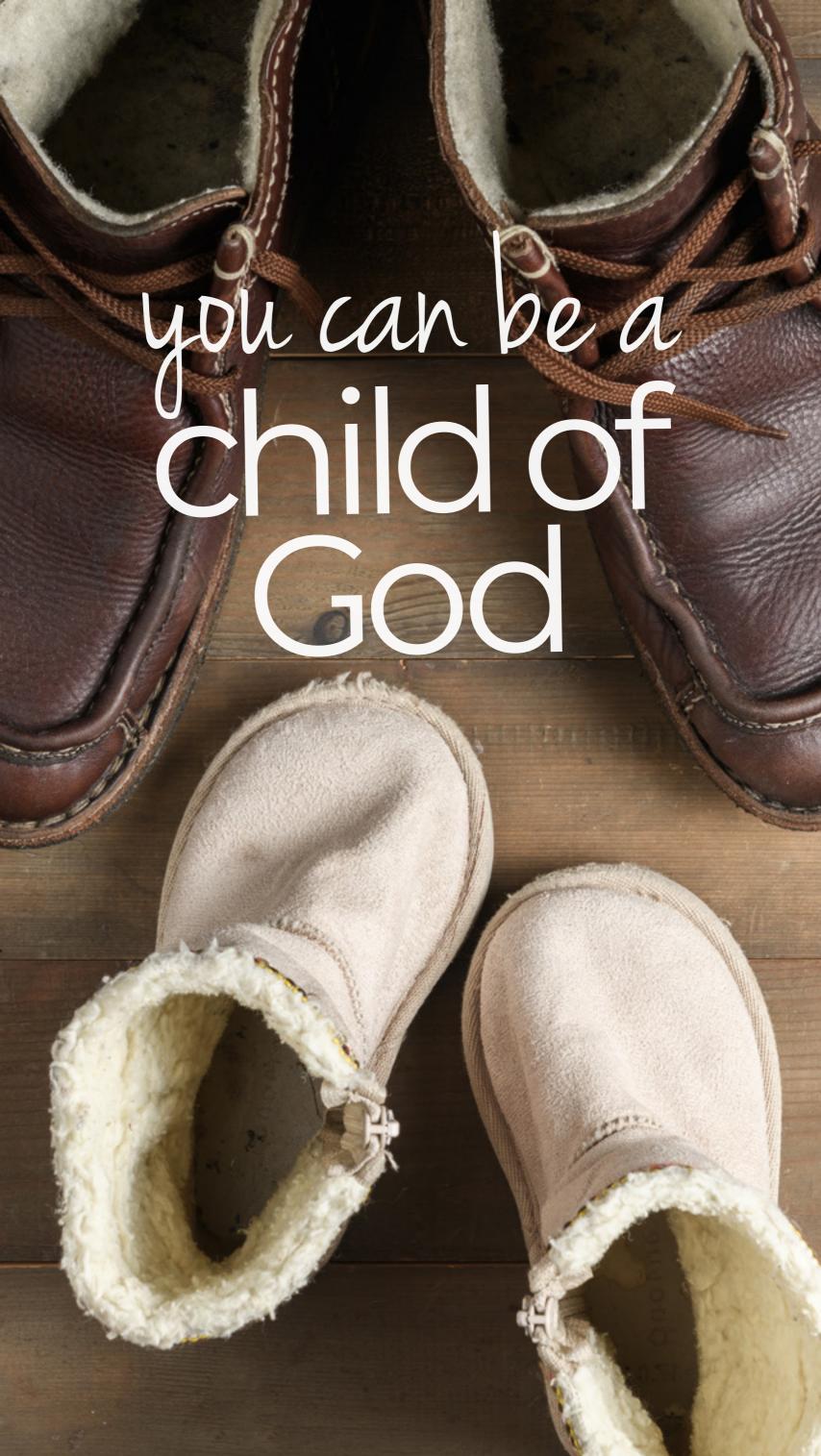
God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

EPHESIANS 1:4

For we are God's masterpiece.

He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

EPHESIANS 2:10



14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!

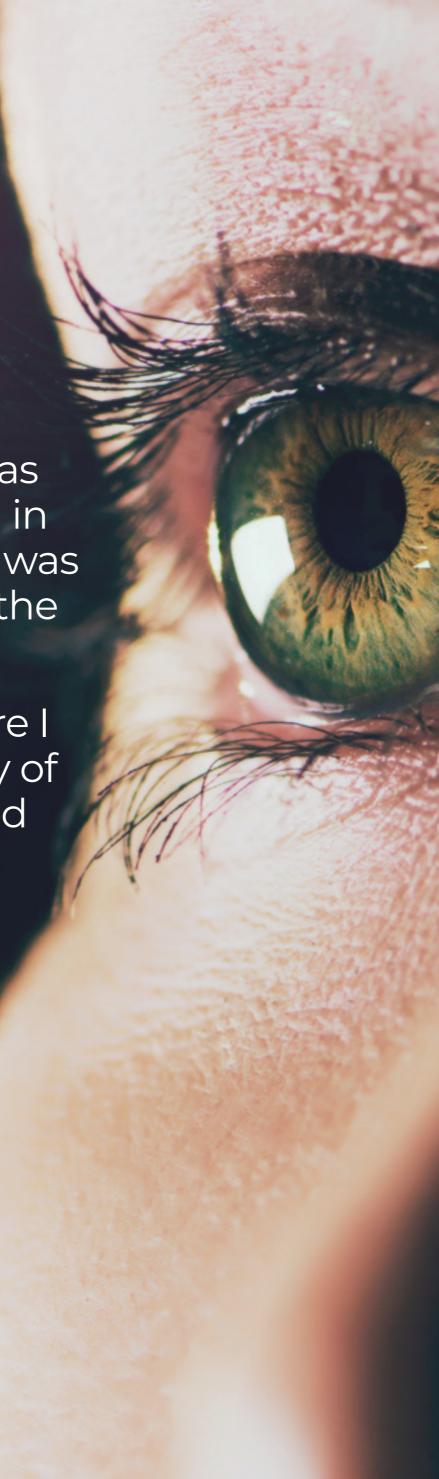
Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

¹⁵ You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

¹⁷ How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!

<u>PSALM</u> 139:14-17



See how very much our Father loves us, **for he calls us his children,** and that is what we are!

1JOHN 3:1

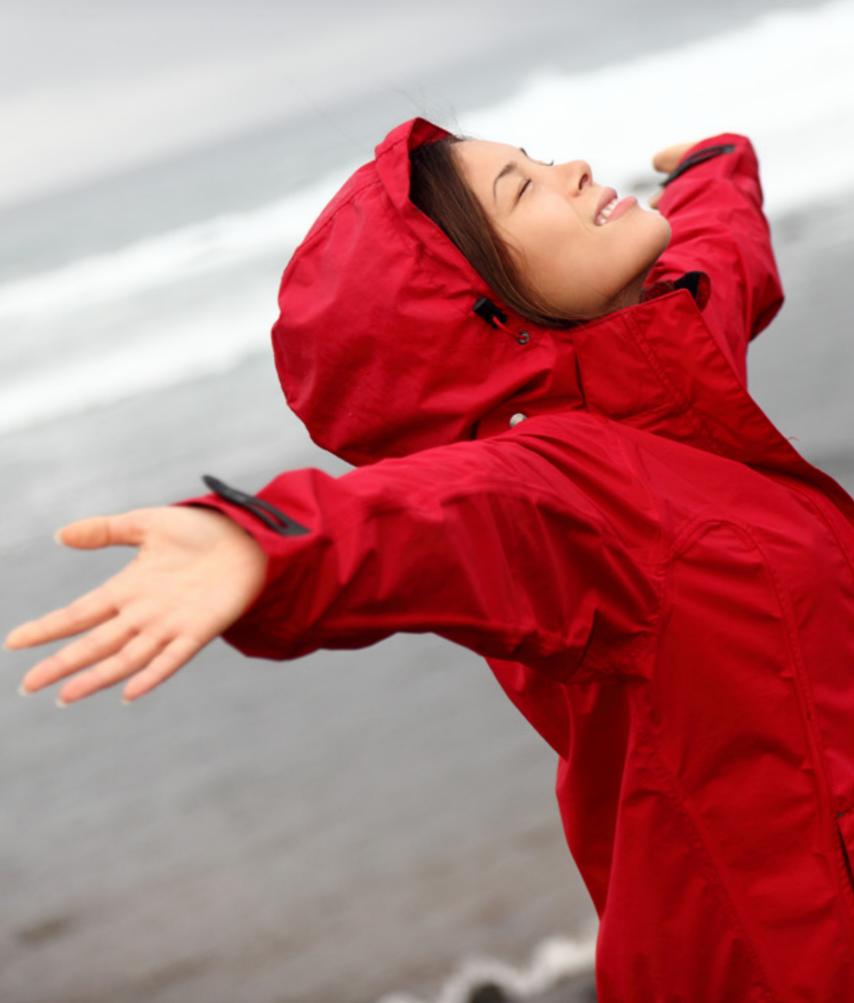
But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

JOHN 1:12

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

EPHESIANS 1:5

you can be free



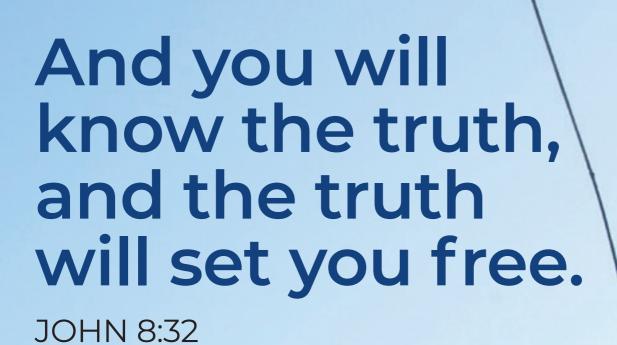
So, Christ has truly set us free...

For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

GALATIANS 5:1,13

For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17



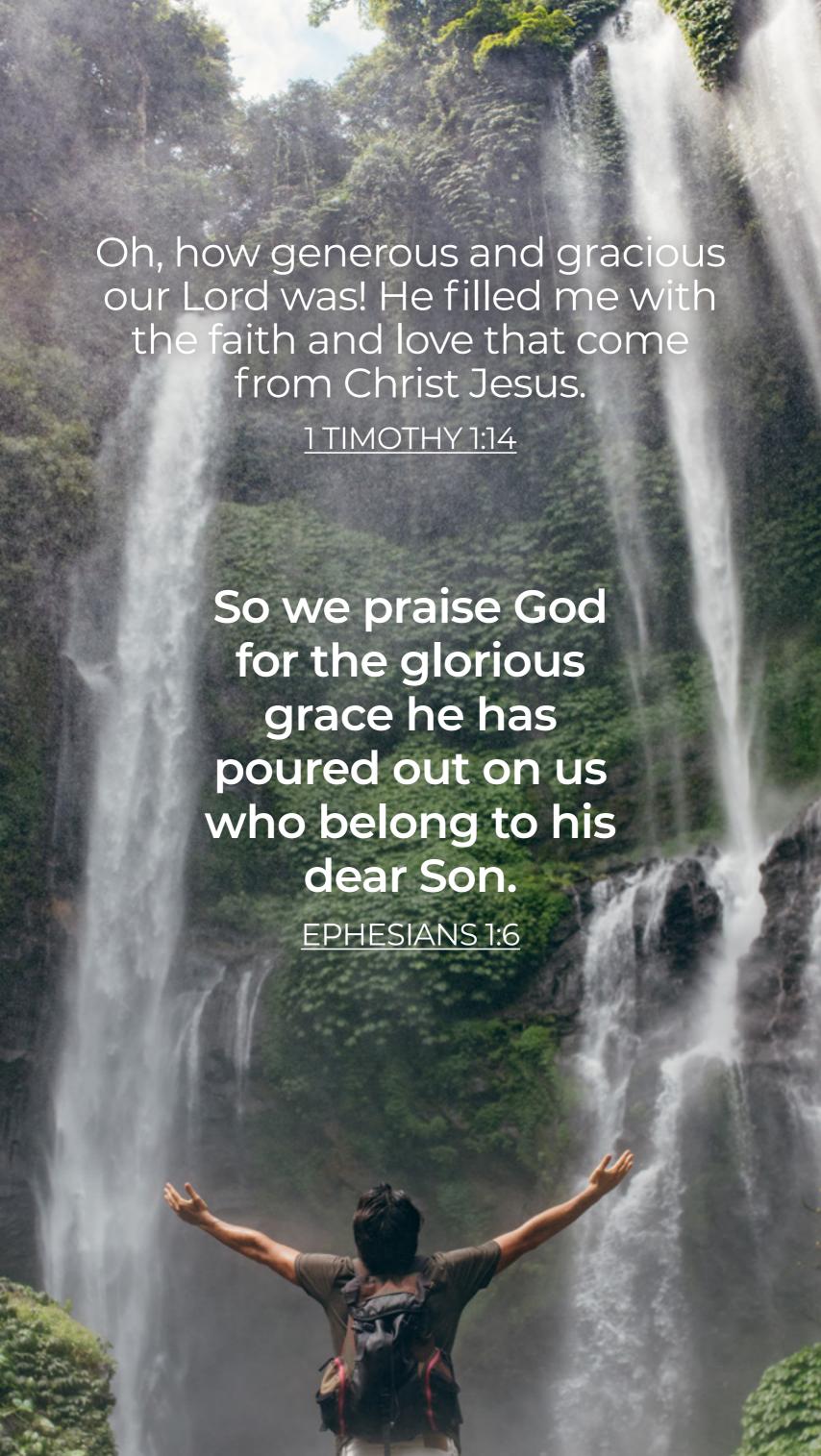
So, if the Son sets you free, you are **truly free**.

JOHN 8:36

In my distress I prayed to the LORD, and the LORD answered me and set me free.

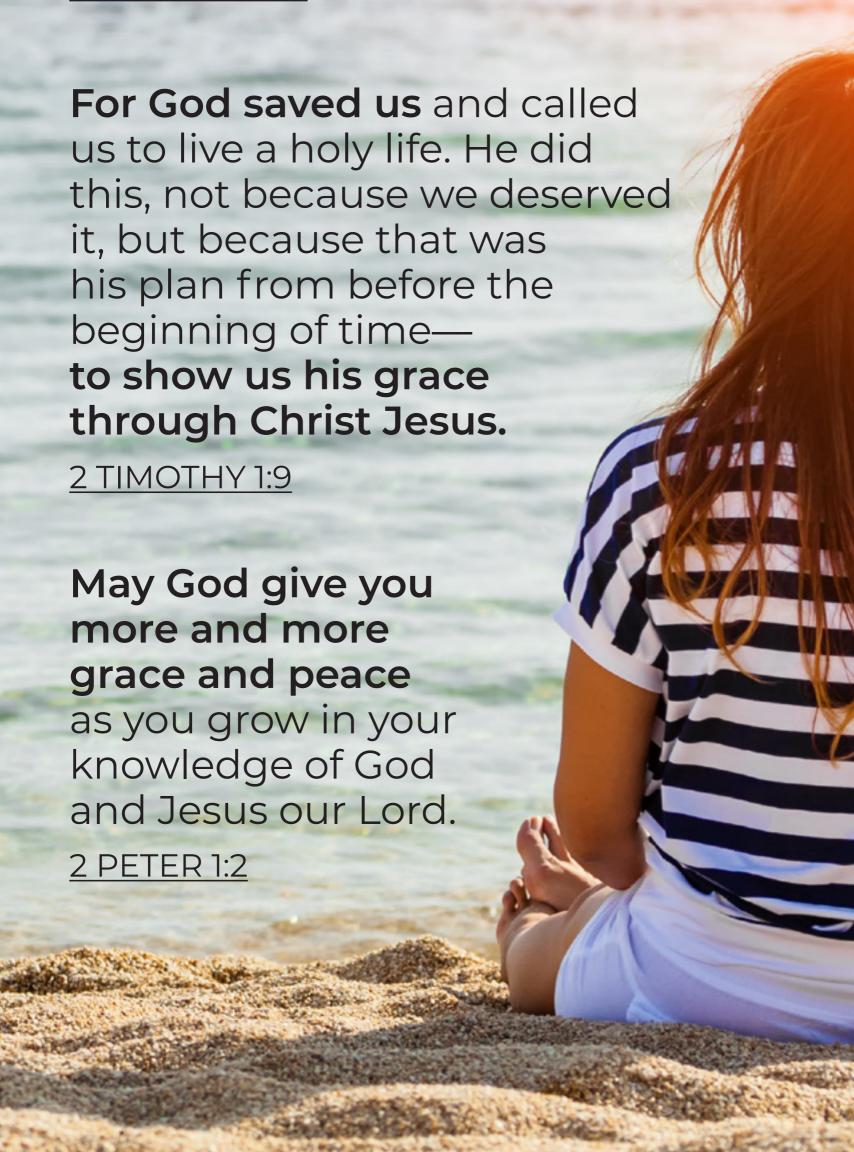
PSALM 118:5

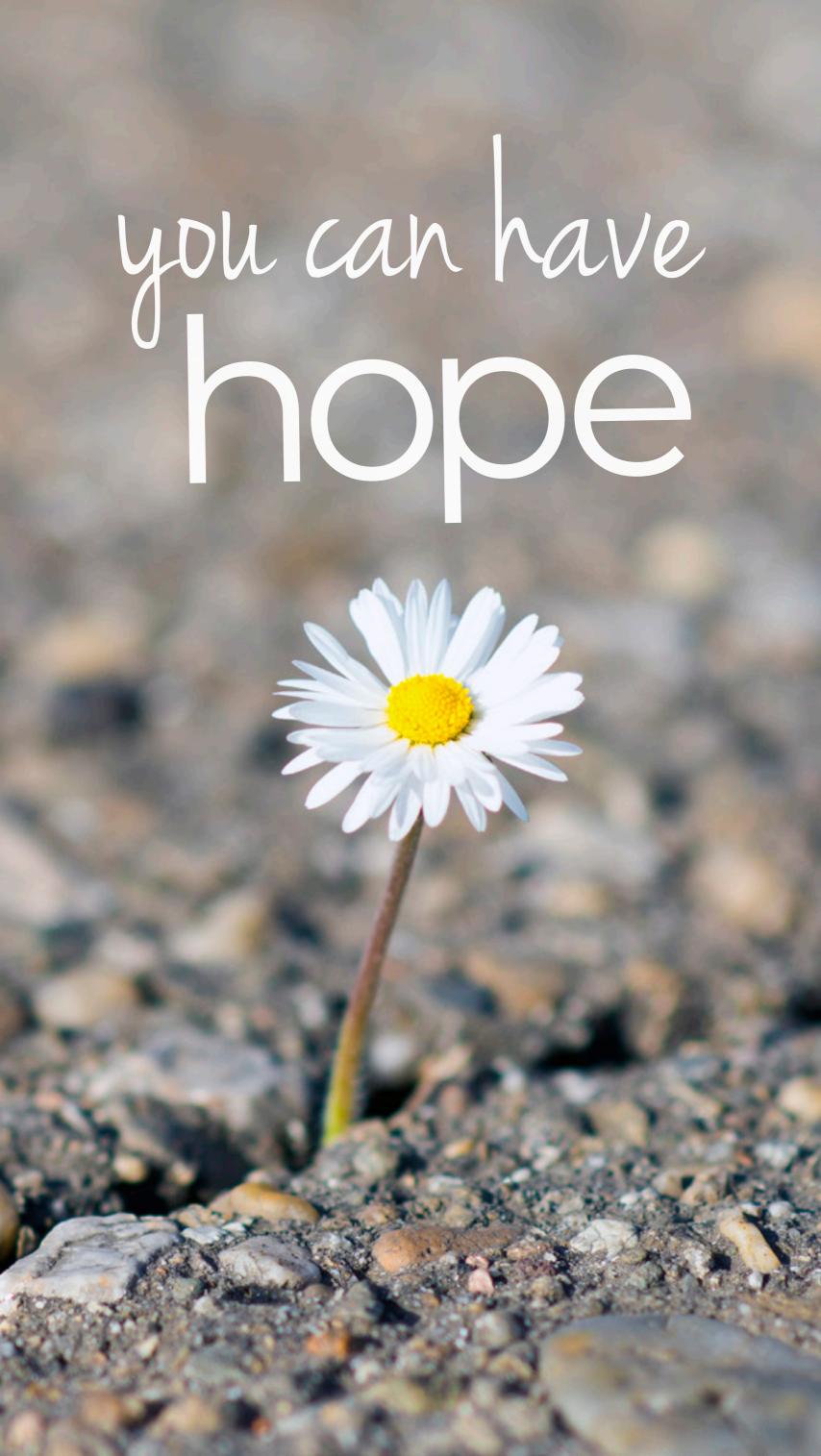


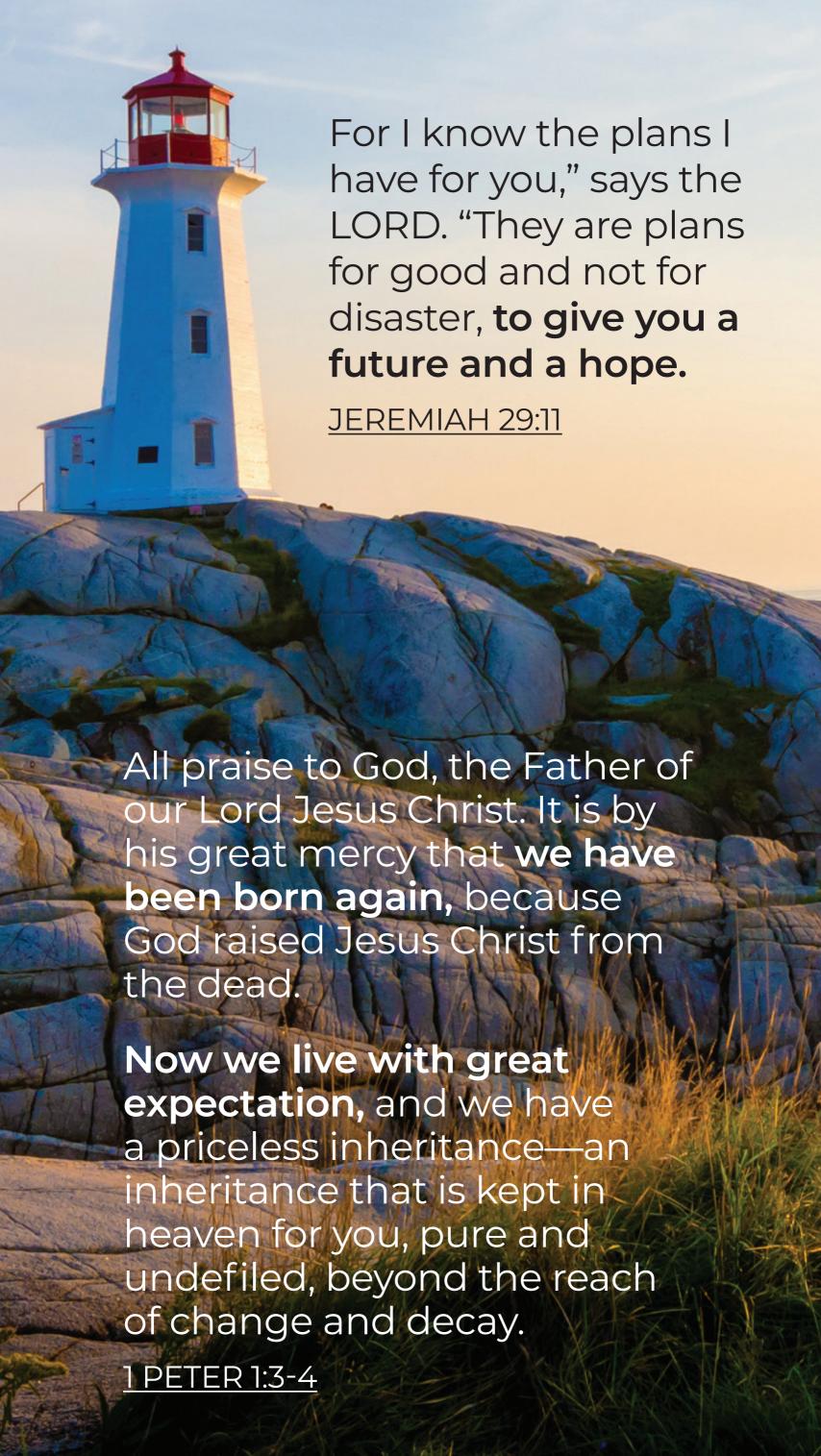


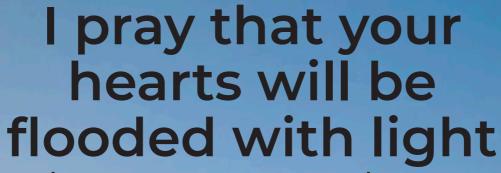
So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

HEBREWS 4:16







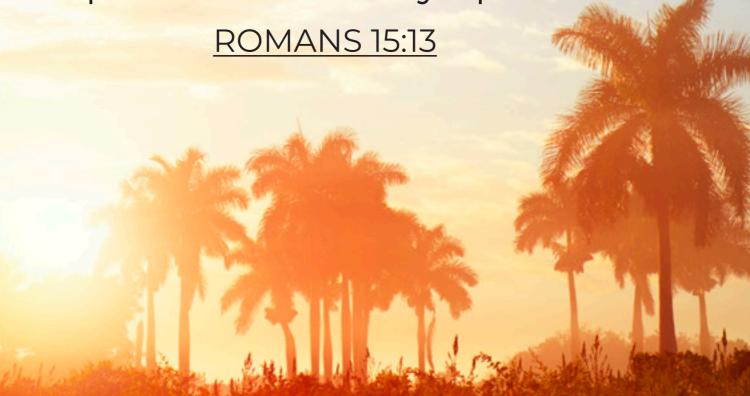


so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

EPHESIANS 1:18

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him.

Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.



My identity: lam loved lam chosen I can be a child of God I can be free I have been offered grace I can have hope

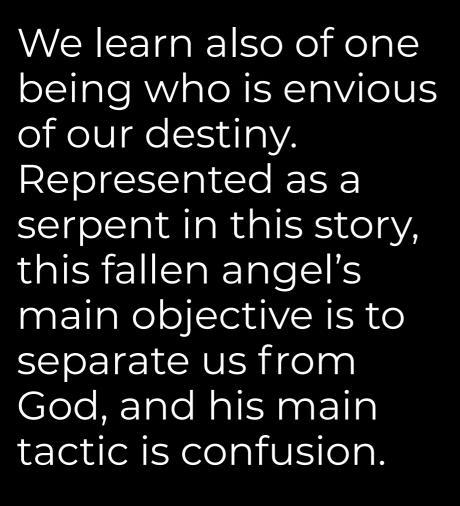
A New Identity

Through a story told very early in the Bible, we learn that God created everything in this world to be good. Human beings were created especially good.

Not only that, we learned that we are designed to inhabit the most exalted status among all things created...even higher than the angels. What a destiny from a loving God!

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us...So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

GENESIS 1:26-27



He offers options, ideas, and opinions all designed to distract us from the only thing that is stable, strong, and right—God Himself.

That is why the questions "How do we know?" and "Says who?" are so important.

In this magazine, you've read the very words of God. Nothing is more hopeful than that.

You've seen for yourself that God made you on purpose—and He made you with a specific purpose. Through the work of his Son Jesus, we learn that we're each offered the opportunity to become a son or daughter of God, a brother or sister of the Christ. What an amazing thought!

So am I a son or daughter of God now?

You can be. Today. Right now.

The thing that gets in the way of accomplishing that purpose is our separation from God. The Bible calls that separation sin. But as you've just read, Jesus has defeated the power of sin and has made reconciliation between you and God now possible.

Do you wish to become right with God and receive His forgiveness? Do you wish to become a child of God and live the rest of this life fulfilling your God-given purpose? Do you wish to dedicate your life to someone that is stable, strong, and right?

You can. Nothing would make God happier.

Pray to God to begin your new identity as a child of God, using words like these:

"God, I know that I am a sinner and I believe that your Son, Jesus Christ, died for my sins on the cross and was raised from the dead for my sake. I now turn from my sins forever, and acknowledge that Jesus is my Lord and Saviour."



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