GOING DEEPER (QUESTIONS FOR SMALL GROUPS OR BIBLE STUDIES)

THIS GOING DEEPER BONUS is a practical way for you to go deeper with the content of the book—either on your own or in a small group, book club, or Bible study setting. You will also be able to dwell more in some of the Scriptures mentioned. And you'll find questions and journaling prompts to help you apply the truths taught in the book to your own life.

INTRODUCTION AND CHAPTER 1: COURAGE, DEAR HEART

1. What area in your life do you need someone to speak "Courage, Dear Heart" over you?

2. How does the truth that God is the bigger Lion with the louder roar over the enemy give you courage for the battle you are facing?

3. Read 1 Peter 5:7–11. How does the quote from Mark Bubeck's book, "Satan roars to make us afraid and thus more vulnerable, but our purchased right is courage to resist him" bring hope to you?

4. How has Jesus proven to be your Mighty Fortress or Strong Deliverer in your life in the past? Does that give you courage for what you are facing right now?

5. Write a prayer pouring out your heart to God about the area where you need courage the most.

CHAPTER 2: THE REIGNING KING

1. What did you find most interesting, or encouraging, about the truth that Jesus is seated at the right hand of God the Father as our reigning and ascended King?

2. Read Hebrews 12:1–2. How do those verses give you hope in your own story?

3. What are some ways that you have learned to "fix your eyes on Jesus" when the storms of life threaten to overtake you?

4. What does it mean to you that the Holy Spirit groans in prayer and that Jesus is interceding for you right now at the right hand of God? (Romans 8:26, 34)

5. Have you ever had a season in your life where it was hard to pray because the pain was too deep? If you feel comfortable, share about that now with your group, or journal about it on your own.

6. If you are in a groaning season of life, try writing out your own prayer of lament/sorrow to God. Or write a prayer about the fears you are facing.

CHAPTER 3: GOD WITH US

1. Read Isaiah 57:15. How are you encouraged by the truth that our God (who is high and lifted up) is also our Immanuel (the God who dwells with us)?

2. Remembering how Christie's coworkers surrounded her in protection in Africa, how have you experienced God's guarding and protective cover over you?

3. Read Stephen's story in Acts 7 and pay attention to how you see Immanuel in that story. (Stephen's story shows us Jesus doesn't always rescue us from hard circumstances, but He is always *with us* in them.) 4. What area in your life do you need to truly know He is your Immanuel, that He is with you just like He was with Stephen in his darkest hour? (Share this with your group if you feel comfortable.)

5. Knowing it is one of the enemy's most strategic tactics to defeat us, have you ever questioned your faith in Christ because of deep sorrow or pain in your life? If yes, what rescued you from turning away from your faith?

CHAPTER 4: WHEN I AM AFRAID

1. Do you battle anxiety or fear? If yes, in what areas? If not anxiety, what other area of your life do you think you're the most vulnerable for the enemy to come at you?

2. Read Psalm 46. Underline all the promises in that psalm of how God protects us. For example, in verse 1, underline *refuge, strength, very present help in trouble.* Which of those promises mean the most to you right now?

3. Read Psalm 139:5–10. How have you seen that Jesus hems you in from all sides in your own life?

4. Which pieces of the armor in Ephesians 6:10–18 mean the most to you in your present circumstances and why?

5. Have you had your own fiery furnace or lion's den situation in your life where it was evident that Jesus was in the fire with you, even if He didn't change those hard circumstances? If so, write about that here.

6. If you are still waiting for His rescue, can you write an "even if He does not" prayer of surrender to Him like the young men thrown in the furnace in Daniel 3?

CHAPTER 5: WHEN I AM TEMPTED

1. Have you had your own "this wasn't supposed to be my story!" situation in your own life? If so, write about that here. (Share with your small group if you're comfortable doing that.)

2. How did God meet you or comfort you in that pain?

3. Write the definition of "righteous" below. How does it encourage you that the breastplate of God's righteousness covers you even with the temptations you might be facing?

4. Review the walk of honesty, walk of death, and walk in the Spirit as outlined in chapter 5. How can you apply those steps in your own life today in an area where you are being tempted? Pray the written prayer provided after those steps and insert the name of the temptation you are struggling with as you pray that prayer.

5. Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and Galatians 5:1. How do those verses bring hope to you? Write one of those verses below to help you remember those truths.

6. Are you struggling in your marriage? If so, what part of Judy and Rick's marriage story encouraged you for your own marriage story?

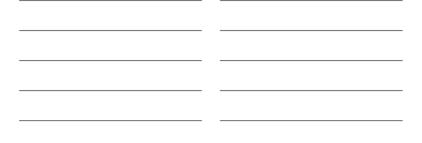
CHAPTER 6: WHEN I BELIEVE LIES

1. As you reflect on lies you have believed about God—either in your past or even now—try writing out a list of those lies here or in your journal:

Lies I have believed about God:

- 2. Now turn to Psalm 145:8–19. Read those verses aloud as a song of praise to Him. Then, either circle all of His attributes or gifts to us in those verses in your Bible, or write them here as a list you can go back to when you are doubting His goodness or faithfulness to you. (Hint: you can also find the list in chapter 6.)

Truths about God from Scripture:



3. Which of those truths are you finding hard to believe about God and why?

4. Ask God to reveal those truths about Him through His Word, and write those references here.

5. Now, let's look at the lies you have believed about yourself either in your past or even now—and try writing out a list of those lies here or in your journal:

Lies I have believed about myself:

Going Deeper (Questions for Small Groups or Bible Studies)

6. Let's counter those lies with truth from God's Word. In chapter 6, we looked at the list from Ephesians 1 about truths of who we are in Christ. Now it's your turn to create your own "True Identity in Christ" list. What truths do you know about who you are because of what Jesus has done for you? You can search the Bible for your list. Ask God to show you how He sees you. He will be faithful in that. Besides Ephesians 1, you can also find more truth about who you are in Christ in Ephesians 2, Psalm 103, and Psalm 139.

My "True Identity in Christ" List:



CHAPTER 7: THE ROAR OF HIS WORD

1. Turn to Psalm 91, read the first four verses, and write them below. Try memorizing those verses soon.

- In your Bible, circle all the names and attributes of God in Psalm 91:1–2. In the English Standard Version those include: shelter, Most High, shadow, Almighty, LORD, refuge, fortress, and God.
- 3. Which of those names and attributes mean the most to you right now and why?

4. Now go back and underline your part in that sheltering place: dwell, abide, say (proclaim), trust. Ask God to help you to learn to truly dwell, abide, and trust in Him, and list some ways to start doing that now. Going Deeper (Questions for Small Groups or Bible Studies)

5. Which of those actions are hardest for you to do right now and why?

6. How has God used His Word to rescue you in your past?

7. Write a prayer for yourself or a loved one, based on Psalm 91:1–4.

THE LOUDEST ROAR

CHAPTER 8: THE ROAR OF PRAYER

1. How would you describe your own prayer life at this time? Is it hard for you to pray or hard to find the time to pray? Write out your thoughts here:

2. What has helped you in the past to find time to make prayer a priority? If you're meeting in a small group, share creative ways you've found to revive a heart for prayer.

3. After reading about the different aspects of the "Wonder of Prayer," which of the ideas (Worship, Word of God, Weeping or Wrestling, Written Prayers) mean the most for your own prayer journey and why?

4. Try one of these ideas for prayer this week and then share with your group what idea you appreciated the most and why:

Worship Prayer—Play worship music or begin your time in prayer by using the Alphabet Praise to worship God through His names and attributes.

Word of God Prayers—Open your time in prayer by reading a psalm out loud, or pray a portion of Scripture for a loved one you want to pray for this week.

Weeping or Wrestling Prayer—If you are currently carrying a deep burden, pour your heart out to God through a weeping or wrestling prayer.

Written Prayers—Pray one of the written prayers included in this book, or write out your own prayer.

5. Consider finding a prayer partner or small group you can consistently pray with. Write down a first step you will take to do that.

NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1. See 1 Peter 5:8.
- See Genesis 3:1; Job 1:6–12; Zechariah 3:1–2; Matthew 4:1–11; John 8:44;
 Corinthians 4:4; 1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 2; 12; and 20:1–3.

CHAPTER 1

- "5 Lion Wild Facts," Wild in Africa, July 25, 2020, https://wildinafrica.store/ blogs/blog/5-lion-wild-facts.
- C. S. Lewis, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (New York: HarperCollins, 1952), 201.
- Mark I. Bubeck, Warfare Praying: Biblical Strategies for Overcoming the Adversary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016), 16.
- 4. See Deuteronomy 18:9-12; Acts 19:18-19.
- 5. I will be teaching more on the armor in Part Two of this book. I've also included a prayer I've written based on the armor as outlined in Ephesians 6 in the "Sound of the Roar of Prayer" section in the back of this book.
- Martin Luther, "A Mighty Fortress" (1529), trans. Frederick H. Hedge (1852), as printed in the *Psalter Hymnal* (Gray), 1987, https://hymnary.org/text/a_ mighty_fortress_is_our_god_a_bulwark.
- Keith & Kristyn Getty, "A Mighty Fortress," track 10 on *Sing! Global: Live at the Getty Music Worship Conference*, Getty Music Label, LLC, 2021. Original lyrics written by Martin Luther, 1529.

CHAPTER 2

- Some of these truths were shared in an online devotional written by Judy Dunagan titled "Faithful to the Finish Line, Day 8: Seated in Power," Revive Our Hearts, https://www.reviveourhearts.com/articles/faithful-finish-lineday-8-seated-power.
- Darrell L. Bock, *Luke Volume 2: 9:51–24:53* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1996), 1945.
- 3. Hope A. Blanton and Christine B. Gordon, *Luke: Part 3, A Study of Luke 17–24* (Omaha, NE: 19 Baskets, 2020), 107.
- "1270 Right Hand of God," Dictionary of Bible Themes, Bible Gateway, https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionary-of-bible-themes/1270right-hand-God.
- 5. Watchman Nee, Sit, Walk, Stand (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale, 1977), 8.
- 6. See Revelation 20:10.
- Dane Ortlund, Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020), 77. Used by permission.
- 8. Ibid., 78-79.
- 9. Heather Holleman, *Seated with Christ: Living Freely in a Culture of Comparison* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2015), 27.
- 10. Andrew Peterson, "Is He Worthy?," track 8 on *Resurrection Letters (Vol. 1)*, Centricity Music, 2018.

CHAPTER 3

 Shane & Shane, "He Will Hold Me Fast," track 7 on *Hymns, Vol. 1*, Wellhouse Records, 2018. Original lyrics written by Ada Habershon, 1906.

PART TWO AND CHAPTER 4

- The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers & Devotions, ed. Arthur Bennett (Edinburgh, Scotland: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1975), 328–29, banneroftruth.org. Used by permission. Find the entire prayer at the end of the book.
- Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities, abr. ed. (New York: Puffin Books, 2009), 3.
- Steve Green, "When I Am Afraid," track 5 on Hide 'Em In Your Heart: Bible Memory Melodies (Vol. 1), Keepers Branch Recs, 1990.

- Kathryn Post, Religion News Service, November 16, 2021, https://religion news.com/2021/11/16/the-chosen-christmas-special-hits-theaters-breaksrecords.
- 5. David Jeremiah, "Daniel: Overcoming the Lion's Den," Overcomer Arena Series, Huntsville, Alabama, https://www.davidjeremiah.org/television.
- 6. Kim Erickson, Surviving Sorrow (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2020).
- 7. Danita Jenae, When Mountains Crumble (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2022).
- 8. Priscilla Shirer, The Armor of God (Nashville: LifeWay, 2015), 65.
- 9. Mark I. Bubeck, Warfare Praying: Biblical Strategies for Overcoming the Adversary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016), 98.
- 10. Christy Nockels, "Head to Toe: The Armor of God Song," track 4 on *Be Held: Lullabies for the Beloved*, Keepers Branch Recs, 2017.
- 11. MercyMe, "Even If," track 5 on Lifer, Fair Trade Services, 2017.
- 12. Lauren Daigle, "Rescue," track 5 on Look Up Child, Centricity Music, 2018.

CHAPTER 5

- "Blessed Assurance," words by Fanny J. Crosby, music by Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873. Public domain. Though she was blinded as an infant due to a botched medical procedure and years later lost her only child in infancy, Fanny Crosby chose a life of eternal significance, writing the lyrics to over 8,000 hymns.
- 2. *Merriam-Webster*, s.v. "righteous (adj.)," accessed March 23, 2022, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/righteous.
- Mark I. Bubeck, *The Adversary: The Christian Versus Demonic Activity* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2013), 40.
- 4. Mark I. Bubeck, Warfare Praying: Biblical Strategies for Overcoming the Adversary (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016), 21.
- Bill Thrasher, A Journey to Victorious Praying: Finding Discipline and Delight in Your Prayer Life (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2003), 34.
- 6. Ibid., 42.
- 7. *The Heart of Man,* directed by Eric Esau (2017), Los Angeles: Sypher Studios, DVD.
- Shane & Shane, "Blessed Assurance," track 9 on *The Worship Initiative, Vol.* 19, 2020, the Worship Initiative. Lyrics by Fanny J. Crosby (public domain).

CHAPTER 6

1. C. S. Lewis, The Last Battle (New York: HarperCollins, 1984), 169.

- 2. Ibid.
- 3. Luke 22:42-44.
- 4. Adapted from Psalm 145:8-14.
- Neil T. Anderson, Victory Over the Darkness: Realize the Power of Your Identity in Christ (Bloomington, MN: Bethany House, 2020), 46.
- 6. Linda Dillow and Dr. Juli Slattery, *Surprised by the Healer: Embracing Hope for Your Broken Story* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016), 70.
- 7. Ibid., 71–72.
- 8. Ibid., 71.
- 9. Priscilla Shirer, The Armor of God (Nashville: LifeWay, 2015), 44.
- 10. Based on Ephesians 1.
- 11. Phil Wickham, "His Name is Jesus," track 7 on *Hymn of Heaven*, Fair Trade Services, 2021.

CHAPTER 7

- This section on Psalm 91:1 was adapted from the author's blog post, "Psalm 911," judydunagan.com, April 17, 2021, https://judydunagan.com/2021/04/17/psalm-91-1.
- A portion of a prayer written by Mark I. Bubeck and based on Psalm 91:1–4, copyright 2004, all rights reserved. Find the entire prayer in "The Sound of the Roar of Prayer" at the end of this book.
- Shane & Shane, "Psalm 91 (On Eagle's Wings)", track 7 on *Psalms, Vol. 2*, 2015, The Worship Initiative. Based on Michael Joncas's composition, 1979.

CHAPTER 8

- Richard A. Burr, Developing Your Secret Closet of Prayer (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1998), 8.
- 2. C. S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters (New York: HarperCollins, 1942), 34–35.
- 3. Jane Kristen Marczewski, "Bald Girl in the Dark," October 30, 2020, https:// www.nightbirde.co/blog/2020/10/30/bald-girl-in-the-dark.
- Michael Card, A Sacred Sorrow: Reaching Out to God in the Lost Language of Lament (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2005), 11.
- 5. Ibid., 21.
- Kimi Yoshino, David Haldane, and Daniel Yi, "Lion Attacks O.C. Biker; Man Found Dead Nearby," *Los Angeles Times*, Jan. 9, 2004, https://www.latimes .com/archives/la-xpm-2004-jan-09-me-lion9-story.html.

Notes

- 7. Phil Wickham, "Hymn of Heaven," track 2 on *Hymn of Heaven*, Fair Trade Services, 2021.
- 8. "The Servant in Battle—A Puritan Prayer," *The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers & Devotions*, ed. Arthur Bennett (Edinburgh: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1975), 328–29, banneroftruth.org. Used by permission. Poetry lines centered.