

Near to the Heart of God

The Heart of Belonging

Butch Mullis

Dedication

To every woman who has ever wondered if her light was enough, if her glow mattered, or if God could truly shine through her story.

To the daughters, mothers, sisters, and friends who carry quiet strength, gentle faith, and a beauty the world cannot manufacture.

To the women of Living Waters Fellowship Church, whose love, unity, and devotion have created a community where the Spirit's glow is seen, felt, and shared.

This devotional is for you, for your journey, for your growth, for your radiance.

May you never forget: You were created to shine. You were designed to glow. You were called to carry the Living Water into every place your feet touch.

And may His light be the defining mark of your life.

In God's Grace

Pastor Butch

Foreword

Foreword

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging A 28-Day Devotional Journey

There are moments in the life of a church when God gathers a group of women, knits their hearts together, and invites them to walk more closely with Him. This devotional was created especially for the Living Waters Fellowship Church Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Study, with the prayer that each page will draw you nearer to the heart of God and deepen the sense of belonging He designed for His daughters.

My hope is simple yet profound: that this journey will touch the heart of every woman who opens it, and that through these 28 days, the Glow of Jesus will shine more brightly in your life.

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.” Isaiah 60:1

As you move through these readings, reflections, and Scriptures, may you discover fresh strength, renewed joy, and a deeper awareness of the God who calls you beloved. May His presence meet you in quiet moments, may His Word anchor your steps, and may His Spirit awaken a new confidence in who you are in Christ.

This devotional is prepared with love, prayer, and great expectation for what God will do among the women of Living Waters Fellowship Church.

You are a vital part of this ministry, a treasured part of this family, and a radiant expression of God's grace in our community.

"Rivers of living water will flow from within them." John 7:38

Prepared for the Women of **LIVING WATERS FELLOWSHIP CHURCH:**

By

Pastor Butch Mullis

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Chapter 1

W eek 1

Day 1: The Light Within

Near to the Heart of God, The Heart of belonging

Scripture Reading

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you." Isaiah 60:1

The Glow Reflection

Many of us spend our lives trying to "shine" through our own efforts. We try to be the perfect wife, the perfect mother, the perfect employee, or the perfect friend. We think that if we just work harder or act better, we will have that "glow" that makes us feel accomplished and at peace. But the true glow of a woman of God doesn't come from external achievement, it comes from the internal Presence of the Holy Spirit.

You are a temple. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives within you. When you wake up each morning, your beauty does not start with your makeup, your outfit, or your to-do list; it starts with the fact that the light of the Lord has *already* risen upon you. You are already a carrier of His glory. Today, we aren't trying to "get" more light; we are simply learning to remove the things that dim what He has already placed inside us.

Heart Check

- *In what area of your life are you currently trying to "shine" using your own strength instead of relying on the Holy Spirit?*
- *If you truly believed the Holy Spirit was shining through you today, what is one thing you would do differently?*

A Prayer for Radiance

Holy Spirit, thank You for making my heart Your home. Forgive me for the times I have tried to dim my light by worrying about the approval of others. Today, I invite You to fill me afresh. Let Your peace be the first thing people notice about me. Amen.

Daily Spark

Take 5 minutes of total silence today. Before you start your chores or head to work, sit in a quiet place, close your eyes, and simply say, "Holy Spirit, breathe through me."

Chapter 2

Day 2 — Drawing Near: Why Presence Is Priority *Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging*

Scripture Reading

“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.” James 4:8

Reflection

We often treat time with God like an item on a checklist. Read a verse. Say a prayer. Move on.

But the glow of God’s presence isn’t found in a task, it’s found in a relationship.

Think of a fireplace on a cold night. You don’t have to *work* to get warm. You don’t have to earn the heat or prove you deserve it. You simply have to come close. The warmth reaches you because you are near the fire.

God’s presence works the same way.

When you draw near to Him, His warmth transfers to you. His peace settles over you. His radiance begins to rest on your face and your thoughts and your emotions, not because you performed well, but because you came close.

Presence is the priority because presence is the source.

You cannot glow from a distance. You cannot shine without staying near the Light. You cannot walk in peace while living far from the One who gives it.

Today is an invitation to step closer, not with pressure, not with guilt, but with the quiet confidence that God *wants* you near. He delights in your nearness. He responds to your reaching. He meets you in the simple moments when you pause, breathe, and turn your heart toward Him.

Heart Check

- What is one distraction you can lay down this week to spend five extra minutes in His presence?

Daily Spark

Turn off your phone for ten minutes today. Sit in God's presence with no agenda, no performance, and no pressure. Just be near Him, and let His warmth reach you.

Chapter 3

Day 3 — The Mirror Effect: Reflecting His Image *Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging*

Scripture Reading

“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory...” 2 Corinthians 3:18

Reflection

A mirror cannot create light. It can only reflect the light that hits it.

As women of God, we are His mirrors, designed to catch His glory and reflect it into the world around us. The world is searching for hope, peace, kindness, and stability. They are looking for something real, something steady, something that doesn’t crack under pressure.

And God’s plan is simple: They see Him by seeing Him in you.

But reflection doesn’t happen by accident. It happens by *contemplation*, by looking at Him.

When you spend time in His Word, your thoughts begin to shift. When you sit in prayer, your heart begins to settle. When you draw near to His presence, His image begins to replace your insecurities.

Slowly, quietly, beautifully, you stop reflecting your stress and start reflecting His peace. You stop mirroring your fears and begin mirroring His confidence. You stop carrying the weight of your own expectations and begin carrying the glow of His presence.

The more you look at Him, the more you look like Him.

This is the mirror effect: Transformation through beholding.

Heart Check

- What does your reflection look like to others lately? Are you reflecting His peace, or your own stress?

Daily Spark

Smile at three strangers today. It's a simple, tangible way to reflect the kindness of the Spirit, a small beam of His light in someone else's day.

Chapter 4

Day 4 — Stillness: Hearing the Whisper in the Noise *Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging*

Scripture Reading

“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10

Reflection

The world is loud. Demands on your time, your emotions, and your energy never stop. There is noise in your schedule, noise in your thoughts, noise in your responsibilities, and noise in the expectations placed on you.

But a woman who glows with God’s Spirit has learned the secret of internal quiet.

This quiet isn’t about being in a silent room. It’s about having a silent, anchored soul, even in the middle of a noisy day.

God’s voice is a whisper. Not because He is distant, but because He is close. Whispers are for those who lean in.

Stillness is how we lean.

When you pause, even for a moment, your soul remembers who is truly in control. Your heart resets. Your mind exhales. The chaos around you may not change, but the chaos within you does.

Stillness is not inactivity. Stillness is intentionality.

It is choosing to quiet the inner storm long enough to hear the One who calms it.

When you practice stillness, you begin to hear God’s whisper in places you never noticed before, in the middle of your commute, in the rhythm of your chores, in the moments when your emotions feel stretched thin. His whisper becomes the anchor that steadies your glow.

Heart Check

- How can you create a “pocket of stillness” during the busiest part of your day?

Daily Spark

When you feel overwhelmed today, stop and breathe deeply for 30 seconds. Repeat softly: “You are God, and I am Yours.”

Let the whisper settle your soul.

Chapter 5

Day 5 — **Anchored: Firm Roots in Unchanging Truth** *Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging*

Scripture Reading

“They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.” Jeremiah 17:8

Reflection

At Living Waters Fellowship Church, we understand something deeply: A tree’s strength is never found in its branches, it’s found in its roots.

Storms don’t destroy a tree because the wind is strong. Storms destroy a tree because the roots are weak.

Your glow, your peace, your steadiness, your spiritual radiance, doesn’t have to flicker when life gets chaotic. Not if your roots are planted in the Living Water.

The world’s opinions shift daily. Social media changes by the hour. People’s approval rises and falls like the tide.

But God’s character never changes.

When your roots draw from Him, you become anchored in something eternal. You stop living off the unstable nutrients of comparison, worry, and performance. You stop feeding your soul with the world’s noise and start feeding it with God’s truth.

Deep roots don’t prevent storms, they prevent collapse.

A woman anchored in God’s truth may bend, but she does not break. She may feel the wind, but she does not lose her glow. She may face pressure, but she does not lose her peace.

Because her roots are drinking from a Source that never runs dry.

Heart Check

- Is your “root system” currently drawing from the world (social media, worry, approval) or from the Water of Life?

Daily Spark

Write your favorite verse on a sticky note and place it somewhere you'll see it today. Let truth be the first thing your soul drinks in.

Chapter 6

Day 6 — **Renewal: Replacing Weariness with Spirit-Strength** *Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging*

Scripture Reading

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.” Isaiah 40:31

Reflection

There is a difference between tired and weary.

Tired is physical, the kind of exhaustion a nap or a good night’s sleep can fix. But weary... weary is deeper. Weary is soul-tired. Weary is when your emotions feel thin, your patience feels stretched, and your heart feels heavy even when your body is resting.

The Spirit understands weariness.

He doesn’t just give advice. He gives energy.

He doesn’t just offer encouragement. He offers renewal.

He doesn’t just strengthen your mind. He strengthens your inner being, the place where your glow comes from.

The Holy Spirit is the source of supernatural stamina. He empowers you to love your family with patience, serve your church with joy, and carry your responsibilities without collapsing under their weight.

You were never meant to run on your own strength. You were meant to run on His.

When you place your hope in the Lord, not in your schedule, not in your abilities, not in your own resilience, something divine happens: Your strength is renewed. Your glow is restored. Your soul is refilled.

Weariness is not a sign of failure. It is a sign that you need refilling.

And the Spirit delights in filling empty places.

Heart Check

- In what area of your life do you feel like you are running on empty? Ask the Spirit to fill that specific tank today.

Daily Spark

If you are physically tired, give yourself permission to rest. If you are spiritually tired, give yourself permission to pray. Both are holy.

Chapter 7

Day 7 — Sabbath Reflection: Resting in the Radiance *Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging*

Scripture Reading

“Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, He said to them, ‘Come with Me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.’” Mark 6:31

Weekly Pause

Sabbath isn’t just a command, it’s a gift. It is God’s invitation to step out of the rush, breathe deeply, and remember that your glow comes from Him, not from your pace.

Today, don’t evaluate your week by what you *missed*. Celebrate where you *met* God.

Let this be a gentle pause, a moment to look back, breathe, and let His radiance settle over you again.

1. The “Glow” Moment

When was one time this week you felt the Holy Spirit’s presence in your day? Maybe it was a quiet moment in the car, a verse that stood out, a conversation that encouraged you, or a breath of peace when you needed it most. Name it. Honor it. Let gratitude rise.

2. The Garden of the Heart

What is one area of your life you need to “weed” so your glow can shine brighter next week? A weed might be worry, comparison, frustration, over-commitment, or even a habit that drains your joy. Pulling one weed makes room for new growth.

3. Church Family Connection

Who in Living Waters Fellowship Church are you praying for this week? Let your glow extend beyond your own heart, into your church family, your friendships, your community. Intercession is one of the purest forms of spiritual radiance.

Prayer for the Week Ahead

Lord, I thank You for this week. Thank You for every moment You met me, strengthened me, and steadied me. As I step into a new week, keep me rooted, keep me still, and let me glow with Your grace. Amen.

Chapter 8

Day 8 — The Refiner's Fire

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.” Malachi 3:3

Reflection

We often assume that “glow” means life should be easy, smooth days, peaceful moments, and gentle seasons. But silver is not purified in comfort. Silver is purified in heat.

Not scorching heat meant to destroy. Refining heat meant to reveal.

When a silversmith purifies silver, he doesn't walk away. He doesn't toss it into the fire and hope for the best. Scripture says He sits, watching, tending, adjusting, and protecting. The Refiner is present, intentional, and attentive.

The fire is not the enemy. The fire is the process.

When you walk through trials, pressures, or emotional heat, remember this: God is not trying to burn you. He is trying to brighten you.

The impurities that dull your glow, fear, insecurity, impatience, comparison, old wounds, hidden habits, rise to the surface in the fire so He can remove them. The heat reveals what the shade hides.

And here is the miracle: The Refiner knows the silver is ready when He can see His reflection in it.

Your glow becomes clearer in the places where you surrender to His refining. The heat is where the shine begins.

Heart Check

- What “heat” are you experiencing right now, and how might God be using it to refine your character?

Daily Spark

Choose one small thing that irritates you today, a delay, a chore, a comment, a frustration, and offer it to God as a sacrifice of praise instead of complaining. Let the Refiner use even the small flames.

Chapter 9

Day 9 — Surrender

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“Not my will, but Yours be done.” Luke 22:42

Reflection

Our own agendas are often the biggest filters blocking the light of the Spirit. We cling to our plans, our timelines, our expectations, our preferences, sometimes so tightly that our knuckles turn white. And in that tight grip, the glow dims.

Surrender is not giving up. Surrender is giving in, into the better plan of a God who loves you more than you love yourself.

Jesus prayed these words in the garden, not in comfort but in anguish. His surrender wasn’t passive; it was powerful. It was the moment heaven touched earth through obedience.

When we stop white-knuckling control, our hands open. And open hands are exactly the posture that can catch the light.

Surrender clears space. Surrender softens the heart. Surrender removes the fog that keeps us from seeing God’s goodness.

Your glow becomes brighter when your grip becomes lighter.

The Spirit does His best work in hearts that say, “Lord, I trust Your way more than mine.” Not because surrender is easy, but because surrender is freeing.

Heart Check

- What is one area you are holding onto tightly that you need to open your hands to today?

Daily Spark

Practice a surrender breath today. As you inhale, imagine receiving His grace. As you exhale, whisper: “I trust You with this.”

Let surrender become the doorway to peace.

Chapter 10

Day 10 — Pruning

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.” John 15:2

Reflection

Pruning can feel like losing something. A friendship shifts. A habit no longer fits. A busy activity drains more than it gives. A season closes.

And in those moments, it’s easy to feel like something is being taken from you.

But the Gardener never prunes to harm. He prunes to prepare.

Every cut has purpose. Every removal has intention. Every adjustment is made with your future fruitfulness in mind.

Pruning is not punishment, it is protection.

A branch that takes energy but produces no fruit will eventually weaken the whole tree. So God, in His kindness, trims away what is stealing your strength, your peace, your glow.

And here’s the part we often forget: He also prunes the *fruitful* branches.

Not because they’re failing, but because they’re capable of more.

Pruning is God’s way of saying, “I see potential in you that you don’t see yet.”

When He removes something from your life, He is making room for something better, deeper joy, clearer purpose, stronger character, brighter radiance.

Pruning may feel like subtraction, but in the Kingdom, pruning is multiplication.

Heart Check

- Is there something in your schedule or heart that is taking up “sunlight” but not producing fruit?

Daily Spark

Do a clutter clear today. Remove one item from your space or one item from your calendar that feels like an unnecessary weight. Let the Gardener make room for new growth.

Chapter 11

Day 11 — Forgiveness

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

Reflection

Unforgiveness is like rust on a mirror, slowly spreading, quietly dulling, and eventually clouding your ability to reflect the light of Christ.

It doesn’t matter how bright the light is behind the glass. If the surface is covered in bitterness, the glow cannot shine through.

Forgiveness is not a feeling. Forgiveness is a choice, a deliberate decision to release the debt someone owes you.

It doesn’t mean the hurt didn’t matter. It means the hurt no longer gets to master you.

When you choose to forgive, you are not excusing the offense. You are cleansing the mirror. You are removing the rust. You are clearing the glass so the Spirit’s radiance can shine through you again.

Forgiveness is freedom. Forgiveness is clarity. Forgiveness is glow-restoring.

And here’s the truth many women of God need to hear: You don’t forgive because someone *deserves* it. You forgive because Christ forgave you, and His forgiveness is the light that transforms your heart.

When you release the debt, you release the weight. Your heart becomes lighter. Your glow becomes brighter.

Forgiveness is one of the most powerful forms of spiritual refinement.

Heart Check

- Who do you need to forgive today, even if they haven't asked for it, so that your heart stays light?

Daily Spark

Write down the name of someone who hurt you. Say a prayer for them, even a simple one. Then tear up the paper.

Chapter 12

Day 12 — Humility

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“He must become greater; I must become less.” John 3:30

Reflection

Real glow is never about how bright *we* look. It’s about how clearly people see Him when they look at us.

Humility is the art of stepping out of the spotlight so the Son can shine. It is not weakness. It is not self-doubt. It is not shrinking back or pretending you have no gifts.

Humility is alignment, placing your life in the right position so His radiance becomes unmistakable.

John the Baptist understood this. Crowds followed him. People admired him. His ministry was thriving. Yet his heart posture was simple: “He must become greater; I must become less.”

Humility is beautiful because it frees you from the exhausting pressure of self-promotion. You don’t have to fight for attention. You don’t have to prove your worth. You don’t have to shine on your own.

When you choose humility, you become a clear window for the Spirit’s light.

Humility softens the heart. Humility quiets the ego. Humility removes the shadows that dim your glow.

A humble woman doesn’t need applause to feel valuable. She doesn’t need credit to feel seen. She doesn’t need recognition to feel purposeful.

Her joy comes from knowing that her life points to Jesus, and that is the brightest glow of all.

Heart Check

- How can you serve someone behind the scenes today without seeking credit?

Daily Spark

Give someone a genuine compliment today, one that draws attention to a gift God has given *them*. Let your words be a spotlight that helps someone else shine.

Chapter 13

Day 13 — Courage

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” 2 Timothy 1:7

Reflection

It takes courage to glow in a world that prefers shadows.

Being a woman of the Spirit often means choosing the narrow path, standing for truth when it’s unpopular, showing kindness when others are sharp, offering hope when conversations turn cynical, or stepping into obedience when fear whispers that you’re not enough.

Courage is not loud. Courage is not dramatic. Courage is not the absence of fear.

Courage is your glow in motion, the radiance of the Spirit shining through your choices.

Fear dims the light. But the Spirit restores it.

God has not given you a spirit of fear. He has given you power, the strength to do what He asks. He has given you love, the heart to respond with grace. He has given you a sound mind, the clarity to walk in truth.

Courage is choosing to trust His voice more than your fear. Courage is stepping forward even when your knees shake. Courage is believing that the Spirit within you is stronger than anything around you.

Your glow becomes brightest when you walk in Spirit-strength instead of self-strength.

Heart Check

- Is there a conversation or situation you are avoiding out of fear?
Ask the Spirit for one step of courage today.

Daily Spark

Do one thing today that nudges you slightly outside your comfort zone, a conversation, a kindness, a step of obedience, knowing the Spirit is with you and within you.

Let courage shine.

Chapter 14

Day 14 — Sabbath Reflection

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 2: The Process — Allowing His Spirit to Refine

Scripture Reading

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.” Lamentations 3:22–23

Weekly Pause

Sabbath is the weekly reminder that God’s love is steady, His mercy is fresh, and His refining work is always rooted in compassion. Today is not about evaluating your performance, it’s about noticing His presence.

Let this be a gentle pause, a breath of grace, a moment to acknowledge how God has been shaping you in the quiet places.

1. The “Refining” Grace

Think back over this week. Where was a difficult moment that, in hindsight, wasn’t punishment at all, but refinement? A conversation that stretched you. A disappointment that humbled you. A frustration that revealed something in your heart God wanted to heal.

Refining grace often shows up disguised as discomfort. But when you look closely, you see His love in the details.

2. Heart Refresh

Write down one thing you are ready to let go of as you step into a new week. A worry. A habit. A pressure. A fear. A piece of control you’ve been gripping too tightly.

Release it. Let surrender make room for fresh mercy.

3. Fellowship Prayer

Lift up the women of Living Waters Fellowship Church who may be walking through their own refining fire. Pray for renewed strength. Pray for steady hearts. Pray for courage, clarity, and peace. Ask the Lord to let His glow rise in them even in the heat.

Intercession is one of the sweetest ways we share the glow.

Chapter 15

Day 15 — Love

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13

Reflection

The most radiant thing a woman can wear is the love of Christ.

Not the soft, sentimental kind of love the world often talks about, but the active, sacrificial, Spirit-empowered love that reflects the very heart of God. Love is not merely an emotion; it is the evidence of the glow.

When you love, you are shining with the DNA of your Father.

Love is patient when impatience feels justified. Love is kind when irritation feels easier. Love is gentle when harshness feels deserved. Love is courageous when silence feels safer.

Love is the fruit that proves the Spirit is alive and active within you.

The glow becomes visible when love becomes tangible, in your words, your tone, your choices, your responses, your compassion. Love is the fruit that makes the world pause and say, “There is something different about her.”

And that “something” is Him.

When you choose love, you are choosing to let Christ be seen more clearly through your life. You are choosing to let His radiance shine through your humanity. You are choosing to be a vessel of His heart in a world desperate for warmth.

Love is the greatest glow of all.

Heart Check

- Who is one person you find difficult to love? How can you show them a small, tangible act of kindness today?

Daily Spark

Send a text of encouragement to someone you haven't spoken to in a while. Let love reach them through your words.

Chapter 16

Day 16 — Joy

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“The joy of the Lord is your strength.” Nehemiah 8:10

Reflection

Happiness is fragile. It shifts with circumstances, moods, schedules, and surprises. It rises when life feels smooth and falls when life gets complicated.

But joy is different.

Joy is a Spirit-birther radiance, a glow that stays even when life is hard. Joy is not tied to what is happening *around* you; it is rooted in Who is living *within* you.

Joy is the strength that carries you when your emotions feel thin. Joy is the anchor that steadies you when your schedule feels overwhelming. Joy is the glow that refuses to be extinguished by circumstances.

The joy of the Lord is not a personality trait. It is a supernatural gift.

It is the quiet confidence that God is good, God is near, and God is working, even when the day feels heavy. Joy is the fruit that tells the world, “My hope is not in my situation; my hope is in my Savior.”

A joyful woman doesn’t deny her struggles. She simply refuses to let them define her.

Her glow is not naïve; it is rooted. Her smile is not fake; it is fortified. Her strength is not self-made; it is Spirit-given.

Joy is the fruit that makes your glow unmistakable.

Heart Check

- Does your current demeanor reflect the hope you have in Jesus, or the stress of your schedule?

Daily Spark

Make a list of five things you are grateful for right now. Gratitude is the quickest way to rekindle joy, it turns your eyes from what is missing to what God has already provided.

Chapter 17

Day 17 — Peace

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you.” John 14:27

Reflection

Peace is the glow of a soul that trusts God.

Not the peace the world offers, the kind that depends on perfect circumstances, empty calendars, or everything going “just right.” Jesus offers a different kind of peace. A deeper peace. A peace that settles the heart even when life feels unsettled.

His peace is not fragile. His peace is not circumstantial. His peace is not easily stolen.

When you walk in the Spirit, you don’t have to scramble, panic, or spiral. You don’t have to carry the weight of tomorrow. You don’t have to predict outcomes or control every detail. You know Who holds the future, and Who holds you.

Peace is the fruit that grows when trust takes root.

An anxious heart is loud. A peaceful heart glows.

Peace doesn’t mean the absence of storms. It means the presence of Jesus *in* the storm.

When His peace guards your heart, your demeanor shifts. Your tone softens. Your reactions slow. Your glow becomes steady, not because life is easy, but because God is faithful.

Let His peace be the atmosphere of your soul.

Heart Check

- Where in your life are you currently trading peace for anxiety?
Take that “trade” to God in prayer.

Daily Spark

Whenever you feel your heart racing today, whisper: “Jesus, let Your peace guard my heart.” Let His calm settle over you like a warm light.

Chapter 18

Day 18 — Patience

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Ephesians 4:2

Reflection

Patience is not just waiting. It is the attitude we keep while waiting.

Anyone can wait. But only a Spirit-filled woman can wait with gentleness, calm, and love.

Patience is long-suffering, not in a defeated way, but in a Spirit-strengthened way. It is the quiet glow of someone who knows God has been endlessly patient with her, and therefore she can extend that same grace to others.

Patience is the fruit that grows when we slow down enough to see people the way God sees them.

The impatient heart says, “Hurry up.” The patient heart says, “I’m here with you.”

The impatient heart reacts. The patient heart responds.

The impatient heart demands change. The patient heart trusts God to do the changing.

Patience is not passive; it is powerful. It is choosing gentleness over irritation, compassion over frustration, and love over agitation. It is the glow that remains steady even when someone else’s behavior tries to dim it.

A patient woman reflects the heart of Christ, steady, kind, and slow to anger. Her glow becomes a safe place for others to grow.

Heart Check

- Who in your life is testing your patience, and how can you see them through God's eyes today?

Daily Spark

Before responding to a frustration today, count to ten and ask the Spirit for a gentle response. Let patience shape your tone and brighten your glow.

Chapter 19

Day 19 — Kindness

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted...” Ephesians 4:32

Reflection

Kindness is the light that draws people to the Gospel.

It is not dramatic. It is not complicated. It is not loud.

Kindness is simple, quiet, and deeply powerful, the gentle glow of a heart shaped by the Spirit. It is the act of being “easy” to be around, the posture that makes others feel seen, valued, and safe.

A kind woman carries the warmth of Christ in her tone, her presence, and her responses. She doesn’t rush past people. She doesn’t treat others as interruptions. She doesn’t let busyness dim her compassion.

Kindness is the fruit that grows when we slow down enough to notice people.

It is the smile that softens someone’s day. It is the gentle word that steadies a hurting heart. It is the small act that whispers, “You matter.”

Kindness is not weakness, it is witness.

When you choose kindness, you are choosing to reflect the heart of Jesus. You are choosing to let your glow be a doorway through which others experience His love.

The world is harsh enough. Your kindness can be someone’s glimpse of hope.

Heart Check

- Are you known for your kindness, or are you often “too busy” to be kind?

Daily Spark

Do one unexpected act of kindness today, hold a door, give a sincere compliment, help someone with a task, or simply pause long enough to listen.

Chapter 20

Day 20 — Gentleness

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” Philippians 4:5

Reflection

Gentleness is often misunderstood. Many assume it means weakness, softness, or being easily pushed aside. But biblical gentleness is something far stronger, it is strength under control.

It is the ability to handle people, emotions, and situations with care because you know the Lord is close by. Gentleness is not about lowering your power; it is about directing your power with wisdom, compassion, and restraint.

A gentle woman is not fragile. She is focused. She is grounded. She is aware of God’s nearness, and that awareness shapes her tone, her reactions, and her presence.

Gentleness is the fruit that grows when the Spirit steadies your heart.

It shows up in the way you speak when you’re frustrated. It shows up in the way you respond when someone disappoints you. It shows up in the way you carry yourself when life feels tense.

Harshness is easy. Sharpness is natural. But gentleness is supernatural, a glow that comes from trusting God enough to stay calm, soft-spoken, and kind even when the moment feels heated.

Gentleness is the glow that makes people feel safe in your presence.

Heart Check

- In what situations do you tend to be “hard” or “sharp” instead of gentle?

Daily Spark

Speak with a lower, calmer volume in your conversations today. Let gentleness shape the atmosphere around you.

Chapter 21

Day 21 — Sabbath Reflection

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 3: The Manifestation — The Fruits of the Glow

Scripture Reading

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22–23

Weekly Pause

This week has been all about *manifestation*, not striving, not performing, but allowing the Spirit to produce His fruit in you. Sabbath is the moment to pause, breathe, and notice the glow He’s been cultivating in your life.

Let today be a quiet inventory of grace.

1. Fruit Inventory

Look back over the past seven days. Which fruit of the Spirit felt natural, almost effortless, as you walked through your week? Which fruit felt like stretching, growing, or even struggling?

Sometimes the Spirit highlights a fruit because He’s strengthening it. Sometimes He highlights a fruit because He’s inviting you to grow deeper in it.

Both are grace.

2. The Glow-Up

How have your interactions changed as you’ve focused on these fruits?

Maybe your tone softened. Maybe your patience has lengthened. Maybe your kindness brightened someone’s day. Maybe your peace steadied a moment that could have spiraled.

The glow is rarely loud, but it is always noticeable.

Let the Spirit show you where His fruit has quietly transformed your relationships with family, coworkers, and your church community.

3. Living Waters Fellowship Church

Is there a sister at Living Waters Fellowship Church who comes to mind right now? Someone you haven't checked on? Someone who may be carrying a quiet burden? Someone who could use a moment of encouragement?

Reach out to her today. Ask how her week went. Let your glow become connection.

Intercession and community are fruits too.

Chapter 22

Day 22 — Salt and Light

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14, 16

Reflection

You aren’t just meant to *have* a glow, you are meant to shine.

Jesus didn’t say, “Try to be the light.” He said, “You *are* the light of the world.”

Your life is a public testimony of what God has done inside you. Every act of kindness, every gentle response, every moment of patience, every choice to love, it all becomes a beam of His glory shining through your humanity.

You don’t shine to be admired. You don’t shine to be impressive. You don’t shine to build your own platform.

You shine so that the Source of your light, God Himself, receives the glory.

Salt preserves. Light reveals. Your presence in the world is meant to do both.

Salt keeps the world from decaying. Light keeps the world from stumbling.

Your glow is not accidental; it is intentional. It is the Spirit’s way of making Jesus visible through your everyday life.

When people see your good deeds, your compassion, your steadiness, your joy, your peace, your kindness, they should walk away thinking more about Him than about you.

Your glow is a signpost pointing upward.

Heart Check

- Does your life currently point people back to *you*, or does it point them to your Father in heaven?

Daily Spark

Ask God to lead you to one person today who needs a reminder of His light. Be ready, He will.

Chapter 23

Day 23 — Authenticity

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.’” 2 Corinthians 12:9

Reflection

The most beautiful glow isn’t found in perfection; it’s found in authenticity.

Perfection impresses people. Authenticity invites people.

When you are honest about your struggles, your victories, your questions, and your need for God, others feel safe to step out of the shadows. Your transparency becomes a bridge that leads people toward the Light rather than away from it.

Authenticity says: “I don’t have it all together, but His grace holds me.” “I’m still growing, but He is faithful.” “I’m weak in places, but His power shines through them.”

The Spirit-glow is never about pretending. It’s about revealing what God is doing in real time.

A woman who walks in authenticity becomes approachable, relatable, and trustworthy. People don’t see a polished mask; they see a Spirit-filled heart. And that is what draws them to Jesus.

Your weaknesses are not liabilities. They are lanterns through which His strength shines.

When you remove the “perfect mask,” you make room for God’s glory

to be seen more clearly in your life. Authenticity is impact. Authenticity is ministry. Authenticity is light.

Heart Check

- What “perfect mask” do you need to take off to allow someone to see the real, Spirit-filled you?

Daily Spark

Be vulnerable with someone you trust today about a challenge you are facing. Let authenticity open the door for deeper connection and deeper light.

Chapter 24

Day 24 — Influence

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“In the same way, let your light shine before others...” Matthew 5:16

Reflection

Every woman has influence.

Whether over your children, your friends, your coworkers, your neighbors, or your church family, you are constantly “casting” your light. Influence is not reserved for leaders, speakers, or those with titles, it is woven into the everyday choices of your life.

The question is not *whether* you influence others. The question is what you are illuminating.

Are you illuminating hope, or are you illuminating bitterness? Are you illuminating faith, or are you illuminating fear? Are you illuminating grace, or are you illuminating frustration?

Your glow creates an atmosphere around you. People feel it. People respond to it. People are shaped by it.

Jesus said your light should shine in such a way that people see your good deeds and glorify your Father, not you. Influence is not about spotlighting yourself; it is about spotlighting Him.

At Living Waters Fellowship Church, your influence matters. Your presence matters. Your words matter. Your encouragement matters.

You have the ability to lift someone’s spirit, strengthen someone’s faith,

or remind someone of God's goodness, simply by choosing to shine with intention.

Influence is impact. Influence is ministry. Influence is light.

Heart Check

- How are you using your influence at Living Waters Fellowship Church to lift others up?

Daily Spark

Identify one person you have influence over and speak a specific, life-giving word of encouragement to them today. Let your glow strengthen their walk.

Chapter 25

Day 25 — Encouragement

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Reflection

A woman who glows with the Spirit becomes a magnet for the weary.

Encouragement is one of the most powerful forms of spiritual impact, it lifts burdens, strengthens hearts, and reminds people that God has not forgotten them. Your words have the ability to light the path for someone who is struggling to find their way.

Encouragement is not complicated. It is not dramatic. It is not reserved for “spiritual giants.”

Encouragement is simply choosing to speak life.

A simple note. A sincere compliment. A gentle reminder of God’s faithfulness. A text that says, “I’m praying for you.”

Never underestimate the glow that a single word of hope can provide. Encouragement is often the spark that reignites someone’s faith, steadies their emotions, or helps them breathe again.

Your glow becomes visible when your words become life-giving.

Encouragement is ministry. Encouragement is impact. Encouragement is light.

And here’s the beautiful truth: The people who have encouraged *you* need encouragement too.

Let your glow return the blessing.

Heart Check

- Who has been a light to you lately, and have you told them?

Daily Spark

Write a handwritten note or send a heartfelt text to someone who needs a spark today. Let your words brighten their spirit.

Chapter 26

Day 26 — Unity

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:3

Reflection

One candle is bright. But a room full of candles changes the entire atmosphere.

Unity is the multiplied glow of God’s people, the kind of light that cannot be ignored, dimmed, or denied. When the women of Living Waters Fellowship Church walk in unity, your collective glow becomes a beacon for our entire community. We shine brighter when we shine together.

Unity is not sameness. Unity is not agreement on every detail. Unity is not pretending everything is perfect.

Unity is choosing peace over preference. Unity is choosing grace over comparison. Unity is choosing love over division.

The enemy loves isolation, competition, and quiet resentment, because they dim the glow. But the Spirit loves unity, because unity reveals the heart of Jesus.

A united group of women becomes unstoppable in their impact. Their encouragement multiplies. Their prayers strengthen. Their compassion spreads. Their glow becomes a lighthouse for the hurting, the searching, and the weary.

Unity is the fruit of humility, patience, kindness, and love working together. It is the outward expression of an inward glow.

When you embrace your sisters in Christ, celebrating their gifts, supporting their growth, and guarding your heart from comparison, you help create a spiritual brightness that reaches far beyond the walls of the church.

We shine brightest when we shine as one.

Heart Check

- Is there any division, comparison, or quiet tension in your heart that keeps you from fully embracing your sisters in Christ?

Daily Spark

Pray specifically for the unity of the women at Living Waters Fellowship Church today. Ask God to bind hearts together in peace and strengthen your collective glow.

Chapter 27

Day 27 — Commissioned

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” Mark 16:15

Reflection

Your glow was never meant to stay contained.

It wasn’t given just for your home, your journal, or your private prayer time. You are commissioned, sent, appointed, and empowered by God to carry His light into dark places.

You are an ambassador of the Living Water.

Your neighborhood is your mission field. Your workplace is your mission field. Your city is your mission field. Your everyday routines are your mission field.

Wherever your feet go, His light goes with you.

The Spirit-glow is not passive; it is purposeful. It is meant to be seen, felt, and experienced by the people around you. You are not just a believer, you are a carrier of hope, a messenger of grace, and a living testimony of the Gospel.

You don’t need a microphone to preach. You don’t need a stage to minister. You don’t need a title to make an impact.

Your kindness preaches. Your peace preaches. Your joy preaches. Your authenticity preaches. Your love preaches.

Every conversation, every interaction, every act of compassion becomes a spark of His presence in someone else’s darkness.

You are commissioned, not by a church program, not by a human leader, but by Jesus Himself.

Walk into your mission field this week with confidence. Your glow is your calling.

Heart Check

- Where is your “mission field”, the place where you spend the most time, and how can you bring His light there this week?

Daily Spark

Ask God to open a door for you to share His love with one person outside the church this week. Watch for the opportunity, it will come.

Chapter 28

Day 28 — Final Reflection

Near to the Heart of God: The Heart of Belonging

Week 4: The Impact — Shining for His Glory

Scripture Reading

“Let your light shine!” Matthew 5:16

Final Pause

This is the moment to breathe, look back, and recognize what God has done in you. Twenty-eight days of refining, filling, stretching, strengthening, and glowing, all leading to this final reflection. You are not the same woman you were on Day 1. The Spirit has been shaping you, fruit by fruit, glow by glow.

Let this pause be a celebration of His work in you.

1. The Journey

Look back at the last 28 days. How does your glow feel different today than it did on Day 1?

Maybe you feel steadier. Maybe you feel softer. Maybe you feel braver. Maybe you feel more aware of His presence. Maybe you feel more intentional about the way you carry His light.

Your glow has grown, not because you tried harder, but because the Spirit has been faithful.

2. The Commitment

What is one “Spirit-habit” you want to continue now that this 28-day journal is complete?

A daily Scripture. A moment of silence. A prayer of surrender. A prac-

tice of gratitude. A habit of kindness. A commitment to unity. A posture of peace.

Choose one habit that keeps your glow burning bright, and guard it.

3. The Living Waters Fellowship Church Legacy

How will you continue to be a woman who carries the light and the “Living Water” to those around you?

Your glow is not ending here. It is beginning here.

Carry it into your home. Carry it into your workplace. Carry it into your friendships. Carry it into your church. Carry it into your city.

Let your glow become your legacy, a life marked by the Spirit, shining for His glory.

Closing Prayer

A Closing Prayer for the Radiant Woman

Heavenly Father, thank You for the beauty of Your Spirit. Thank You for the refining, the filling, and the commissioning. May I never stop glowing, may I never stop growing, and may Your light forever be the defining mark of my life.

Amen and Amen

Closing Comments

Closing — Keep Shining

For twenty-eight days, you have leaned in. You have listened. You have surrendered. You have grown. You have glowed.

This journey was never about perfection; it was about transformation. It was never about performance; it was about presence. It was never about becoming someone new; it was about becoming who God always designed you to be.

The glow you carry now is not temporary. It is not fragile. It is not fading.

It is the mark of the Spirit within you, the fruit, the fire, and the light of God shining through your life.

As you step beyond these pages, remember:

You are a woman of **love**. You are a woman of **joy**. You are a woman of **peace**. You are a woman of **patience**. You are a woman of **kindness**. You are a woman of **goodness**. You are a woman of **faithfulness**. You are a woman of **gentleness**. You are a woman of **self-control**. You are a woman of **impact**. You are a woman of **light**.

You are a woman who glows.

Carry this glow into your home. Carry it into your workplace. Carry it into

your friendships. Carry it into your church. Carry it into your city. Carry it into every place your feet touch.

Let your life be a living invitation to the Living Water.

Let your glow be your testimony. Let your glow be your ministry. Let your glow be your legacy.

A Final Blessing

May the Lord strengthen your glow with His love. May He steady your glow with His peace. May He brighten your glow with His joy. May He protect your glow with His presence. And may your glow lead many hearts back to Him.

Amen and Amen