

alive
magazine
December '20

THE

WONDER

OF HIS LOVE



Support

ALIVE TO GOD IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU!

AND OTHER GENEROUS READERS SUCH AS YOURSELF

BANKING DETAILS

Account Name: Alive to God

Bank: Standard Bank

Account Number: 411338196

(Cheque/transmission)

Branch: Menlyn

Reference: Your email address

DEBIT ORDERS

You can give regularly by means of a debit order. If you would like to make use of this option, please email us at andrew@alivetogod.com



www.AliveToGod.com/donate-support



<https://paypal.com/webapps/mpp/send-money-online>

CONTENTS

+ *featured articles*

4 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART?

- GotQuestions.org –

6 THE WONDER OF HIS LOVE

- Andrew Roebert –

10 TO BUSY TO BE KIND?

- MarriageMissions.com –

12 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO NOT BE WISE IN YOUR OWN EYES?

- GotQuestions.org –

14 HOPE – THE KEY TO LIFE!

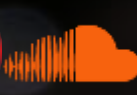
- Andrew Roebert –

16 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CAST ALL YOUR CARES ON HIM?

- GotQuestions.org –

18 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO WAIT ON THE LORD?

- GotQuestions.org –





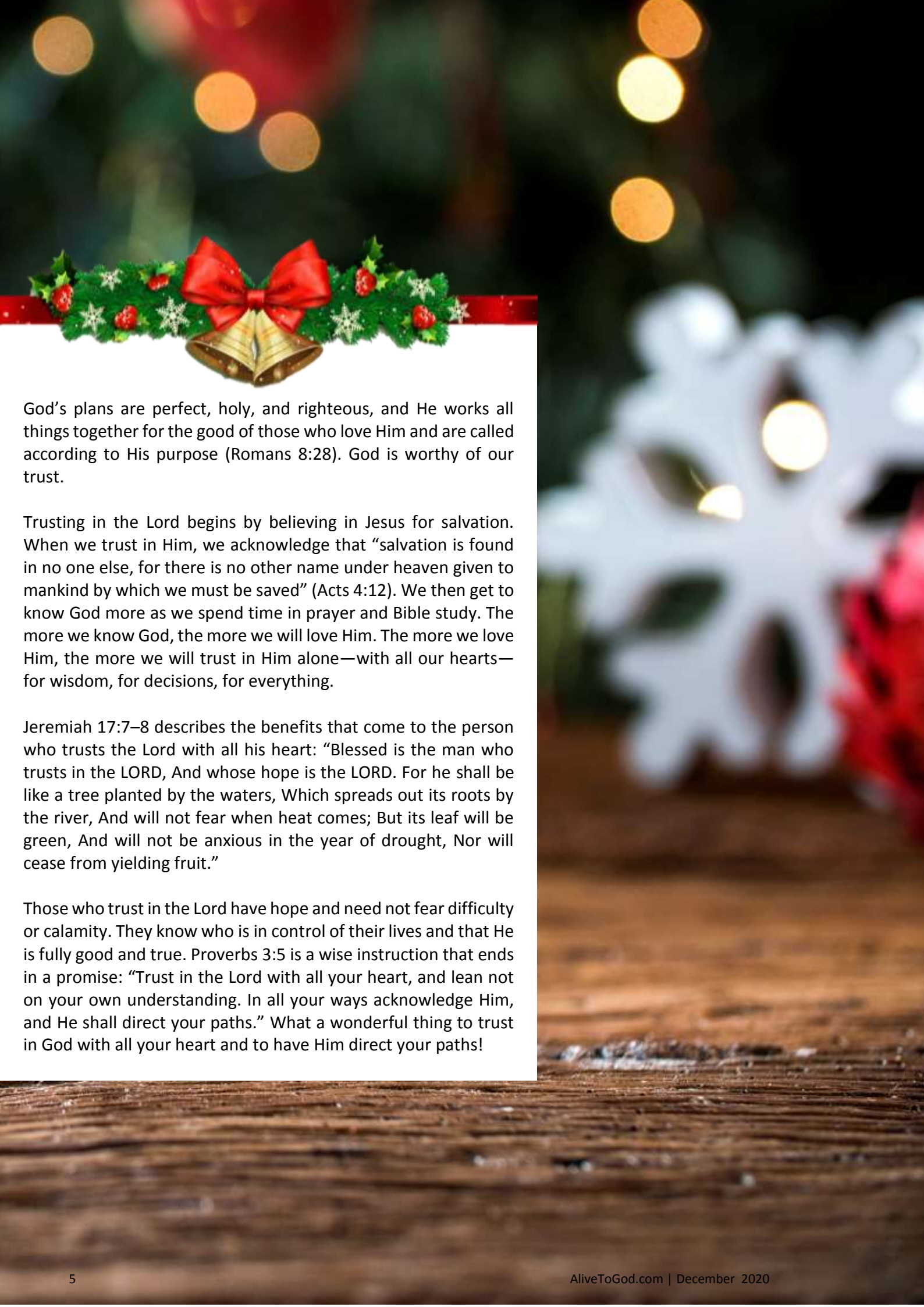
What does it mean to trust in the Lord with all your heart?

By: GotQuestions.org

Proverbs 3:5 imparts wisdom to its readers: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.” There is a big difference between trusting in the Lord and trusting other persons or things. Our trust is not in angels or people or rituals or methodologies but in the Lord alone. And, as the writer of the proverb points out, our trust is not in our own understanding.

To trust in the Lord with all our heart, we must wholly rely upon God’s promises, wisdom, power, and love to help us in every circumstance. Human understanding is subject to error. God, on the other hand, sees and understands all. He is the One we can lean on and trust. We should trust the Lord with all our heart because human understanding is tainted by sin, limited wisdom, impulsive assumptions, and faulty emotions. We are not always right. Proverbs 14:12 reminds us of this: “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (emphasis added). Sin taints our understanding and leads us to destruction (Ephesians 4:17–18). “Our knowledge is partial and incomplete” (1 Corinthians 13:9, NLT). Should we base our understanding on what is partial, sinful, or destructive? Or should we trust in the God who is all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise, loving, and has good plans to guide, satisfy, and establish us (see Isaiah 58:11)?

God does not change (Malachi 3:6), and His decisions are never capricious or evil. Psalm 92:15 tells us, “The LORD is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.” God is not evil and will not lead us to destruction. Instead, He leads us into paths of righteousness (Psalm 23:3). He never lies (Numbers 23:19; Hebrews 6:18), and He is faithful to keep His promises (Psalm 89:34).



God's plans are perfect, holy, and righteous, and He works all things together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28). God is worthy of our trust.

Trusting in the Lord begins by believing in Jesus for salvation. When we trust in Him, we acknowledge that "salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). We then get to know God more as we spend time in prayer and Bible study. The more we know God, the more we will love Him. The more we love Him, the more we will trust in Him alone—with all our hearts—for wisdom, for decisions, for everything.

Jeremiah 17:7–8 describes the benefits that come to the person who trusts the Lord with all his heart: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit."

Those who trust in the Lord have hope and need not fear difficulty or calamity. They know who is in control of their lives and that He is fully good and true. Proverbs 3:5 is a wise instruction that ends in a promise: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." What a wonderful thing to trust in God with all your heart and to have Him direct your paths!

The WONDER Of His Love

By: Andrew Roebert

This is the time of the year when we remember and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is truly the most wonderful time of the year. For a brief moment, we can put the year behind us and look forward to the hope we have in the Lord. When He came, as a child to Bethlehem, He came so that you and I could experience the wonders of God's love towards humanity and towards you as an individual. The Christmas story is a story of salvation, and how God's love came to rescue, save, and deliver all of mankind. One of the very first aspects of the Christmas story was when the angel came to Mary and told her about what was about to happen. If we look at the life of Mary we can see how she moved from a place of doubt, to a place of complete confidence in God. It is a picture of salvation for each one of us. May the wonders of His love, move you from a place of doubt and fear, to a place where you can believe in God and His great mercy towards you.

DOUBT - THE ULTIMATE HINDERANCE!

In the book of Acts chapter 1, we see the story of how the angel came and visited Mary and told her about the great things that were about to happen.

Luke 1:28-33 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; His kingdom will never end."

Just having an angelic being visit must have been an awesome experience, but then to be told that you were chosen and that these great things would happen through you, a young girl, must have been daunting. Mary's initial reaction was so typical of all of humanity. Firstly, she was troubled, confused, disturbed and fearful. In the same breath, when we hear about the wonders of His love for us, as individuals, and His gift of salvation and eternal life, we too can have questions, concerns, hesitations and even fears. Then Mary appears to move into the arena of doubt.

Luke 1:34 Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

She begins to realise that this cannot happen, and she questions the angel and gives him reason for her position. The angel graciously confirmed how things would happen and addressed Mary's doubts. Doubt has the potential of undermining our faith and robbing us of the potential blessing that God has prepared for us.





Doubt is the start of a downward spiral. Doubt causes us to shift our focus from what is promised and it is the first step towards fear. Fear has a way of paralysing us and it stops us from experiencing all that God has prepared for us. We can doubt, but only for a moment and then we must move in the direction of believing. We should doubt out doubts and believe.

FROM DOUBT TO ACCEPTANCE

The next thing we see is how Mary moves past her doubts, misgivings, and fears, and accepts what God is telling her through the angel.

Luke 1:38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Mary moved from doubt to acceptance. The result was that the angel, who was constantly trying to reassure her, had completed his task, and he left her. Her answer reveals to us the shift that was taking place in this young girl's heart. Perhaps, she was not persuaded yet, but she knew enough about God to give Him the benefit of the doubt. She did not fully understand, she was not fully convinced, but she chose to make a declaration of intent. In the process she aligned her heart with what she hoped could be a reality. In our own walk of faith, we have to also get to this point, where we move past doubt and then align our hearts with the promises of God, and His love and plans for our lives. It was, in fact, an act of surrender to the will of God, despite the lack of persuasion in her own heart. Perhaps you have lived your life in the 'doorway of doubt'? It is now time to move past this point to the point where you place your confidence in God, regardless of how you feel or perceive things to be! It is a vital step in the process of moving from doubt to believing.

FROM ACCEPTANCE TO CONVICTION

Luke 1:39-43 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

Now Mary meets up with her cousin, Elizabeth and it would be a significant meeting, where something supernatural would take place. Elizabeth reacts in a very strange way, as her unborn child jumps in her womb and she is filled with the Holy Spirit. In one moment, this unlikely person, Elizabeth, a relative, sees in Mary what she cannot as yet see in herself.



Elizabeth and her unborn child are physically affected by Mary's presence. This strange experience flicked the switch in Mary's heart, and she moved from acceptance to conviction. It was as if Elizabeth's reaction was the confirmation and validation that her faith needed to be able to fully embrace God's wonderful plan for her. Sometimes other people can see more clearly what is taking place in our lives than what we can see for ourselves. God can use anything and anyone to come and reaffirm things in our hearts, so that we can move from acceptance to conviction. When we are convicted about something, we have a strong persuasion, and we are convinced that something is true. The Lord wants the 'wonders of His love' towards you to become something that you are persuaded about, something you are convinced is true. Maybe today, as you read these notes, the penny can drop, and you can realise fully and believe that God loves you and has a plan for you and wants you to receive His gift of salvation and eternal life? My prayer is that you will know 'the wonders of His love' for you, as a settled matter, that your season of doubt or tacit acceptance will end and you will move into the reality of His love for you.

- May you be convinced and convicted of the wonders of His love for you.

FROM CONVICTION TO BELIEVING

Mary has now made a complete turnaround. She has moved from doubt and fear to acceptance, from acceptance she has move to a place of conviction and now she moves to a place of believing. It is almost as if it comes as a relief and a release, as she steps over into another realm, the realm of believing. Elizabeth says these words to Mary: "Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil His promises to her!" Perhaps Elizabeth could see the shift taking place in her cousin, Mary? Perhaps the revelation and the reality had suddenly dawned on Mary and it showed? Once she got to this place of believing, everything changed. Her demeanor changed, her attitude changed, and I believe even her countenance changed and she starts worshipping God.

Luke 1:46-47 And Mary said (responded), 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.'

In some translations it says that Mary began to sing, and this song is called the Magnificat. Magnificat is a Latin word which means: 'An utterance of praise!' or 'to magnify!' So, Mary suddenly sees things as they really are. She has moved from the: 'How will this happen?' to bursting into song because she believes and realises just how great God is.

Luke 1:46-47 And Mary sang this song: "My soul is ecstatic, overflowing with praises to God! My spirit bursts with joy over my life-giving God!" (TPT)

In that very moment, her soul and her spirit recognised her Lord and her God. This believing came from deep within her soul and her spirit and it was not simply a mental decision. It was far more than that, it was believing, in the fullest sense of the word. When we receive what God has done for us, and the wonders of His love in sending Jesus to be our Saviour, and when we believe it for ourselves, we will jump for joy and sing with hearts that are filled with hope. This Christmas, may you go from doubt to believing and may your faith in God, lift you up and flood your heart and soul with LIGHT!

To

B u s y t o b e

By: MarriageMissions.com

Kind?

“If you’re too busy to be kind, you’re too busy.” It’s a simple statement, profound in its truth.

And even though the one Christmas song says, “Tis the season to be jolly...” If you look into the eyes of many around you, there isn’t a whole lot of “jolly” going around —tired and frantic is more like it. More appropriate words would be, “Tis the season to be busy...”

But, “if you’re too busy to be kind, you’re too busy!” Keep in mind that Jesus Christ is our Prince of Peace. That’s why He came to earth in the first place, to lead the way so we can be reconciled to God and participate with Him in bringing peace upon this earth. We can’t change everyone’s approach to life on this earth, but we can change ours.

If we spend our time rushing around to the point that we can’t even be kind to those within our own home, what in the “world” are we doing? Are we doing things God’s way or the way of this world?

Martha Syndrome

That’s the message God revealed to me a number of years ago. What’s more important? Is it the people I love, or what I think I need to get done? If I’m too busy to be kind, I’m too busy. If I forget that, it’s time for a priority check and re-evaluation of what truly “needs” to get done. I have to beware of The Martha Syndrome. (And the same is true for you.)

“What blessed primordial gene is it that enables women to do six things at once while keeping a lookout for the saber-tooth tiger lurking somewhere down the path? We are the world’s great organizers and doers. Yet sometimes this capability runs rampant. When it does, it runs our life—literally. Marriage can kick the gene into high gear. We need to monitor ourselves carefully; resisting the urge to take care of too many things at once.” (Toni Sciarra Poynter, from the book, “From This Day Forward”)





Are You Too Busy to Be Kind?

In all of your busyness, beware! Here's something else that author Connie Grigsby wrote that is important to keep in mind, as well:

"The primary influencer of how kids see dad is mom! The way she views her husband, and the manner in which she treats him, is very often mirrored by her children. A woman is counted wise if she carefully builds her house and this includes her husband's reputation. However, she's counted a fool if she tears it down with her own hands." See: Proverbs 14:1.

The same is true with a husband in the way he treats his wife. If, as a husband, you show your wife unkindness and disrespect and allow the children to do the same, what message are you conveying? If you claim to be a follower of Christ, what are you doing to your bride, His Bride, His daughter?

Beware of putting, "some short-term thing with no long-term significance ahead of the woman you promised to love, honor, and cherish." That's the challenge before you. (You can read more in Paul Byerly's article, *The Tyranny of the Moment*.)

So, in the busyness of this season and throughout the year, check your attitude and your actions. Lori Byerly, Paul's wife and key author of the blog, *The-generous-wife.com*, gives the following challenge to keep in mind and follow through in word and deed.

She wrote:

"How is your 'holiday attitude'? If you're stressed and cranky, ask yourself what you can do to make your day better (simplify, reschedule, let it go, delegate). Take a few deep breaths, put on some worship music, or have a little chat with God. Then relax your shoulders and put a smile on your face."

And then remember, "A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances. But he/she is rather a person with a certain set of attitudes." (Hugh Downs)

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!" (Philippians 2:5-8)

What does it mean to **NOT BE WISE** in your own eyes?

By: GotQuestions.org



In Proverbs 3, Solomon exhorts his son to trust in the Lord wholeheartedly. In verse 5 Solomon gives counsel regarding trusting the Lord instead of one's own understanding, and in verse 7 he says, "Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil" (NKJV). Those who are wise in their own eyes do not fear or trust the Lord. Instead, they think all they need is found within themselves.

To be wise in your own eyes means you think your understanding is best. You have it all figured out. You do not listen to advice, and you tend to live by the saying "it's my way or the highway." To be wise in your own eyes is to be, in your own estimation, self-reliant and self-sufficient, refusing even God's help. It is a sign of pride, which Proverbs 16:18 warns goes before destruction. It is only a matter of time before the prideful person who is wise in his own eyes experiences destruction or falls into God's judgment. The Bible calls a person who is wise in his own eyes a fool (Proverbs 12:15; Romans 1:22)—a big reason to not be wise in your own eyes.

Great sorrow awaits the one who is wise in his own eyes (Isaiah 5:21). The warning to not be wise in our own eyes is for our own benefit. The story of King Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 4 illustrates the folly of considering oneself full of wisdom and glory. King Nebuchadnezzar boasted of his mighty power and thought it was by his own wisdom and strength that he had built Babylon (verses 29–30).



While the boast was still in his mouth, Nebuchadnezzar lost his senses, was driven away from society, and ate grass like an ox, just like God said would happen (verses 31–33). Nebuchadnezzar remained in that state until he acknowledged “that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes” (verse 25). Nebuchadnezzar learned a powerful lesson. After his sanity returned, the king proclaimed, “Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble” (verse 37).

It is wise to heed Scripture’s warnings: “Do you see a person wise in their own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for them” (Proverbs 26:12). Yet there is great hope for the one who returns to the Lord (Zechariah 9:12). We need to see ourselves as we are. This requires humility, which requires that we realize we are not God and recognize that everything we have is from God (1 Corinthians 4:7). We know that we are not wise in and of ourselves, and we trust in the One who actually is.

God gives wisdom through His Word and through His discipline. “Do not be wise in your own eyes” is not just a rule of etiquette or a personal improvement tip; it is a principle of godliness designed for our good. To those who are not wise in their own eyes and who choose to fear the Lord, there is a promise: “This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones” (Proverbs 3:8).

HOPE

- THE KEY TO LIFE!

By: Andrew Roebert

*Hope is the thing with feathers That perches in the
soul, And sings the tune without the words, And
never stops at all.*

- Emily Dickinson

LIFE WITH HOPE

Hope is an essential ingredient of life. If we have hope we can face anything that life can throw at us. If we have hope we can take on the challenges and overcome. Hope is what gets you up in the morning. Definition: a desire with anticipation or to desire with expectation of obtainment or to expect with confidence. Life with hope can be a life of expectation, anticipation and 'looking forward' to a good future, regardless of the circumstances right now.

LIFE WITHOUT HOPE

On the other hand life without hope is completely different. Life without hope is hopeless. Definition of hopeless: having no expectation of good or success. When we lose hope we lose the strength for life. We no longer have the strength to get up in the morning. We do not have the strength to face tomorrow. Everything becomes a challenge and even small tasks call for a great degree of effort. We have experienced this first hand. I have seen the ravages of despair, hopelessness and depression. I have seen hope turn to hopelessness, hopelessness turn to despair, despair turn to depression and depression turn to destruction. The medical fraternity predicts that depression will be a dominant disease in the world. Not HIV, cancer or heart-disease, but depression. The world is staring down an epidemic of depression and I believe it starts when hope is lost.

GOD'S DESIRE FOR US

God wants each of us to live with hope in our hearts. God makes fresh hope available to each of us. As this divine hope becomes a reality to us, we can in turn become a source of hope to others. Those who are battling with a loss of hope need to be helped by those who are full of hope. If we are connected to the source of hope, God, then we can become a source of hope to those around us. We can play a role in restoring the hope of others.

GOD IS A GOD OF HOPE

There is a connection between faith and hope. Mere hope is just an expectation for the best, but faith on the other hand is a belief that God will come through for us and as a result we trust Him.

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.

A. GOD IS THE GOD OF ALL HOPE!

He is the source of hope. We need to stay connected to the source of hope. I believe that each one of us is born with a degree of God-given hope. But for that hope to be sustained we need to be connected to the eternal, limitless source of hope - GOD HIMSELF!

B. GOD WANTS TO FILL YOU WITH HOPE!

God wants to come right now and fill you with hope, joy and peace. It is almost as if that is exactly what we need: hope, joy and peace. Let Him fill you right now. The glass must not be 'half-full' or 'half-empty' - it must be consistently full! God has an endless supply of hope that you and I need to tap into.

C. IT HAPPENS AS WE TRUST HIM!

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.

When we stop trusting God and we begin to doubt and question, hopelessness begins to invade our hearts and minds. So the key to staying connected to the source of hope (God) is to keep on trusting Him. You may say: 'But you don't know what I have been through!' and you are right, but God does and as you trust Him you can begin to expect that He will fill you with hope again. I would like to encourage you to start trusting God all over again!

BE A SOURCE OF HOPE TO OTHERS!

If you and I can be 'full of hope' then we can be a source of hope to others. You can only give what you have got. If you have got hope - give it to others. This overflow of hope can touch others lives and bring them to a place of wholeness and hope. We need to make sure that hope is alive and well within our own hearts. Each of us is called to be a person of hope, bringing hope to those around us. How?

ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER.

BE KIND.

BE FLEXIBLE!

CARRY THE LOAD FOR EACH OTHER.

BE PATIENT.

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER.

LIGHT IN DARKNESS

When we become a source of hope and a people of hope for others, light penetrates the darkness and brings hope.

Isaiah 58:10 Help those in trouble! Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you shall be as bright as day.

But it is far more than just this. When we become a source of hope to others, our own darkness begins to disappear. In other words, we will have hope within us as we begin to give hope to others.

1 John 2:8 As we obey this commandment, to love one another, the darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO

Cast all your cares

ON HIM?

By: GotQuestion.org

First Peter 5:7, speaking to the humble child of God, relates a wonderful truth: "Casting all your cares on him, because he cares about you" (CSB). This completes a thought begun in the previous verses: "All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, 'God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.' Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time" (1 Peter 5:5–6). We are commanded to humble ourselves in light of who God is. He is God, and we are not. And we trust that God will take care of us. Part of humbling ourselves includes "casting all your cares upon Him."

Humans often overestimate their ability and underestimate their inability. Yet the humble recognize that they are not God. God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and able to handle all our cares. As a humble person, you can cast all your cares on Him because you know He cares for you. To "cast" literally means to "throw." It is from the same Greek word used to describe how the people threw their coats on the colt before Jesus rode it into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (Luke 19:35). We should not hold onto our cares. Instead, we should throw them to our Father God who cares for us. He has big shoulders; He can handle our burdens.

Cares refer to worries, difficulties and needs of this world, and anxieties. The NLT says to "give all your worries and cares to God," and the NIV says to "cast all your anxiety on him." Everything that worries us or weighs us down is to be given to the God who cares so deeply for us. These verses do not promise that God will fix or remove our concerns. Instead, the assurance is in knowing that He cares for us, which is why we can cast our cares on Him. God is trustworthy to handle our cares in the best way. Romans 8:28 tells us that God works all things for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. We trust that God is able and willing to deal with our cares.



Jesus also invited people to cast their cares on Him: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28–30). Jesus calls us to come to Him and cast our cares or burdens on Him. When we do, the promise is that we will find rest for our souls. The assurance is based on who He is. We can come to Him with any of our concerns in prayer, and, while the burden may still exist, our souls will find rest as we trust in Him to help us carry it and to sustain us through the trial.

Peter’s exhortation to humble ourselves and to cast all our cares on the Lord is a command, not a suggestion. We are commanded to trust in the Lord and not in ourselves (Proverbs 3:5) and to be anxious for nothing (Philippians 4:6). God does not want us to be weighed down by the difficulties and worries of this life. Instead, He cares for us and promises rest for all who come to Him. If you trust that God is in control and able to handle your concerns, cast all your cares on Him, regularly giving Him your concerns in prayer and living in the rest He gives.

What does it mean to wait on the Lord?

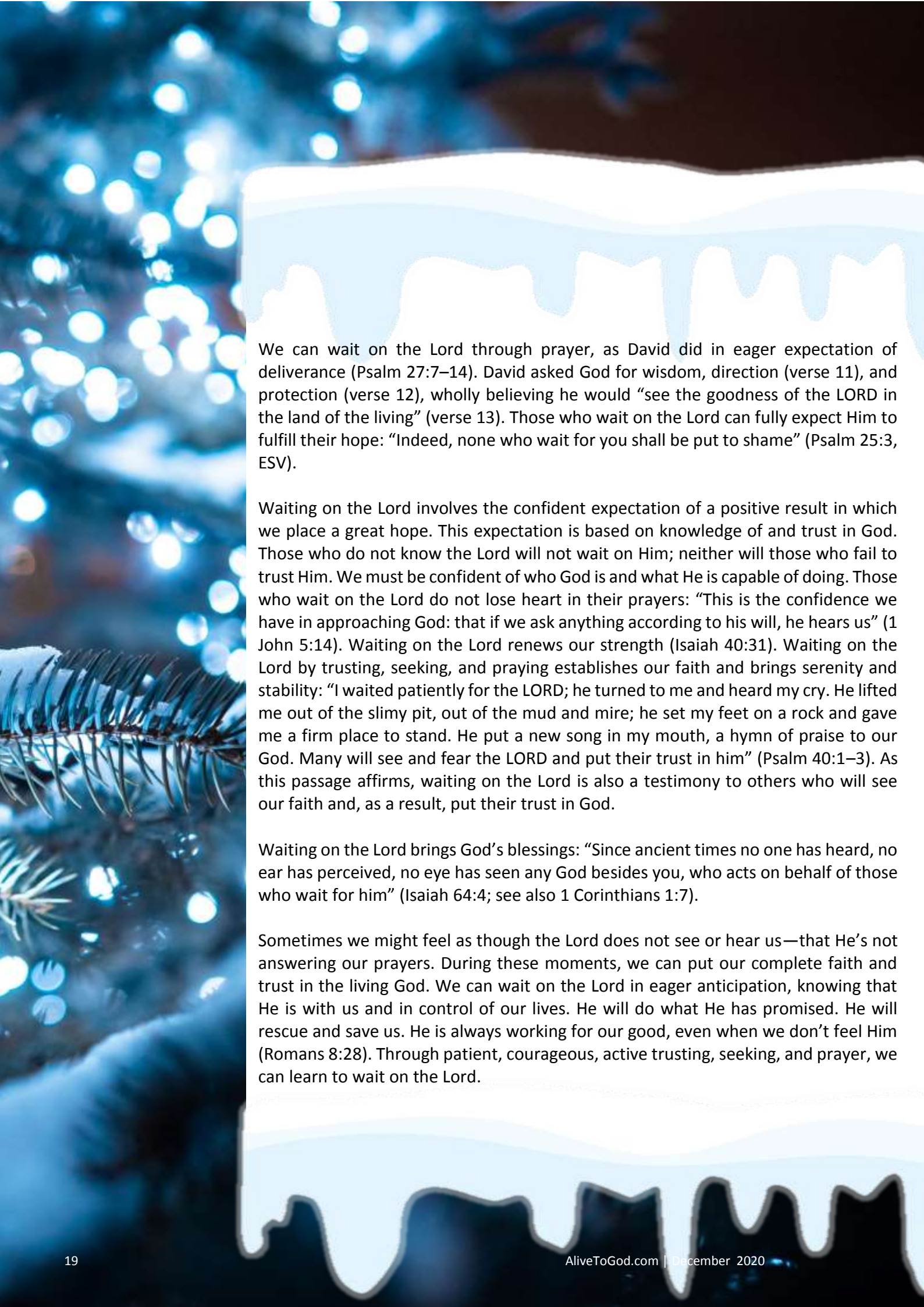
By: GotQuestion.org

In the Psalms, Proverbs, and many other books of the Bible, we find commands to wait on the Lord like this one: “Wait on the LORD: Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: Wait, I say, on the LORD” (Psalm 27:14, KJV). Most modern translations use “wait for the Lord.” To English readers, the idea of waiting on the Lord might seem like a passive exercise, but a closer study reveals that it’s nothing of the sort.

Patient, confident trust in the Lord is the central idea of the exhortation to wait on the Lord. The entire Psalm 27 is a prayer to God for help. It beautifully illustrates the meaning of waiting on the Lord. Throughout the psalm’s eloquent lines, David expresses authentic faith and courageous trust in God, based on his confident expectation that the Lord will rescue and save him in his time of trouble.

First, we see that we can wait on the Lord by trusting in Him. David expressed great confidence in the Lord, who was his light, salvation, and stronghold (Psalm 27:1–2). This kind of dynamic trust dispels fear and despair: “When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident” (verses 2–3).

We can wait on the Lord by seeking Him. David conveyed his trust in the Lord by longing to be with Him, to commune in God’s presence and worship in His temple: “One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple” (Psalm 27:4). In God’s dwelling place, praising and worshiping the Lord, David felt safe and secure: “For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD” (verses 5–6).



We can wait on the Lord through prayer, as David did in eager expectation of deliverance (Psalm 27:7–14). David asked God for wisdom, direction (verse 11), and protection (verse 12), wholly believing he would “see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living” (verse 13). Those who wait on the Lord can fully expect Him to fulfill their hope: “Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame” (Psalm 25:3, ESV).

Waiting on the Lord involves the confident expectation of a positive result in which we place a great hope. This expectation is based on knowledge of and trust in God. Those who do not know the Lord will not wait on Him; neither will those who fail to trust Him. We must be confident of who God is and what He is capable of doing. Those who wait on the Lord do not lose heart in their prayers: “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us” (1 John 5:14). Waiting on the Lord renews our strength (Isaiah 40:31). Waiting on the Lord by trusting, seeking, and praying establishes our faith and brings serenity and stability: “I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him” (Psalm 40:1–3). As this passage affirms, waiting on the Lord is also a testimony to others who will see our faith and, as a result, put their trust in God.

Waiting on the Lord brings God’s blessings: “Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him” (Isaiah 64:4; see also 1 Corinthians 1:7).

Sometimes we might feel as though the Lord does not see or hear us—that He’s not answering our prayers. During these moments, we can put our complete faith and trust in the living God. We can wait on the Lord in eager anticipation, knowing that He is with us and in control of our lives. He will do what He has promised. He will rescue and save us. He is always working for our good, even when we don’t feel Him (Romans 8:28). Through patient, courageous, active trusting, seeking, and prayer, we can learn to wait on the Lord.

Timeless Christian Resources



RoebertMinistries.co.za



ON AIR
IMPACT

103FM

**CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY
RADIO STATION**

LISTEN LIVE
IMPACTRADIO.CO.ZA

ADDICTION?

THIS LIFE MINISTRY CAN HELP

Contact us for ministry in discipleship, Christian healing and deliverance from addiction

ThisLifeMinistry.co.za | healing@thislifeministry.co.za

062 432 5464 | Pretoria, South Africa

Trevor & Violet

MIDWEEK SPECIAL

**Santorini in
Ballito**

FRONT ROW, GROUND FLOOR

SLEEPS 6, 2 BATHROOMS

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY

@R1070 PER NIGHT

GET THURSDAY NIGHT FREE!

AKROTIRI.CO.ZA

AKROTIRI19@AKROTIRI.CO.ZA

Igoda Mouth Resort

**AFFORDABLE SELF-CATERING FAMILY
HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION IN EAST LONDON**



IgodaMouthResort.co.za

+27 43 736 7017

FREE DAILY BIBLE VERSE



AliveToGod.com