

Let's Dig Deeper

Pluck old feathers out
Get a Bird Bath!

Author Note to Readers: This will function best in a group (with others offering insight and feedback), but I would encourage you to do it alone if not reading in the company of others.

One day at a time. It's a lot of work, but I want to you soaring in 19 days!

It is my hope that you'll enjoy reading this book first for fun and then reading it again as the parable it is while looking for insight and hidden treasures. Ask the Lord to reveal how this applies to your own life.

Nissi, which is God and/or The Holy Spirit, was chosen for the dove's name because Nissi is one of the many names of God: Jehovah Nissi, meaning "The Lord is my Refuge," "Jehovah Is My Exaltation" and in the NIV (New International Version) it translates "The Lord is my Banner"—I love knowing He is faithful *over* us.

Equipping and Coaching Readers to Soar . . . Now discover who YOU are.

Chapter 1, Day 1 Begins with Egg-Spectations

Can you identify how "Nissi" (God) is able to change what appears to be the "worst situations" into the greatest case scenarios for you, not only to develop you but to help others?

Many of us have been angry at God for what we believe were "His choices."

IE: Why did you place me in "this family" (aka: Nest) or in that job, or let me step into that marriage, or worse . . . let my child be taken, go astray, or die. Have you ever felt mad at God because He didn't make things easier or better for you? Because you were just left to crack open the shell and figure life out?

If yes, cite a few situations that come to your heart. The first few things that come to your heart are probably what you need to work on the most.

Looking back through a hole in time, can you see yourself (literally or figurative) in a place during your life that you learned something you wouldn't have IF you weren't *in that spot*, at that hour?

Hindsight makes great glasses. Recognize ways you have been preserved, protected, and provided for.

IF Goldie had tumbled from the nest and NOT landed on the back of the Dove (who placed her in the hen's nest to remain warm) she'd have been another scrambled egg on the ground. **Name an occasion where you were deposited in the appropriate *nest*, at the proper time.**

Who were some of the "early witnesses" in your life that might have insight into how you grew up and who you were? What was going on "in the barnyard" *before* you were born or soon after?

What "farm" did you grow up on? _____
(Suburb, City, Farm, Home, Foster Care, Apartment, Military, Projects, Shelter)

Sometimes our teachers show us what NOT to be. They send us out (so to speak) as advocates for (or against) a principle or cause. Give a brief snapshot of a time when you were sent out as an advocate. What comes to mind?

What *Egg-Spectations* do YOU have? Write your visions and dreams down!

What Biblical scripture (or constructive thought) can you replace the negative tapes you've played in your head regarding "the farm" you grew up on?

For instance: I once felt sorrow when I thought of not growing up in a Christian home. If that recollection came to my mind, I replaced it with a new belief. ***God's ways are not my ways and His thoughts are NOT my thoughts.*** So, He knew best. **He knew the plans He had for me,** and the route I had to go to be where I am today.

DO NOT let **unhealthy feelings** take up territory in your mind? Replace them with The Word or affirmations.

What is the initial reflection that comes to mind?

Beliefs become living, climbing creepers that travel from your mind down to your heart. They nest in that warm place and then “*out of the abundance of your heart, your mouth speaks.*” Your “unhealthy views” (or lies) will grow into a vine of bitterness in your intellect. That entanglement can take decades to untangle or destroy! We may have feelings, but we can’t *be ruled* by them. Your emotions may be a gauge, but they aren’t *your guide*.

What *healthy thought* can move into its place?

Like the children of Israel, we can’t ignore what He has done and how He has provided. He is *Jehovah Jireh*, Our Provider.

What has He PROVIDED for you this week or this month?

Look up: Roman’s 8:28, Habakkuk 2: 2-3, Jeremiah 29:11, Proverbs 23:7, Luke 6:45, Philippians 4:19

What is *YOUR “Stone of Remembrance?”*

Chapter 2, Day 2

Are you waiting on *something* to hatch? A dream, child, or grandchild? What are you doing while it’s in the making? What are you pondering?

Did your parents live any of their ambitions through you? If YES, are you living out their wishes or desires rather than your own? I.e.: Modeling, playing a

sport, going to law school, becoming a minister, etc.?

Have you lived out any of YOUR longings through your children or grandchildren? If YES, why?

Do you know how to let them be themselves? Or better yet . . . **you, be yourself?**

Encourage others in THEIR gifts?

For Example: Should you see your child(ren) or grandchild(ren) enjoying drawing, you might put them in art classes or hire a tutor to develop their interests. Cheer them on in THEIR search for significance. Introduce them to outside resources.

Direct them to develop and train them up.

Have you ever been fed something (so to speak) that you hated but others around you seemed to enjoy? What was it? Literally food, idea, principal, or “religion.” Note: I hate religion also, relationship with Christ IS NOT “religion” that is a completely different subject.

What did you “sneak” into your life to bring some satisfaction?

Did you have a crabby Ol’ Ms. Alma Knack in your life? Someone who seemed to know everything about the times and seasons and made you feel like you knew nothing due to age or education? How did that make you feel?

Who (or what) did you feel the measuring stick was growing up?
A parent, theology, principal, teacher, friend, sibling, foster parent, or a neighbor?

What GIFTS do your child(ren) or grandchildren have?

How can you point them in the right direction *without* living your dreams through them?

Why were **you** created? What DEEP PASSION or drive do you have?

Look up: Psalm 37:4 (HE has implanted HIS desires in YOUR heart) and Matthew 7:11

What is YOUR *“Stone of Remembrance?”*

Chapter 3, Day 3

Do you ever look around and get the impression “everyone has talent or gifts” but you? _____

If yes, you aren’t alone. I believe this is a very common feeling amongst people. It’s either because you haven’t acknowledged what capabilities you have OR it could be that if you focus on them, you aren’t motivated by what God gave YOU to mature.

Ask yourself:

What do you love to do? What makes your heart leap? What excites you?

What comes naturally? If you can’t see this in yourself, ask someone (safe) what they spot. It may seem “obvious” to a spectator in your life.

We all walk and learn at different paces. Some people absorb visually while others by reading or doing. Many are solitary or logical. There isn’t one way to discover something. How do you best gain knowledge?

I was an average student in school, and my favorite classes were art, business, and socializing. I know, it’s not exactly the 3-R’s!

I loved changing classes and walking the halls to visit. I loved lunch and “networking”—connecting with others. So, in *comparing myself* with my other

classmates who were straight A students and on the honor roll, I felt dumb MOST of the time. They were going to college, and I just wanted to get out of school. Sometimes, your closest friends and family don't realize you're struggling to fit in or trying to live up to "a standard."

To this day, MOST of my friends have at least 1 degree, if not 3 (including a Masters) and are Doctors, Lawyers, Entrepreneurs, Authors, Speakers, etc.

If you gave me a math problem to solve (other than adding, subtracting, and dividing) my eyes would glaze over, my mind would go blank, I'd feel panicked, and I'd probably end up in tears.

My mother wanted me to go to college to find a husband. I thought that was a foolish reason to torture myself doing something I didn't like to do in the first place. Studying and taking tests. No thanks. So, I opted not to go.

What were your school days like? What (or who) did you struggle with?

How did the above impact your life in a negative or positive way?

What did you LOVE to do when you were 8-10 years old?

Those gifts and talents have been there all along . . . for a long, long time.

You've always desired to:

When Goldie stated: “All I could think was, I didn’t eat an egg!” she missed the message.

What messages do you miss because you believe someone uttered something they did not?

TIP: Try repeating back to the person what they spoke. Make certain you understand **their** meaning, instruction, or intentions. It’s amazing how “bad” our hearing can be.

Practice listening skills! Lots of relational mistakes happen because we trust that we understood someone without asking to make sure we did/do. How many times did your boss/spouse think you said _____ and when you actually said _____?

Personally, I think people who have legitimate hearing issues are obligated and liable for clarification. Putting the duty on the person who CAN hear doesn’t equate with me.

You may be listening, but did you hear? _____

Did you ever “scare” others because of who you were? For me, I was a dare-devil and always thinking of pranks, plays, and ways to make money.

At my 20-year class reunion, I had a few people tell me I scared them the way I talked to teachers and got by with it. I was shocked but found it humorous.

They were terrified I was going to get in trouble (I never got into trouble with authority), and the teacher would laugh. I have always had a way of being able

to say things other people only think about and get by with it. I have no idea why. I suppose because I'm comfortable in my own skin and truly am not trying to be a jerk. Who knows, and who would have ever guessed unless they had told me 20+ years later.

Have you made people uncomfortable? Just being, well . . . you? How so?

Remember: Mind reading isn't on most of our resume's.
Be clear when you speak. Answer and ask questions!

Look up: Galatians 6: 4-6 & I Corinthians 15:46, Ephesians 2:10, Mark 4:24,
Luke 8:18

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 4, Day 4

Are you a "chick pleaser?" AKA: People pleaser? _____

Have you ever tried to "fit in" to have friends? How so?

Where is there room for YOU in this? You cannot please every "Tom, Dick, or Harry." Don't flip and flop based on who you're with. BE YOU, be true to YOU. **That is self-integrity.**

Have you ever received advice and been sorry you took it?

What were your circumstances? WHY were you sorry you took the advice or acted upon it?

Make certain you take counsel from individuals who line up with YOUR values and YOUR beliefs. Move cautiously when inviting people to speak into your life. They should earn that role or be summoned by YOU. Not your mate or mom! You would not tolerate someone barging into your home and giving orders . . . don't allow them to do it in your personal space either.

The times I've been sorry I took advice, have been when I acted on THEIR conscience and schedule and not my own.

WHO do you need to take **off** your "get guidance from list?"

(I know the chick list may be long)

WHO needs to be included **on** the list?

(Notice this isn't as many)

Realize taking a stand is frightening, having people or family leave your life hurts . . . BUT having unhealthy people stay is much worse. You won't have time for the healthy relations if you have UN-healthy ones taking up room, space, hours, or energy. Besides, it takes away creativity, sleep, motivation, and drains you of vitality . . . just to name a few.

What are you losing by keeping unfit "chicks" in your Rolodex?

Besides, too many "animals" speaking into your life causes confusion. They all have different customs, habits, hang-ups, food preferences, fleece, and tempers!

The guineas and peacocks came to Goldie's side and empathized with her. Often, we are truly just seeking to be heard or understood. Doesn't that feel good? _____

When is the last time you truly felt received?

Do you currently feel listened to? IF NOT, what can you do to work on changing how you communicate or standing up for yourself?

Share *your testimony* when it's relevant or timely, share your heart with few.

Look up: Galatians 1:10, Proverbs 13:20, Proverbs 22:1

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 5, Day 5

Goldie's friends came up with a way for Goldie to "look like them" versus encouraging her to be herself. Even her mother (first figure of authority) agreed with them!

We aren't supposed to "look" like everyone else! Who's *everyone* anyway? That is a very broad term.

When I went to my dad (who was very blunt) as a kid and told him "Everyone is doing it!" He replied: Not *everyone* because you're somebody, and you're not!

I've never forgotten that.

Great point!

On target.

What have you done to resemble someone else? To "dress" like them, etc.?

As a Child?

As a Teen?

As an Adult?

Have you ever been around people that have a grand idea but don't want to help "build the concept?" *Raise the baby* so to speak? If you're the only one willing to execute, perhaps that's the indication to let that concept die. You're just going to wear yourself out and be upset no one is helping!

Friendly Reminder: You aren't God, everything spoken does not have to come into being. You don't need to do everything in 6 days.

All of us walk with a distinct stride (some people take small, slow steps . . . others large and fast). If you continue to try to "walk at the pace" of someone else, you will wear your wings out!

How are you trying to walk or fly at someone else's pace?

Remember this: You have no idea how much they "*worked out*" to walk (or fly) at that pace, nor the price they've paid, the years they waited patiently, the sacrifices made, or the pain they had to go through. You have no true picture of what it took to get to where they are. That's the part most people don't think about.

What do you crave (or wish you were) that you are not?

Examine this and ask yourself **why**. Is it something you covet or a desire that's been in your heart for years? Does it stem from jealousy, joy, insecurity, or something else not mentioned?

Have you ever planned, hoped, wished, and dreamed for a day (or time) to come? Worked hard to get to point "A" and rather than a cheering squad greeting you, you got shot with a fire hose instead?

It was such a flop it was heart-breaking? Rejection took on hysterical laughs or remarks from others?

- Check your motives!
- Is the timing, right?
- Did you receive confirmation before moving ahead?
- Are you enabling or being co-dependent? "Let Go, Let Nissi," applies here
- What's the driving force behind the act?
- Are you forcing yourself into a "suit" that you weren't meant to wear?

Sometimes "name calling" starts at home. In your "safe place." What should be a protected place. It isn't for most. *Leave it to Beaver* families do NOT exist! Even Goldie's mother remarked she had "*big, bulky wings.*" They were the wings God gave her. That isn't something she can change.

What "*names*" have you been called?

Mine were: *Wrecker* Becker, Spider Legs, Skinny Minnie, Nutball, Goody-Two-Shoes or Prude.

Have you been through anything similar? IF something happens/happened it's *your fault* . . . you're to blame! If it weren't for how you're shaped, your clumsy-ness, mouth, etc. List a time/times you've experienced this.

When you've been exposed to this, *you* start calling *yourself* names. I call that "*garbage in, garbage out!*"

That's why The Word says: Be careful what you HEAR. Don't listen to trash talk. What goes IN you will come OUT!

Goldie said; "I crammed my big old floppy wings inside my suit." Have you ever called yourself names? Repeated the negative tapes you have heard about yourself?

Then she worries about *her movements* intimidating others. Oh, My . . . that's an intense life. *Yeah, I know* . . . nothing you do is going to be right!

How about popping your fingers? Do you speak too loudly? Sneeze too loud? You're too tall, too big, too skinny, too pretty, too ugly, too strong, laugh too boisterously, too sexy (for church), too fat, too dressy, not dressy enough . . . **scream** Let the madness stop! Don't be a part of picking at people! Just accept them for who they are, what they do, and how they look. Perhaps being a quiet example would be a novel idea!

I am delighted to announce to the world that I LOVE a bargain. I LOVE estate sales, consignment shops, and wholesalers. I seldom pay retail for anything,

and I could care less what “The Joneses” think. I don’t care if someone thinks I’m a snob because I own a gorgeous rug or handbag, and I don’t care if they know I **didn’t** pay full price for it, or it was given to me. Nor does everything have to be “name brand.” As a matter of fact, I’m happy to share my “best-kept secret” shopping places.

Do you worry about what others think? Are you trying to live up to an image of status in housing, clothing, cars, being a “white collar” worker versus “blue collar?” Business owner versus employee?

Hoping people don’t notice the underlining issues?

Did it come from being raised in poverty, wealth, or your own insecurities?

Remember: WHO is the measuring tape?

Measure YOU against YOU or YOU against Christ.

Now *that* is a nice standard.

I can’t tell you the countless people that have confessed they thought I was a complete snob (or worse) before they ever got to know me, *before we ever spoke*, simply based on *how I looked, what I had on, the way I walked into a room, the way I spoke up in a meeting*, etc. When they confessed and announced they had officially changed their position, I have both busted out laughing and cried many a tear (in the past). My husband and I were in a restaurant a few years ago, and a couple said this to me (they thought initially I was a snob). *Yep, strangers.*

Personally, I can deal with candid honesty and find it amusing—even funny—from a stranger. What’s been hurtful to me is the lack of acceptance within the church, knowing the above is going on, and no one will say anything. It makes me hurt for all the men, women, and young adults that STOP going to church due to the bullying and “groups” within a congregation. This is NOT the place for cliques, but it’s very prevalent, and **it is wrong**.

I'm speaking up about this for all the wounded souls who might read this and need a healing touch. You aren't alone, and I'm so sorry. It's been the "big purple elephant" in the room for many of us. It's time to heal and soar!

If you've had false judgements happen to you. How do you compensate internally? How do you respond when you find out, overhear, or "just know?"

_____ I confess, I've had loads of problems from women at church! Church and jobs have been amongst a few difficult places in life, but that's about MAN, not God. Keep your eyes on HIM.

When you are rejected in one area (using outward appearances), do you try to compensate and fill it in other ways? Perhaps dress down? Dress up? You don't wear make-up, or you do? You slouch? _____

More dangerous: Drink, use some type of drug or sleeping pills, or stay in bed?

Ask yourself . . . How are YOU truly comfortable being YOU, on the outside?

_____ Then be that!

If you will compare yourself with someone, compare yourself with Jesus.

Look up: Psalms 139, II Corinthians 10:12, Mark 4:24, Luke 8:18

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 6, Day 6

I'm not sure if you have a little "dare-devil" in you or not, but I do. Have you ever done something or gone somewhere others are too scared to go? Perhaps you've wanted to but wouldn't because of other people's fears?

A country, town, in the ocean, scuba diving, sky diving, parachuting, buy a franchise, start one, etc.

Being brave doesn't come because you've overcome one single issue, but because you consistently take "them" on *as they come your way*.

Face Fear!

What are you afraid of?

How can you challenge yourself to overcome that fear?

Fear Regret!

Sometimes it takes a tragedy to realize who's for you and who's not!
Sometimes it's those blabbermouth turkeys that come to your rescue!
Who went from friend to foe in your life?

Who went from foe to friend? How did that transpire, and what did you learn from it?

Do you ever sense people around you are talking a different language? Are you pretending to understand? Feeling like you aren't with your "own tribe?"
What age did this start?

Are you **sarcastic**, or do you have cynical friends or co-workers? Look up the meaning of the “fruits” of that quality. What are negatives and positives about this trait?

Have you ever called people names because they didn't do or act the way you thought they should? Perhaps it's time to apologize and/or forgive. Yourself and them.

How do you respond to “Doom'n Gloom” people in your life? You might also call them Nags or Negative.

Does it take a lightning bolt to get you to move, or will a light rain do it?

How do you deal with the Tattletale in your life? Don't think people don't see them for who they are. Sometimes, their payoff is simply “self-importance.”

Have you ever left everything you know for everything you don't? Why and how did you do it? What did you learn?

It's not always a one-time thing in a person's life. You may need to do that several times.

Reasons: Safety, security, adventure, entrepreneur, seeker, dysfunctional family, abuse, education, simply change, new environment, sobriety? What other reasons can you think of? Oh . . . maybe just "Outfoxing the fox!"

Look up: 1 John 2:9, Ephesians 4:29, II Corinthians 10:5

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 7, Day 7

Do you seek counsel before you make significant life decisions?

Do you count the cost before you "build?" Your nest, your life, your business?

Have you ever "discerned" something no one else noticed?

That's a gift. But discernment can be like fire. It can cook your eggs or burn down your house. Know how to handle what you discern. Be careful with that "hot skillet," and make sure you aren't "judging" or speaking when you should be quiet. If you're a Christian, cover what you see with prayer and privacy until confirmation surfaces (if it ever does) that you should take it elsewhere.

We CAN and DO "judge things" for ourselves daily. What's right, what's wrong, should I go now, later, or never, should I leave early due to traffic, etc. But what we can't do is "condemn." There is a fine feather between judgment and condemnation.

How can you "test the spirits" and exercise the gifts, talents, and abilities God gave you? Put another way, how could you "test" a person in your office? Motives, a relationship with the opposite sex (if it's right for you), a friend.

This is a tough one, and I always cringe at the response. Have you ever been attacked by *wolves in sheep's clothing*?

I'm so sorry.

Remember, wolves hang out where the sheep are. Not everyone IN church is a lamb. I'm so sorry if you've been hurt. I will say this until I die: Remember that's about Man not God. Sadly, some of our vilest hurts will come within the "walls of safety." Home, church, work, friends . . .

Love covers a multitude of sins, but it *doesn't* cover up what needs to be exposed! Confront darkness with LIGHT. Turn the lights on, and what happens? The rats or roaches scatter! Never ever let anyone keep you silent over the

abuse or mistreatment they have caused. Be your own advocate, if necessary, and charge through the door of fear. Never sit under a threat, blackmail, etc. EXPOSE the TRUTH. Even if it exposes *your* bad choices. There is safety in the light, in truth.

Hang onto your dreams. Those desires have been implanted in your heart by God himself. Never let the thief come in and steal them away from you. What are a few of them?

Look up: I John 4: 1-6, Proverbs 15:22, I Thessalonians 5:21

What is *YOUR* “**Stone of Remembrance?**”

Chapter 8, Day 8

Think back for a moment, way back. WHO were you and WHAT was your personality like “before the baggage,” before the hurt, before high-school, before the marriage and divorce(s)?

By the way . . . Yes, God says He hates divorce. He NEVER said He hates *the divorcee*. **He hates divorce because He knows the pain of it**, He knows the ache and discomfort you must go through to get to the place where you say ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, I’m not living this way! God divorced nations. From Israel to Sodom and Gomorrah. So, you think if He won’t contend with “man” forever He expects you too? Of course not! There is way too much shame being tossed on people, and it’s so wrong. God wants you wearing a coat of many colors, not clothed in guilt and remorse! He hasn’t asked you to haul those bags around!

Think Back: From 3 to 10 years old if you can (if you can’t ask someone that remembers you at that age). Peek at old photos that might trigger a few memories.

To help you recollect who that child was:

What did you love to do?

What fascinated you?

Did you ask lots of questions? Love to listen to people's stories?

Were you a runner? Enjoyed sports? Actress in the making? Dancer? Singer?

Could you entertain yourself or did you need people around you to be stimulated?

Were you artistic? Love to doodle, paint, or draw?

Did you teach yourself things and then teach others?

Did you have a heart for the "underdogs" or enjoy serving others?

Perhaps you were a storyteller, you loved to journal or were a comedian.

What did I leave out?

Discuss a few things with a group and let them help you discover who you are.

Who you were is who you are. Work from that point. Work on the positives and negatives! **List examples below to trigger a memory.**

What did you do?

So, WHO are you?

List as many as you can . . . dissect and dig deep.

Examples:

8 months old...

What I did: I bowed my head to pray before I could talk, I prayed “Our Father who art in Heaven . . .” (the entire prayer) by the time I was two years old.

Who I am: I’m an intercessor. God created me to pray for others.

2-8+ years old...

What I did: If I learned something, I “taught it” to others.

Who I am: I’m a teacher, not an educator (remember, no college).

8-10 years old...

What I did: I orchestrated “plays” and “dances” and then invited people to watch . . . for money! The chemist in me melted down bars of soap (to make “soft soap[®]”) and sold it to neighbors.

Who I am: I’m an entrepreneur & a salesperson.
I suppose I should add inventor and thief. My mother was NOT happy with my entrepreneurial idea.

4 years old...

What I did: If someone bullied someone else, or I saw “injustice” . . . I spoke up.

Who I am: I’m a confronter. I want to deal with and resolve issues.

11 years old...

What I did: I painted and sold my paintings when I was 11.

Who I am: I'm an artist.

Note: The "Performer" in me began blooming again at age 49. I'd like to also remark . . . "Performer" has gotten squashed and stomped within so many churches. That falls under so many wonderful gifts: comedian, painter, singer, dancer, artist, actor, cartoonist, sculptor , , , you get it! Just love *Jesus* more than you love "self" and "your abilities." You'll be on track, and if you aren't, He is more than able to get you on track. He will meet you where you are!

And as far back as I can remember, I always wanted to know who Jesus was. I often wanted to go to church and ask (*ok, I was obsessed*) why He put me here on this earth. I wanted a Bible for my 6th birthday. I became a Christian at age 20. I hope those examples help. Think . . . think hard or go ask!

Do you have a mocker in your life? _____

I find this to be a valuable person. They give clues as to WHAT "the enemy" is trying to destroy, tear down, or sew doubt into the quilt of your life so you will turn away from "it."

The same is true with the voice of the accuser. Listen, you might find a nugget of truth that is valuable insight even though it's being presented in a nasty little gift wrap! They just gave you something to work on! Not all negative feedbacks are negative! Watch for patterns and consistency, examine your own heart and take it to the Lord NOT others.

For Example: My entire life, I have been hounded, ridiculed and at times hated for being truthful or wanting to know *The Truth*. It created an enormous amount of grief in me as a child.

I have been kicked out of my parents' home (or my own by an Ex-spouse) for talking about The Lord and have been in more trouble for being honest (and speaking up) than I ever have for lying. It was one of the many reasons I divorced a fake minister. I wouldn't shut up and be a quiet little "church mouse." I have been told to muzzle my mouth, just stay home (from church), sit down, be inaudible, be loving (implying I'm not because I'm speaking The Word/truth), I'm too harsh or brash . . . all over Truth. The Word

has a lot to say about this topic and for me to get flogged over this issue “by man/woman” . . . DING, *Hallelujah*. Thank you for that confirmation! That calls for a “*get behind me Satan*” statement.

God is the judge *of the thoughts and intents of my heart*. Not mankind. We have no business judging each other, that only shoots the wounded. *The Sword* is to be used against the enemy, NOT each other.

It’s a constant issue for me. The enemy would like me to be silent. TOUGH—I don’t take orders from the devil, he will take them from me! We have been given dominion over him, not vice versa.

Now, every time this comes up, I grin. He’s still hounding me. Too funny. Give an example of a way the devil is hounding/has hounded you.

I have seen people in the occult manifest demonic activity and do back flips without me laying a hand on them because God moved, TRUTH was spoken, and I prayed over them. I’ve seen oil pour from my hands in the heat of summer when I prayed for someone and spoke TRUTH to them. God has let me know clearly who I am IN HIM. I’m waiting . . . I am not here to die popular, not trying to win any best-selling author awards, nor do I care if I’m a household name. I care if my name is written in Heaven. Period. I am burdened to help the broken-hearted heal and find purpose. I am restless to see captives set free. TRUTH sets people free, not fluff. Not playing church but being The Church. I’m an Eagle who will rise and not be weary . . .

What do you long to see in your own life? Has God given you any glimpses as to how he might use you?

How have *these characters* in your life made an impact? If at all?

The Primper (other than taking a long time to get ready)

Someone Faithful

Adaptable

Squawk (the screamer)

Snitch (the tattletale)

Singer/Performer? Someone who wants to be noticed

How about Mr. Ego (Madison Fontaine) - Someone who insist on being addressed with titles versus a first name basis?

Do you have a Pastor you can go to? That's can be tough. Nowadays, we have loads of "Ministers," lots of "Preachers," but very few Pastors. What a shame.

Finally, what about Nissi? AKA: *God*? Where is He in your life?

Look up: John 10:14, John 10:27, Isaiah 43:1, Psalm 139: 1-24, Matthew 25: 14-30, Hebrews 4:12, James 1:2, I Peter 2:4, Proverbs 31:8, Galatians 1:10, Genesis 3:15 and Luke 10:19

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 9, Day 9

What TRUTH have you discovered regarding yourself? I hope a nugget or two from the last chapter.

Do you have someone to forgive? Who?

Note: I **didn't** say *what for*.

I promise you this, if you don't forgive, forget ever "flying." Don't expect answered prayers, scratch succeeding off the list, forget about being at peace or being filled with JOY. You can't . . . you're dragging around too much weight.

Just as a crazy exercise, do this if you don't believe me.

Take **all** the luggage out of your closet, drag it **all** around everywhere you go for one day. Aww, come on . . . it's just one day! Though, I'm sure you'll get the point after a few hours. Take it **all** to the grocery store, doctor's office, pile it in the bathroom with you, hey . . . take a nap with it! I mean, you're doing it anyway. This "visual" could be lifesaving for you! You'll feel like you drank from the fountain of youth when you get rid of the baggage of unforgiveness.

The inside of the cup matters. If you want "your cup" to overflow . . . forgive! Empty the bags, and bury them in the closet where they belong!

Your conscience is the first level of authority God works with or through. I'd imagine you have someone to forgive, even if it's just yourself. Start there.

What "things" do you do that you know you shouldn't be doing, but you do anyway?

We are a spirit, we live in a body, and we have a soul. Those 3 things are in constant competition with each other. It's up to US to train our soul (mind, will, and emotions). From the time we were infants we cried, and a bottle was stuck in our mouth. We wet our pants, and our diapers were changed. We wept, and someone came running. Our SOULS are MUCH older than our spirits when it comes to being trained and pampered here on this place called Earth. Some adults are still acting like infants, some bosses are! They scream, we come running to coddle them.

Some things are normal and natural (IE: we get hungry, we get tired), but it's out of balance when we are RULED by our appetites or run ourselves into the ground working 24/7. Our bodies can't keep up. Our health will suffer.

How can you work on training that *soulish-self* into being a more content spirit being? I promise you will end up more peaceful, trusting, and balanced.

_____ This is a crucial lesson if you want more from God himself.

Why are you trying to prove who you are to someone else? Just Be YOU.

_____ You don't owe them the TIME you're putting into this!

Are you mad at God? About what?

_____ I promise He can handle your honesty and is waiting on it.

What is IN you that will make you rise and soar?

Look up: Matthew 7:5, John 8:31-32, Mark 11:26, Matthew 23:26-28, Matthew 6:14-15, Isaiah 40:31

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 10, Day 10

Have you ever gauged yourself against others? Then sat on the bench and judged yourself that you didn't "qualify?" Perhaps because of education or "neighborhood"—families, race, or even personal style? Maybe you're short versus tall, have brown eyes versus blue, or black hair versus blonde? Are you continuing to do this? How?

Hopefully, you are on your way to stopping. Remember: Brain Train! DAILY.

Everyone can learn something from each other.

Reach out. Seek mentors!

They don't have to know or accept a formal invitation. Just watch, listen, and ask questions to those you admire.

Whom do you admire?

Look up to?

Who encourages you?

Always reach HIGHER. Jesus led a life of mentoring others.

Isn't it great when you feel like you've met someone you connect with? You may have connected because you felt as if "they were like you!" See, you do like yourself. You do have qualities you admire. It's that feeling of "aww, that appears familiar!"

What qualities do you admire most about yourself?

I love a dry sense of humor and a person that's hilarious but doesn't know they are. One of my grandmothers was like that. However, when a Type-A personality comes along and begins to mull you over, it's suddenly not so funny. When he starts hanging his degrees out it can be intimidating, when he reminds you that you're a country bumpkin and he's from the city . . . um, well . . . is there something wrong with being from the country? When she wants to work 24/7, and you just want to go home.

I can be very Type-A at times (cough, cough), my doctors say I'm a "Nice Type-A," but I can be blunt. So much so, I've been called Frank more than Rebekah, well, *not more* . . . just a lot.

My best advice for dealing with this type of person is to stand toe-to-toe with them. They just like a debate, they are confrontational to resolve or understand, not to fight. They aren't scared to express their opinions and feelings, and you'll find they have a lot of compassion and a huge soft spot. Why? Because most paid a heavy price to get to where they are. Get in that *boxing ring* with them. They won't hurt you, they'll admire you, and be a great mentor! When you approach them, ask for an appointment, get to the point, cut to the chase, spare 'em the details and move on!

Look up: Proverbs 27:17, Proverbs 9:9, Proverbs 1:5, John 14:26, Galatians 6:4

What is YOUR *“Stone of Remembrance?”*

Chapter 11, Day 11

What is the most difficult “hindrance” in your life that you know you must overcome to move forward?

I’ll mention this again: Un-forgiveness WILL hold you back. Forgiveness and “restoration” **aren’t** the same. One thing has NOTHING to do with the other.

For instance, sometimes people destroy trust that can’t be rebuilt. But the act committed is forgivable. It DOES NOT mean you agree with the perpetrator.

I am compelled to mention this because so many people have a “fear issue” about forgiveness. They think if they exonerate, they must unite—not true. Relax, and pardon.

Don’t despair. I know it’s difficult. I’ve seen many dark places in my life also but keep the faith no matter what. You will have another “worse” in your life, and you’ll overcome that too.

Our lives are like mushrooms, they grow in an old, dark, stinky outhouse with lots of “junk” piled on top!

What fear do you need to face? **Tip:** Pray and fast, then tackle it.

NOTE: Fasting doesn’t have to be food, it could be giving up ANYTHING you really enjoy and rely on. Internet or TV would be a “sacrifice” for many! Some

people don't eat regular meals anyway, so that wouldn't be a "sacrifice."

Who do you need to
forgive? _____

What do you need to "take off" (literally or figuratively) and set aside to move on?

Who do you need to go to and state some facts or feelings?

Don't do this IF it will cause you more hurt, abuse, or bullying. If that's the case, just go to The Lord. He'll listen. Go to a counselor, PTSD professional, therapist, etc.

Remember if you're right, you have no reason to defend yourself, and if you're wrong, you have no reason to defend yourself. Sometimes, silence is the best policy when you're stating your wishes or decisions. Be prepared for ridicule.

Write down what others might throw at you IF YOU STATED _____.

_____ Now you're anticipating what will be retorted.

Do you have a Bully in your life? Pushing vs. leading? What's going on? Who can you go to? If you can confront them one on one, do that. If you've done that and they still won't listen take a witness.

How about a Sociopath? _____

Ugh, those are the worst. They are in every office, school, and church. They have no conscience about who they hurt, they are calculated and devious. I call them emotional arsonists. They love to start fires then stand back and watch them burn! They are very hard to discover and weed out. They love to divide people and lie about people's character. It takes time and patterns to catch them at work. Know one? They won't like it when you're onto them. They attach themselves to people who TRULY have integrity to justify to themselves that they are okay. IF they can't attach themselves to you, they try to destroy your reputation.

Look up: Isaiah 57:14, Hebrews 12:1, Philippians 3:14, Psalm 66:10-12, II Timothy 1:7, Matthew 18:16, Roman 8:5-8

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 12, Day 12

Are you afraid to be alone? _____ If yes, what are you afraid will happen? Worst case scenario?

Are you willing to work through loneliness and isolation to get to where you need to go? That's a tough one, I've been there.

What questions should you reconsider that someone has asked of you?

Do you ever respond in haste or anger and then regret? Of course, we all have! Rather than deny the feelings you have, as soon as you see it, own it. Take your part in a matter, but don't keep someone else's.

Give examples of the outcomes when you have responded in haste or anger.

I'll ask again. Are you angry with God? He can handle whatever you have to say. Can you turn your doubt into a question for Him? Write it down. Now wait for the answer. He is faithful. Be listening for the answer.

I have observed that many people who have an issue with God also have/had an issue with their earthly father or the lack thereof. If our examples were harsh, judgmental, abusive, absent, and cruel; OR your heart and mind were spoiled against them . . . then it's no wonder you have a problem with the

creator of the universe! He's sitting in heaven on this big white throne ready to cast you aside and mock at your pride. WRONG! It's totally the opposite. If you were abused by a "spiritual father" within the church, again, I'm so sorry. That reflects mankind. I'm praying you heal and give Abba a chance.

Look up: I Peter 5:7, Hebrews 13:6, Psalm 27:10, I Samuel 12:22, Roman 8:31-38, Matthew 7:7, Matthew 11:28

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 13, Day 13

Don't allow doubt to dominate you. Doubt is the opposite of faith. It leads to unbelief, and unbelief will rob you of your hopes and dreams. It's that wicked vine. Pull up that Kudzu at the roots.

What are you doubting?

What can you replace that negative belief system with?

Faith is a verb . . . it *moves* forward.

What hard—but right—decisions do you need to make?

Have you ever moved and then suddenly you find yourself moving again? Boy, I have. I have felt like a gypsy at times. But you won't ever get to Step B until you move to Step A. NOTHING is wasted.

Life is full of lessons to learn. What "classroom" would you have missed out on if you had stayed where you were?

Be willing to go where you've never been, to get to where you've never gone.

Look up: Proverbs 3:5-8, James 1:6, Matthew 21:21, Isaiah 41:10, Hebrews 11:1-40

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 14, Day 14

Comparing yourself to others leads to self-ridicule and confusion. Comparison piles up, and you begin to feel useless instead of useful and worthless versus worthy. This may lead you down a path of jealousy or envy.

When someone shuts you down and says they know best because _____, it can be demeaning, invalidating, and disrespectful. ALL people deserve a voice. ALL people need to come to knowledge and experience on their own.

Grey and silver hair on the head doesn't mean wisdom. Wisdom comes from spending time with God. Even children can distribute wisdom.

You may appear "cold" to others, but you can't allow others to control you. Often people use their emotions, desires, or even experience for what THEY

THINK is right for your life. Check with God first. We're supposed to be "following Him" *not them*.

A donkey in the Bible spoke to a very stubborn prophet. God can use whatever and whoever He wants to use. He's even used "storms" and a spider web to teach me important lessons.

What lessons have you learned by observing nature?

Has He ever used a "jack-ass" in your life? Maybe a wolf in sheep's clothing? A "Turkey" or "Snake?" Sometimes, those "animals" (people/characters) can teach us what NOT to be. That IS the lesson.

Think of something "natural" that taught you something "spiritual?"

Listen, He's speaking . . .

Who you are is not who you were, or who you will be. Can you give examples of how you've grown or overcome?

WARNING: Refuse to live in shame, regret, and sorrow. Particularly, if you

have asked for forgiveness. Our sin is against God and God only, and HE WILL forgive you and wants you to move on to higher ground! Don't beat yourself up—the world will do that (time to stop letting them.)

Only Fear Regret.

Don't live on *I always wanted to, but.*

I've learned the hard way, never respond to other people's tears meant only to get you to something (stay, marry, join, etc.). People will be sad over some of your decisions, they are just going to have to get over it. I don't think ALL tears are about manipulation or start out that way, but it can be that in some cases. You must weigh that situation. I have made many poor choices over other people's tears. Then guess what . . . I was the one crying in the end, and they could have cared less. Can you relate?

Tip: Look for a pattern. Ask yourself: Is this an incident or a lifestyle from this person?

Secondly, when someone calls you crying, don't be scared to give them 24 - 48 hours before you get back to them. Spare yourself drama and details. They will have a chance to calm down, go to The Lord (if Christian), or work it out themselves. It's setting healthy boundaries.

Your thoughts?

Have you ever had someone try to *project* all that could happen (in a bad sense - future) versus all that could be waiting (in a good sense)?

Most people are so busy living in the past or future, they miss the present! It's like trying to drive looking in the rear-view mirror for goodness sakes. Share an example of a time you did this.

We do have mental muscle. We ACT brave, we TAKE courage, we CONFRONT fear, we STAND for what's right, we PRACTICE what we learn, we are DOERS, *not just hearers*. It's like working out . . . just a different muscle. What would you like to do NOW, that you might not be able to do later if you don't EXERCISE and DEVOLOPE that skill? That desire? That Hope? That Talent?

You aren't a "worrywart," you simply have a sense of PURPOSE. You're driven to discover, to learn to be all you were created to be. So, go be it! Ask yourself, what drives you? What's your purpose and passion?

Look up: II Corinthians 10:12, Galatians 1:10, Galatians 6:4-5, James 3:16, I Timothy 4:12, Matthew 16:23, James 1:23

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 15, Day 15

You have heard the saying; "you can't see the forest for the trees?"

Sometimes, that holds true depending on the height at which you're standing. So, focus on where you are. If you can't see beyond where you are and you're not a visionary person, then focus on what you can see.

What can you see?

Don't lose your stamina, courage, or the pace at which you can fly because of what could be, should be, will be, or could happen.

Face the fear—One “talon” at a time.

What are you facing now?

Are you afraid? Of what?

What one thing do you need to focus on?

What CAN'T you see because you're moving through the forest right now?

Have you ever been labeled a rebel for doing something you felt convicted or led to do? Perhaps even situations you received confirmation on? Give

examples. _____

Perhaps not “a rebel” but something else? (Snob, stuck up, black sheep, loner, daredevil.) In hindsight, was it true or false? _____

Did it make you consider if what they were saying was true? Second guess yourself? What did that lead to?

There is always a bit of truth within a lie. So, what IS true and what’s the lie?

Birds of a Feather do flock together, water seeks its own level, and you can judge a man by the friends he keeps. Jesus was friends with sinners, the outcast, the average everyday “Joe.” However, He didn’t take their counsel, he gave direction, warning, and guidance. He turned water into wine but didn’t get drunk with people. He led versus followed.

Be the leader the world is looking for! There is lots of hurting people looking for direction. How can you be a leader, not a follower?

When you begin to move forward in your destiny, count on pushback, expect to be challenged, anticipate resistance, wait for questions or accusations. Jesus said to Peter, “Get behind me Satan!” Even He encountered it! You’re in good company.

I have made many decisions I wouldn't want to live over again. BUT, I say I can live with the decisions I make (or have made). I can't live with decisions others make for me. Do you have decisions you need to make?

Do you see a vision you need to take action on to make it a reality?

A man without a vision perishes.

Look up: Prov. 29:18, Philippians 4:11, II Timothy 1:7, Colossians 3:2, John 15:18, Matthew 16:23

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 16, Day 16

Few people just "arrive" at the top of the mountain without having to start at the bottom. People can even pay their way to get to the top. Most of us can't do that. But I always wonder how they handle "that position" not "paying" the price, not going through the mud, not being broken and rebuilt.

I have a saying; Brokenness is the forgotten factor of Prayer.

The novice (new believer) who jumps into the ministry too soon because they are self-appointed or man appointed versus God appointed can be dangerous to others. How sad.

There are great (lifesaving) benefits to cracking your own “shell” open, breaking out of your own cocoon, or climbing your own mountain!

What’s yours? A great time of growth in a great time of struggle?

Struggles build strength, honor, gratitude, empathy, sympathy, insight, and many other internal gems. What character quality do you have NOW that didn't exist before you ascended your "difficult mountain?"

What happen to you as you climbed “that mountain?” Slips? Falls? Stumbles? Broken wings or hearts? Starvation? Thirst? What were important lessons YOU discovered that came out of that “walk” in the forest, UP the mountain?

Do you struggle with unbelief despite what you know is undoubtably His hand that provided? Did you have to cling to fear to climb over the bridge?

Join the club, most of us do, or have. The enemy would love for you to think you’re alone. Isolation is key to taking over the lamb.

Think about who you met going up, coming down, or wondering around your own mountain. What influence did they have on your life? What lessons did you learn from them?

One thing I've learned about myself is I LOVE to build. I love to help others build their businesses, and I'm excellent at putting policies and procedures into place. I'm also a great hound dog and can figure out quickly who the troublemaker is in the office. I wish I had the time to start an undercover office agent business to help save businesses money from losing good employees.

Well, on with my Goldie speech . . . But why? Why do we keep getting ourselves stuck in the mud? Just because I love to build doesn't mean I'm a great C.O.O. (Chief Operating Officer) There is nothing wrong being an Indian versus a Chief. A Janitor versus a Receptionist. ***Stop competing and start completing each other!***

Don't forget YOUR mission.

Let's be busy about our Father's business. Follow Him. Not Them.

Look up: Psalm 37: 23-24, Psalm 23: 5-6, Proverbs 11:3, Isaiah 40:31, Psalm 56:13

What is YOUR "***Stone of Remembrance?***"

Chapter 17, Day 17

You're in good company if you have ever realized that the things you don't want to do, you do . . . and the things you do want to do, you don't. The Apostle Paul said that very thing. It's really a mind twister to read it, isn't it?!

Habits and hang-ups can be the "foxes that spoil the vine" keep-on-keeping-on. Turn and repent and get back on the path! God will always offer a way out, look for it! Do you have a habit or hang-up you need to give up?

The Lord gave me the "Highway of Life Directions" a long time ago for good reason. I got "lost" or distracted in the mountain of life. He knew it was going to be a long journey of developing for me that was filled with a forest of blunders and swinging ropes, crowded paths, and dead ends. I took a long time to mature (in my eyes) spiritually (from the bad choices I made), and I'm still sprouting daily.

Life is a "busy forest" with lots of dangers lurking, temptations, curves, and rocky roads. We will all encounter them (if we leave our homes and mingle at all). It's not important that you NOT meet them, what's important is how you respond when you do or upon realizing you've fallen.

Have you ever been on a path, doing well, and then BAM . . . something catches your attention and off the path you go? What was it, how did that happen? Please don't remain in shame or guilt. We are human, this is a training camp for a much longer journey—Eternity.

Where are you today?

I have often wished I could buy hindsight! However, I probably couldn't afford it, because it's truly priceless!

But then, that is one reason I'm an advocate for having mentors. If you accessed your hindsight, would you say you had a way out of most "bad choices?"

Even if it was a "check" in my heart, I can say I had a way out. Somehow, someway, I didn't listen or heed. What about you? Site examples and what you can learn from them to do different "next time."

I heard this grand story from a father recently about how his son became tired of listening to his advice (he was laughing) and met another gentleman that ended up mentoring him in business. It was a great story. When I repeated it to someone briefly he said, *oh no, he is a smart man, he doesn't need mentors.*

Huh?

Smart doesn't equal NOT needing mentors. Smart people seek mentors! They join roundtables and exchange lessons and ideas. They realize they DON'T know it all. They understand the value of hindsight and lessons learned.

I had a Pastor once that said he looked for those who had lots of failures to be God's chosen and most successful. Well, I'm raising my hand and thinking **WOW, I have a chance after all!**

Since then, I've had even more falls, even more mistakes, I've messed up so badly and gotten so far behind I'm not sure I'll ever "catch up." I've done so many wrong things, I should be disqualified altogether.

But God's Grace.

I pour myself a new cup of Mercy every day!
First thing in the morning before my feet hit the floor.

I need those Highway of Life Directions.
Now, let me find my glasses to review that . . .

People in the church aren't perfect, just forgiven. No matter how someone tries to act. Your tidy little dress or jacket and tie don't make you clean on the inside! You being an elder doesn't make you better than the widow who can't walk, or orphan who can't read, or the beggar that counts on others for food. Deacon only means servant. Are you the biggest servant in the church?
Community?

I had 3 former prostitutes live with me at different times. The lady's in the church were so glad they were with me because "I knew how to dress" (oh really, suddenly they approved?). They told me how wonderful it was I'd teach them . . . tell them their nails were too long, skirts were too short, and their shoes were too chunky versus "lady-like."

Really?
That never entered my mind!

They started to thank me for allowing them to share their ideas when I told them I was on my way to home depot for a red light and said, "Want one for your porch?"

I told my Pastor if those ladies didn't leave me alone about those girls I was buying a convertible and having a custom bumper sticker made that says, "You outta see me with my top down!"

He died laughing and said, “**You would!** I’m going to tell them to back off right now!”

One of those dear women sobbed while pouring her heart out to me saying she could never be forgiven. God couldn’t forgive her, she couldn’t forgive herself, her children wouldn’t forgive her—this went on and on *for hours*.

Then I said, “Hey! You’re an Entrepreneur!”

She said, “WHAT? @#.”

I said, “Yeah . . . at least you charged for it, most of the ladies just give it away!

Well, I shouldn’t point fingers at them . . . I know I have!”

Both of us rolled on the floor laughing.

She forgave herself and went onto marry a street minister.

She died clean, drug-free, and Christian while serving a meal to friends.

That would not have happened if I had harped on “how she should be.” I let God himself convict her in HIS timing, in His way . . . not mine. We need to get out of the way and let God be God to people.

He hasn’t hired any of us to be his *Holy* Personal Assistant. He’s got a full staff of heavenly hosts!

You’re wondering about the other two? One wanted to go back to the streets. It’s all she knew, and she missed all she identified with. She was killed one week later. I was so grieved, but we all have choices to make. The other stayed clean and off the streets and was restored to her children last I knew.

Now . . . what “bad choices” have you made that are “unforgiveable?” Do you really think Christ died for everything BUT YOUR ONE THING? Nah.

Look up: Romans 7:15, John 15:16, Song of Songs 2:15, John 15:1, I Corinthians 10:13

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

Chapter 18, Day 18

What are your strengths and weaknesses?

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

This is hard for most people to answer. I was always surprised in interviewing adults how many people don't know when asked. It always told me this was a person that didn't do much self-examination. Which could be a plus, because I've always been on the other end of the spectrum. Perhaps others don't think they have weaknesses or don't know how to define them.

Hint: I have found many of my own weaknesses are a negative reflection of my strengths.

For instance:

You might be a giver (strength), but give before asked, give too much, or are convinced you always must give. Perhaps you lean on enabling versus giving in an emotionally healthy manner.

You might be a natural “servant” (strength), but you volunteer so much and resent others for not taking part, or you're always volunteering for the next activity. Well, if they can count on you doing everything, why should they?

Maybe you're very considerate and thoughtful (strength) but to a fault. Don't let people take advantage of you. They can't do it if YOU don't let them. Not people, not the church (you aren't the only one who can serve), not family, friends, or co-workers. Take a seat sometimes and let others jump in to help. See WHO your fellowshipping. That might be interesting!

How can you work on something you aren't aware of?

Do you have “an eagle” in your life (AKA: mentor) that can teach you how to soar? _____

Encourage you to, be you? _____

To fly as high as God created you to? Are you willing to find one?

Who comes to mind?

Think back on a time when you KNOW you shouldn't have done something but because you did it anyway, you had a “bad” consequence play out. That was your discernment at work. That is the Holy Spirit taping on your shoulder saying, “don't do that, don't open that door, don't go down that road.”

Think about something recent that happened and you knew that you knew, but you didn't listen. It doesn't have to be a major life event or lifesaving situation. What will you do NEXT TIME you have that sense?

Don't wait for the train to run you over. Listen for the sound coming down the tracks LONG before it hits you. You don't want to be ON the tracks to confirm you were right. I want you to make it to the top of the mountain. To get there before the next 40 years (Moses), LISTEN. You were born to soar!

Look up: Philippians 2:12 (note salvation means deliverance—working on issues), Proverbs 27:17, II Timothy 2:2, Titus 2:3, Psalm 119:130, Proverbs 13:20

What is *YOUR* ***“Stone of Remembrance?”***

Chapter 19, Day 19 Reaching Your Destiny... It's a Journey!

Can you laugh about things that happened in the past?

Can you laugh at yourself or do you take yourself very seriously?

I have friends that have told me for years “Bekah, you laugh at stuff other people would cry about!”

My husband and I make “skits up” (not elaborate just funny things between us), and we laugh so hard we're crying. It's better than the Mollie-grubs. It's easier to forgive and move on, it puts things in perspective, and it's fun!

Throw your hands up in the air and speak out loud how many things you're thankful for! I always say, “I'm soooooooo grateful for this trial and tribulation! Woohoo! I'm trusted with this!”

Try it and move on. Don't waste your valuable time sulking or being mad. NO

ONE ever woke up in the morning, turned off their alarm, and said, "I will HATE today." MOST people start out unforgiving, then it leads to being frustrated, then mad, which will lead to bitterness, bitterness will lead to anger, and anger will lead to hate. Hate can lead to murder! Yep, I imagine that is why the Bible says, "*hate is as the sin of murder.*" Most people who murder are known to have anger and hate issues.

Don't let the sun go down on YOUR wrath.

Forgive . . .

God doesn't call the equipped, he equips the called! 1 Cor. 1:27-29

What do you need to leave in the past in order to focus on the future?

We can only work on ourselves, not others.
Give God a chance, he's given you many.

Build bridges, not walls!
That is . . . The ~~End~~ Beginning!

Look up: Genesis 1:27, Colossians 4:6, Hebrews 13:20-21, Philippians 3:12-14, Ephesians 4:26, Proverbs 4:20-27, John 3:16.

What is *YOUR "Stone of Remembrance?"*

I hope you see how long "Nissi" has been there for you even if you haven't recognized Him. He loves you, and His patience endures forever. His mercy is new every day!

May God's face shine upon you.

Let Him be the Author and Finisher of *your* story,
Rebekah