

DISHA ZAMAN

Digital Devotionals Portfolio

Featured Content:

Originally Authored Digital Devotionals

Produced For:

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This collection displays original narrative-driven digital devotionals that offer relatability and spiritual encouragement for women. They focus on spiritual disciplines and practical applications to bridge the gap between theology and everyday living.

Devotional Selection 1: The Call to Rest in Trials

Scripture Focus: James 1:2-3, Psalm 46:10

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As we move away from the scorching heat of summer and into the cool breezes of fall, we can take a moment to reflect. Almost as if the heat dissipating allows our brains to stop running and rejoice in the fresh air, encouraging us to simmer down. Settling into the new season gives us a moment to process and evaluate how we've responded to this year's trials. The book of James inspires us to "consider it all joy" (James 1:2), no matter what trial we face, because we know that "the testing of our faith produces endurance" (v. 3). As we walk through various challenges, we learn their purpose in our lives.

Our never-ending to-do lists often cause us to miss God's presence in ordinary moments. Those moments may hold the key to rising above our circumstances. Many of us view slowing down and recalibrating our approach as a loss of fervency or productivity. However, Jesus Christ says otherwise. He frequently reminds us to rest in his presence and "stop striving and know that He is God" (Psalm 46:10). What Jesus can accomplish while we rest in him outweighs what we can ever accomplish on our own. In this repose, He renews our strength and shifts our perspective. Jesus replaces our lens of frustration and weariness with a lens of gratitude and spiritual purpose.

Sisters, seize this opportunity to start anew! Return to your foundation in Jesus and approach your time with him intentionally. Remember, today does not have to look the same as yesterday. As we spend time in his presence, many devotionals point us to Samuel's words when the Lord called to him in the night: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:9-10). This simple statement opens the door for Jesus to move freely, embodying a gentleman and valuing an authentic relationship with us.

As you listen, he will quiet your heart and guide your focus. In every area of our lives, He must increase, but we must decrease (John 3:30) as our desires transform into his. With time and consistent obedience, we align with his will, just as in Matthew 6:10, asking that his will on earth be done as in heaven. By agreeing, we step out of the way and allow Jesus to accomplish his kingdom agenda through us.

Ignoring a call to rest serves as a great example of us operating like obstacles against Jesus's kingdom agenda, a mark of disobedience. We may believe we diligently attempt to accomplish the work set before us. However, in truth, we may illustrate self-sabotage by not receiving the rest Jesus instructs us to receive. No matter how utterly difficult rest seems during trials, we must yield to Jesus in all our ways for his greater glory.

Devotional Selection 1: The Art of Reflection

Scripture Focus: Isaiah 43:19, Proverbs 19:21, and Jeremiah 33:3

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One of my most treasured childhood memories is opening a brand-new box of vibrant crayons. Their waxy scent fills the air as they lie sharp and ready to use. Imagine Jesus's passions and desires for us as shades of red, yellow, and blue crayons, with the new year as a blank canvas awaiting our creativity. Stepping into "something new" (Isaiah 43:19) in the new year calls us to become the spiritually refined versions of ourselves Jesus envisions. He hasn't finished with us yet and still desires to color through us.

To embrace the "new," we need to spend intentional time with Jesus in the secret place. There, He will work within our hearts, preparing us to be open to His plans for the new year. He wants to provide each of us with guidance and specific instructions for each step ahead. To start, let's reflect on the previous year. Examine the events that occurred and consider how they reveal which roadblocks to avoid in the new year.

Next, write down the revelations Jesus brings to your mind during reflection. Analyze every aspect—the good, the bad, and the challenging parts of the previous year. Investigating now prepares you for success in the coming months with realistic expectations. Ask Jesus to reveal His plans for you, then begin outlining a course of action for the new year. Remember the key points Jesus helped you identify during your reflection.

Lastly, write a prayer inviting Jesus to help you remain flexible to His movements throughout the year—especially when things don't go as planned. While praying, ask Him to shape His desires within you. Remember, "many plans are in a man's heart, but the counsel of the Lord will stand" (Proverbs 19:21). In other words, Jesus encourages us to plan, but His purpose ultimately prevails.

So, take this time to seek Jesus's heart and pursue His presence. Call out to Him and trust that He will "answer you" (Jeremiah 33:3). Expect Him to "tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3). Dedicate time to Jesus at the start of the year and watch Him move powerfully in your life throughout the new year!