

Writing the Word

_____’s
guided journal to encourage a creative connection to the Word of God.

*For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction,
that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures
we might have hope.*

This journal is dedicated to my friend Courtney, who God continually uses to strengthen me,
encourage me, challenge me, and celebrate His goodness with me.

All Scriptures are in the ESV (English Standard Version).

Introduction

Hi! My name is Alison. I created this journal for myself. I knew I needed, and wanted, more of God’s word in my mind and heart. I wanted to be able to recall Scripture to encourage myself and to encourage others. I wanted to be able to lean into verses when I needed strength for a situation, and I also just wanted to spend more time with Jesus and fill my heart with my heavenly Father’s love for me. I do not remember things well, and the combination of a theme, the repetition of writing with a nice sharpened pencil, speaking the Truth out loud, thinking about and making a connection with individual words within the verse, the use of color & the freedom to write creatively, listening to the Holy Spirit, praying the verse over my life, are all things that help me to take a more permanent hold of God’s word. I by no means can recite all of these verses to you, but through the process I have learned much and spent time with my Savior.

If any, or all of this is helpful to you, join me in this journey. My prayer is that moving through this journal is inspired by the Holy Spirit. I pray that it is something you look forward to. It is not meant to replace your chapter reading or Bible study, but to add another layer of connection. Perhaps examine your day and carve 5- 10 minutes when you need to step away from the busyness of life and recenter yourself with Jesus. I hope that it is done at your own pace with grace, not out of a sense of obligation. Know that He loves you, whether you progress through this book day by day, once a week, as it catches your eye from its spot on your desk, or even if you put this on the shelf and forget about it.

You are outrageously loved, and your Heavenly Father loves spending time with you.

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Supplies Of course, these are all just suggestions!

Pen I love using a pen that smoothly glides on the paper...

Pencil & sharpener I also love writing with a good sharp pencil.

Fine tip markers or gel pens Spend a little time choosing a pack that has just the right shades that make you feel inspired or give you a sense of peace *If you choose markers, be aware they will bleed through. *Place a piece of cardstock under the page you are working on so the ink doesn't go through to the page underneath.*

Study Bible/Bible App For those moments you want to delve deeper or the Spirit leads you in another direction. I love the BlueLetterBible app.

White out or white label stickers If you need to cover up when your pen went wonky. *You can also turn those instances into a heart or leaf or flower and then just keep on writing!*

A candle A lit candle changes the atmosphere for me as I breathe deep to settle in and connect with, and receive from God's word.

Instructions

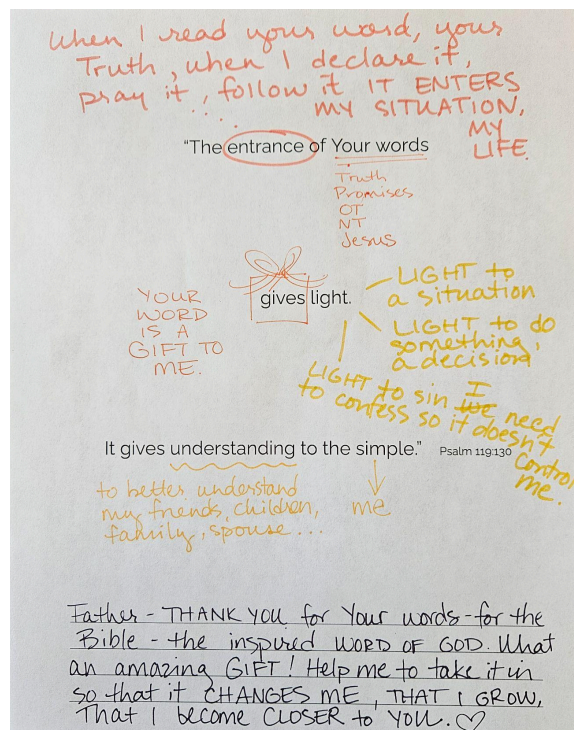
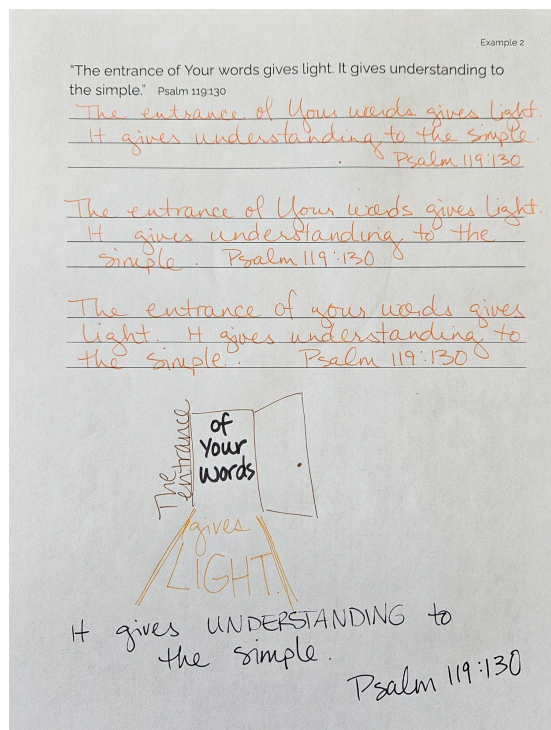
Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you as you engage in writing the Word of God.

Page 1

- Try reading the verse out loud, speaking the scripture into your life
- There is a place for you to write the verse three times.
 - You can write it the same way all three times, or mix it up! Print, cursive, all caps, some words in caps, make some words bold, underline some words, write in pencil, then in pen, write it in three different colors...
- There is a blank space to creatively write the verse
 - You might want to make some words bigger than others, some words tiny, some words in bubble letters, some words in bold, underlined, dots, small drawings...

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- The next section is a space for you to connect with individual words of the verse or sections of the verse.
 - Write what the word or section means to you, how it applies to a situation you are in or were in. You might want to look up the verse in an online tool such as The Blue Letter Bible to see a fuller meaning/translation of certain words from the Greek or see commentary on the verse...
- The last section is a space for written prayer.
 - You can turn the verse into a personal prayer, write whatever flows, continue this prayer off the page in your heart...



The Word

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1

"In the beginning was the Word,

and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God." John 1:1

“...Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation” 1 Peter 2:2

“...Like newborn infants,

long for the pure spiritual milk,

that by it you may grow up into salvation 1 Peter 2:2

“But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart,
so that you can do it.” Deuteronomy 30:14

“But the word is very near you.

It is in your mouth and in your heart,

so that you can do it.” Deuteronomy 30:14

"So shall My word be that goes out from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me empty," Isaiah 55:11a

““So shall My word be

that goes out from My mouth;

It shall not return to Me empty,” Isaiah 55:11a

“But it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
And it shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11b

“But it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

And it shall succeed in the thing

for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11b

"This God-His way *is* perfect. The word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him." Psalm 18:30

"This God- His way *is* perfect.

The word of the Lord proves true;

He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him."

Psalm 18:30

Christ in me

“...and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.” Colossians 2:10

“...and you have been filled in him,

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and authority.” Colossians 2:10

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

“There is therefore now no condemnation

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"For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:2

“For the law of the Spirit of life

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from the law of sin and death.” Romans 8:2

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,

he is a new creation;

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“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

“For we are His workmanship,

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that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10.
