

WHY I WRITE DEVOTIONALS

Proverbs 1:33 ... "But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil."

Although writing was my previous profession, and something I enjoy and use in all forms of my ministry and work, it has become a special outlet for my spiritual life. I do not have a fixed time of the day or week in which I dedicate myself to sitting at the computer and writing devotionals. I do not write them according to a schedule. And, I do not write devotionals for the exclusive purpose of teaching you about God. Instead, I write to share what I am learning. Let me explain.

I believe in the Biblical principle of being in a continual state of prayer. That does not mean that I bow my head, fall to my knees, fold my hands, and pray a hundred times a day. It is, instead, an ongoing conversation with Jesus throughout my day just as I would have a conversation with my best friend if he was standing next to me. These are seldom prayers of request. When I see something pretty, I silently mention it to Jesus. When I see someone struggling, I mention it to Him. When he blesses me, I thank Him. When I do something wrong, I confess it and ask his forgiveness. Many times, I laugh at my own mistakes and tell Jesus about it. This form of open and ongoing conversation with Jesus, keeps the channel of communication open and keeps me tuned in to his voice. It allows me to hear when Jesus is instructing me, correcting me, or just enjoying our fellowship. It is a very blessed way to live, and I highly recommend it.

So, as I go about my day, whether it is operating a tractor, repairing equipment, driving to the city, sitting in my office, or reading my Bible, Jesus has a clear channel to speak to my heart, and I learn much about his character, his plan for my life, and the decisions he prefers that I make. When I learn something important about how God wants me to live, I go to the computer and write it down for your benefit. When I learn that I have let God down, or made a spiritual mistake, I write down what I have learned to share it with you. I get genuinely excited when God teaches me something that I can share with you.

How can you apply this lesson to your life? Think in terms of God's blessings to you. If someone gives you a nice gift, you want to show it to others. When God does something for you that you did not expect, you want to tell others. And, when God answers your prayers, you want others to know about his faithfulness. I urge you to draw close to God and engage him in conversation throughout your day. It will so richly bless you, that you will be excited to tell others what God is teaching you.

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