



#### PUBLISHING EDITOR

Niccie is CEO of Fulfill Your Legacy and the Legacy Leader Community and magazine, as well as host of Fulfill Your Legacy Podcast, A Spiritual Growth & Leadership Podcast To Equip Mankind & Ministries Through Holy Spirit Revelation (Discipleship), Restoration (Physical & Spiritual Support) & Education (Training & Coaching) for believers and ministries who are ready to move beyond lukewarm faith and to step into the fullness of life with Christ. Niccie has just finished her final book in the Legacy Series and now devotes her time discipling mankind and ministries into the fullness of Christ.

#### COPY EDITOR

Helen Izek is an award-winning author and was once also a freelance editor. In addition to her current full-time day job with a global medical device company, Helen continues to edit the articles for our monthly As for Me and My House magazine. Passionate about working with each and every author, Helen strives to ensure the magazine is free of errors while preserving the unique voice of the contributors. She'd rather stay true to you, the authors, quirky turns of phrases included!

Helen lives in israel with her husband and is mother to three wonderful children, and grandmother to three little tots.

#### DESIGN EDITOR

Jana is a Christian Life and Author Coach, Bible Teacher, and End Times writer who transforms lives at the intersection of Faith, Fact, and Fiction through her two programs, Writing with Eternal Favor and Living for an Eternal Future, to help others discover their divine purpose, be transformed by God's word, and reflect His L.I.G.H.T. INTO THE WORLD.

Jana is also the author of the End Times futuristic series, *Children of Light*.



#### 6 HOUSE

Paulina Elle Writes is an author and a devoted animal lover. She volunteers for a small dog rescue and is a dog mom and foster mom to Chihuahuas with personalities larger than life!

Currently based in Canada, Paulina shares her home with her adorable pack and is currently working on her debut book.

You can reach her at <u>paulinaellewrites@gmail.com</u> or follow her furbabies @bobobijou on Instagram.



#### 11

#### MARRIAGE

Susan Troth, award winning author, speaker and coach, is a compassionate leader and advocate for healing, hope, and new horizons. After the profound loss of her husband, Dr. Ron Plemons, and navigating widowhood and infertility, she founded Susan Troth Ministries to support women through suffering.

Susan has served as a worship minister, music teacher, and global volunteer in disaster relief, missions, and grief counseling. Her trauma-informed teaching empowers individuals to find resilience and faith amidst pain. Honored with the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award in 2024, Susan's life exemplifies faith, service, and the pursuit of new horizons.



16

#### HEALTH

Caron Carroll is an author and devoted follower of Jesus Christ, passionate about sharing the gospel and creating Kingdom impact through her writing. She serves in prayer tents and street evangelism, and ministers to women recovering from addiction, encouraging them to walk and embrace God's purpose for their lives.

Caron lives in Florida with her husband and love of her life, Joey. She treasures time with her children and grandchildren, who remind her daily of God's goodness.



#### 21 FINANCES

Tammy Largin is an award-winning author and educator known for her dynamic teaching and Christian worldview. A graduate of Oral Roberts University, her diverse background includes horse training, camp leadership, video editing, and educational entrepreneurship.

Raised on a Rocky Mountain guest ranch, she values storytelling and purpose. Tammy blends hands-on learning with biblical principles and wrote *Children Are Like Arrows in the Hands of a Warrior*, a faith-based parenting book. Married and a mother, she inspires students and parents with her passion for faith, learning, and practical wisdom.



#### 26 PARENTING

Missy Maxwell Worton is a multi-award winning, top selling author, speaker and coach. As an author, she writes across various media platforms, including film, television and multiple magazines. Her book, *Don't Mess With This Mama*, a true story of rescuing her adopted daughter from slavery, is currently in the pre-production stages for film. Alongside her husband, Mark, she is Founder and President of Light Warrior Publishing & Warrior Writer Training Program, where she mentors women on how to write and release their message for Kingdom Impact. She believes women can be one of the strongest voices for justice to impact, influence and transform the culture around them through authenticity. Missy is a mother of four powerful children, and lives in Franklin, Tennessee with her husband of thirty-four years and their two German Shepherds.



#### 31 COMMUNITY

Each December, I do the Community article where I like to celebrate the Legacy Leaders and share what we've learned. This year is especially fulfilling for me as I FINISHED *The Legacy Series*, and I can't wait to share a few nuggets from the series with you. And I also want to inspire you to move into 2026 with those truths - I KNOW THEY WILL TRANSFORM YOUR DAYS (Romans 12:2).

At the end of the article, I'll have a Christmas gift for you... promo codes to step into many new opportunities to elevate your life, home, gifts, and power in Christ Jesus.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well," (Matthew 6:33).

## WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

#### NICCIE KLIEGL, FULFILL YOUR LEGACY

December is here, and with it comes one of the most meaningful seasons of the year. Christmas lights glow from windows, nativity scenes remind us of holy promises, and our homes seem to carry a special warmth—one woven from memories, family traditions, and the beautiful reminder that God is with us.

This year feels especially sweet for our family because our daughter is home for the holiday season. Having her close adds an extra layer of joy to our celebrations and reminds me how precious it is to gather with the people we love. My prayer is that you, too, get to share this season with those who bring warmth, togetherness, and comfort into your life.

Above all, December invites us to reflect on the greatest gift ever given: Jesus Christ, the Savior sent to bring hope to the hopeless, light to the weary, and redemption to every heart willing to receive Him.

John 3:16 tells the story simply and powerfully: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son..." Christmas is the story of divine love wrapped in humility—the love that came down in the guiet of a manger so that we might know everlasting life, peace, and joy.

If you're new to As for Me and My House, welcome! This magazine was born out of my second book in the Legacy Series, Embracing the Loving Legacy. Each issue focuses on six vital areas that shape our homes and lives: house, marriage, health, finances, parenting, and community.

Our contributors—parents, Christian entrepreneurs, mentors, and leaders—are faithfully living out God's call and sharing their wisdom so we can grow together. As a family of believers, we LIVE | LOVE | LEARN | LEAD with God at the center, knowing that what He plants in our homes has the power to reach generations.

As you enter this Christmas season, my hope is that your home is filled with the warmth of Christ's love, the sweetness of treasured moments, and the blessing of being surrounded by those who mean the most to you. Whether your home is bustling with activity or marked by a quieter celebration, may His presence be your greatest gift of all.

Wishing you a Christmas overflowing with love, peace, and the joy of Christ. Merry Christmas & blessings,





## A CHRISTMAS TWIST

Christmas is my favorite holiday of the year, by far. The bright lights, the sound of jingle bells, festive decor, hot apple cider, and cherished songs such as *O Holy Night* that this meaningful season brings continually warm my heart. And to be able to freely celebrate the birth of Jesus, Yeshua, is a blessed treasure in and of itself.

"FOR A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN, AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS. AND HE WILL BE CALLED, WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER. PRINCE OF PEACE." ISAIAH 9:6 NIV

Now, celebrating Jesus' birthday is really, without a doubt, the best part of Christmas! Also, celebrating Christmas in my country, Canada, especially when it snows, is such a delight to see (unless you have to drive through it, of course). And while our Canadian Christmas menu features many of the same traditional foods that our friends in the US enjoy—including roast meats, roasted vegetables, gravy, cranberry sauce and some good-old-fashioned Christmas cookies to boot—I must admit, the feasts held in my parents' home as of late have taken a surprising twist.

You see, my parents grew up in Former Yugoslavia, and after moving to Canada, they adopted the North American-style tradition for holiday meals.

To be honest, growing up, I was never a fan of eating meat. I wasn't picky; I simply knew what I liked and didn't like. Foods like potatoes and sweet cabbage were favorites of mine, and to this day, still are. They are favorites my mom would prepare for all our holiday gatherings.

My mom, an excellent home cook, would faithfully begin her food prep, cooking, and baking the day before each holiday. She would then continue working into the wee hours of the morning—not because we wanted or expected her to, but because the kitchen was her domain. With her apron always on, she knew what she was doing and had everything prepared to a T. Anytime my family and I would invade her kitchen to sneak a bite of something she made, she would shoo us out.

Even though my mom was exhausted from cooking and getting up from the table to serve us, she never complained. Serving us in this way was not only part of her European culture of hospitality, but also something she genuinely enjoyed doing for family gatherings. Throughout the years, my family and I suggested that we all bring a dish to our holiday dinners to help lessen my mom's load, but she wouldn't have any of it—like most Slavic women of her generation.

However, after much convincing from my family and me, my mom finally gave up the reins and entrusted us with the meal plan, allowing us to decide what we would make and who would bring what. This decision added an element of excitement for all of us, as we were no longer sticking to a conventional holiday menu. Instead, we prepared dishes from a country we agreed upon, starting an entirely new holiday tradition at home.





For example, one year was Turkish-themed, another Lebanese, and this year, our Christmas will feature flavors from Greece—which we originally planned to enjoy over Thanksgiving, but we all got sick and had to cancel our plans.

Cooking in this way has also allowed us the freedom to prepare foods according to our dietary restrictions and preferences, giving us plenty of options to choose from, especially since I eat plant-based foods.

Introducing new flavor profiles to the family made things exciting and fun for everyone. Plus, it gave my mom a well-needed break from doing everything on her own. Now she can enjoy sitting at the table without having to constantly get up from her seat to serve, as we've switched to a buffet-style setup where each person can help themselves and serve my mom instead.

Mind you, my mom still takes part in holiday preparations by baking her classic Slavic and Balkan-style desserts, like Vanilice, a melt-in-your-mouth cookie set to make an appearance at our table this Christmas. That is, if my dad doesn't get to them first! We've also added raw, vegan, and gluten-free treats to the mix, which she and everyone else enjoy.



... in every situation Ino matter what the circumstances | be thankful and continually give thanks to God; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

1st Thessalonians 5:18 AMP

So, if you're thinking about starting a new tradition this Christmas or holiday season, or are wanting to create a new culinary experience, here's what I would suggest:



Get friends and family involved in meal planning and preparation. Dividing responsibilities lightens the load for the person who usually handles all the cooking. Additionally, it's great for bonding and helps everyone feel included.



Create something new or bring a culturally inspired dish with you. Whether it's something you've never tried before or a much-loved dish from another country, it will add something fresh and exciting to the table.



Even if you're spending the holidays alone, which I have many times before, I encourage you to make something deliciously different than what you would normally eat because you deserve to enjoy a special dinner as well.



Look for ways to serve and share with others by inviting those who don't have holiday plans to join you or visit with them if they're feeling unwell and bring them something you know they'll love. If you're attending a gathering, be sure to offer help where you can. It's a great way to show thankfulness and appreciation as well.

Lastly, may we always remember that Jesus is the reason for the season as we give thanks to our Savior, who brings healing and hope to our lives, for the blessings of food, family, and friends, and for the opportunity to faithfully continue serving one another in love.

## Jesus is the Reason for the Season



## Paulina Elle Writes...

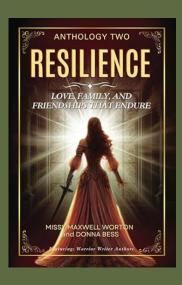
RESILIENCE: LOVE, FAMILY, AND FRIENDSHIPS THAT ENDURE Paperback –

Discover the transformative power of love, faith, and unbreakable bonds in Resilience: Love, Family, and Friendships That Endure. In this moving anthology, fourteen remarkable women share their deeply personal stories of overcoming adversity with courage and grace.



Each chapter takes you on an emotional journey, where moments of pain and loss are met with strength and redemption. These stories of healing and perseverance remind us that even when life feels uncertain, God's grace is ever-present—providing hope and renewal in the midst of trials.

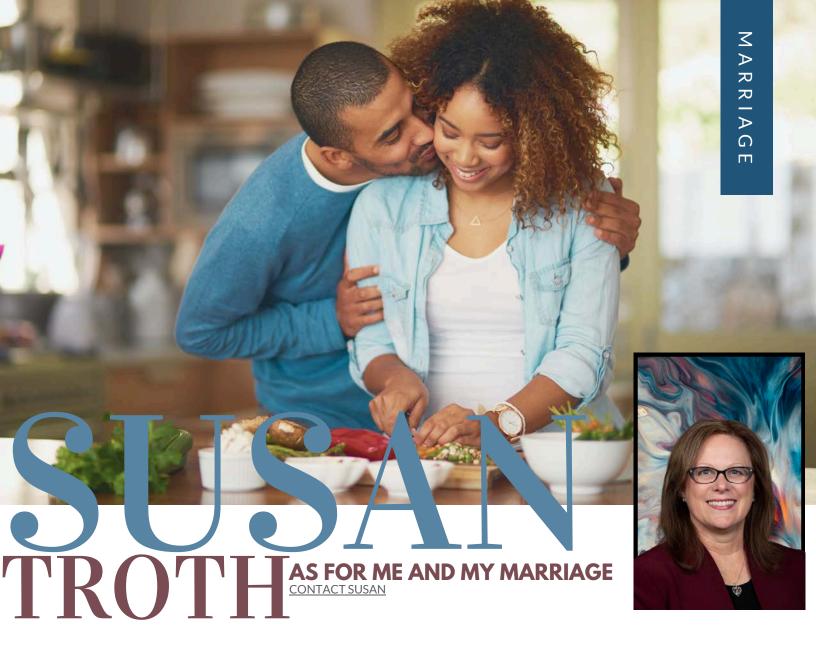
From challenges in relationships to moments of unexpected joy, these heartfelt experiences illuminate the beauty of enduring friendships, the support of family, and the limitless strength that love inspires. This collection invites readers to reflect on their own lives, offering lessons of faith, forgiveness, and fortitude.



Be inspired to rise above. Reignite your faith in miracles. Renew your hope. Perfect for women seeking encouragement, spiritual growth, and empowerment, Resilience is more than just a book—it's a reminder that through faith and connection, you can overcome any obstacle and thrive.

- ✓ Ideal for book clubs, women's groups, and anyone who appreciates powerful true stories.
- ✓ A meaningful gift for those facing challenges or seeking renewed inspiration.
- Recommended for readers of all ages who value hope, resilience, and enduring relationships.

Order your copy today and embrace the promise of a brighter tomorrow!



## A STEADFAST MARRIAGE: A Reflection of God's Unfailing Love

Contrary to popular entertainment that markets shows in which people compete for a rose and proposal—or simply meet and get engaged—marriage is steady and sometimes slow. Marriage is not a shopping experience, not a chemistry experiment, not a picture-perfect Hallmark show, and not optional if a man and woman are truly committed to each other.

Biblical marriage is a picture of God's love for us. God sacrifices for the Bride; He is committed even when the

Bride isn't faithful, and His love for us is steadfast and pure. Christian marriages are to represent God's self-sacrificing love. That is a high mark.

Rick and I know about steadfast. We were both married 32 years to godly spouses who "graduated to heaven" at a shocking young age: 54 and 55. We completed our marriage covenants and discovered that we missed doing life in tandem with a spouse.

So, we wrote a list of non-negotiables and took a leap of faith back into the marriage covenant. Due to COVID 19 procedures and limitations, we eloped on January 1, 2021, and then zoomed a Vow Renewal ceremony on the South

Beach of Jamaica with hundreds watching safely online.

In our (almost) five years of marriage, we have buried parents, moved children across the world, weathered hospital emergency rooms, lost jobs and gained jobs, and had many exciting travel adventures. We are leaning into steadfast love, prayer, and support with one another.

The world often confuses passion with permanence. Feelings fade, excitement ebbs, and even the strongest couples face seasons of hardship, misunderstanding, or distance. But in those moments, God's Word calls us to something deeper than fleeting emotion—it calls us to steadfast love. Psalm 63:3 reminds us, "Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you." This verse is more than a declaration of worship; it's an invitation to model our relationships after God's unwavering devotion. A steadfast marriage mirrors His love—constant, sacrificial, and enduring through every circumstance.

When couples anchor their marriage in the love of Christ, they gain the stability to endure storms and celebrate joys with gratitude. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:58,

# "THEREFORE, MY BELOVED BRETHREN, BE STEADFAST, IMMOVABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD, KNOWING THAT YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN IN THE LORD."

The same perseverance we apply in our faith walk must also be applied in marriage. Love that lasts requires labor; it's the daily choice to serve, forgive, and grow together.

Ephesians 5:22–33 paints one of the most beautiful and challenging portraits of marriage found in Scripture. Husbands are called to love their wives as Christ loved the church—sacrificially, tenderly, and without condition. Wives are called to honor and respect their husbands, responding in love and trust. This divine design isn't about control or superiority; it's about complementing one another in a way that reveals the heart of God. Just as Christ gave Himself for His Bride, husbands are to lay down their lives for their wives. And just as the church responds to Christ's leadership with devotion, wives reflect that same spirit of faith-filled surrender.









Together, this mutual submission and love tell the story of God's redemptive grace to the watching world.

Isaiah 26:3 offers a key to this kind of steadfast union:

#### "YOU WILL KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON YOU, BECAUSE HE TRUSTS IN YOU."

A marriage that keeps its mind and heart stayed on God is one that finds peace even in the middle of chaos. When each partner seeks the Lord first, they become more anchored in His truth and more capable of loving one another through life's changing seasons.

Steadfast love doesn't mean the absence of challenges it means standing firm through them. It's a steady hand through sickness and health, a quiet endurance through disagreements, and a gentle grace when apologies fall short. It's finding peace in the everyday and joy in the long obedience of love.

Marriage is a covenant, not a contract. It's a sacred reflection of the unwavering love Christ has for His people. When we look to Him as our example, we find that the slow, steady work of love is not a burden but a blessing. And as we remain steadfast—immovable in faith, intentional in love, and committed in heart—we discover that God's design for marriage isn't outdated or unrealistic. It's divine.

Honestly, I wanted to title this article, "Steadfast—The New Sexy!" However, my good senses and gracious husband cautioned me against this tone. © But it is attractive to watch a couple weather storms, have each other's backs, and find a refuge in their marriage, rather than a target.

May every husband and wife be encouraged to stay the course, anchored in His steadfast love, finding in one another a glimpse of God's faithful heart: a marriage that stands as a living testimony of His grace and a reflection of His enduring promise of healing, hope, and new horizons.

# ARE YOU READY TO FIND HEALING, HOPE, AND NEW HORIZONS?





Stressed to Splessed: A Faith-Based Journey to Find Healing, Hope, and New Horizons

Are you in the beginning stages of grief, the messy middle, or at the end of a long painful season of being overwhelmed and stressed? I've been there and I lead you to the other side. Open these pages, take a breath, and embark on a beautiful transformation from being held down and stressed, to living victoriously and splessed.

In this book I walk you through a process of:

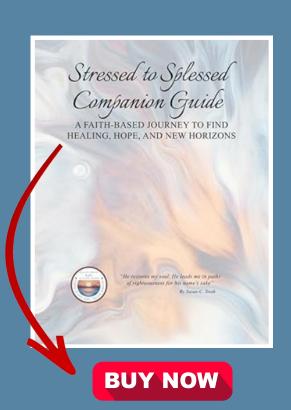
- A sacred place where healing is possible.
- An invitation where hope is restored.
- A path forward where you discover new horizons.



**BUY NOW** 

#### Stressed to Splessed | Companion Guide: A Faith-Based Journey to Find Healing, Hope, and New horizons

Stressed to Splessed Companion Guide walks with you or your group through the unpredictable waves of loss, guiding you gently back to solid ground. Built around the 8-part S.P.L.E.S.S.E.D. journey, this study weaves together Scripture, reflection, digital teaching content, and real-life encouragement to help readers surrender, grieve, and grow in faith. Each week offers heartfelt teaching, journaling prompts, and spiritual practices designed to restore the soul, find strength to endure, and courage to look ahead. Whether you are in a season of loss, transition, or longing for hope, this guide will gently walk with you toward healing, hope, and new horizons.





#### LEARNING TO WALK BY THE SPIRIT, ONE CRAVING AT A TIME

For most of my life, I've been a foodie. I love food—the flavors, the experience, the comfort. But several years ago, I realized that as for most of my life I was not controlling my cravings—they were controlling me. I wasn't simply eating to nourish my body; I was eating out of habit, out of emotion, and sometimes just because the food was there. I started and ended my days with food, often indulging in things I knew weren't good for me.

I was seeking a healthier lifestyle, and honestly, I needed to lose about 20 pounds.

One of my biggest weaknesses was cookies and milk right before bed. My body screamed loudly to have its way, like a temper tantrum from a toddler. And every night, the cycle ended the same way: guilt.

How can I lose 20 pounds if I struggle to control myself?

"I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND MYSELF, FOR I WANT TO
DO WHAT IS RIGHT, BUT I DON'T DO IT. INSTEAD, I DO
WHAT I HATE."
ROMANS 7:15 NLT

That's when a friend introduced me to intermittent fasting. This type of fasting is not a spiritual fast per se, but rather a dietary pattern that involves intentional periods of not eating. But for me, this wasn't only about eating less; it was about gaining self-control, a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

Let me tell you, the struggle was real. Why can't I have this cookie? Old patterns fought hard to stay, and my gluttonous ways needed God's help every step of the way. Gluttony, big or small, was a problem. It wasn't the cookie's fault; I was dealing with a spiritual issue.

During this season of my life, I was studying the Word about the spirit, soul, and body. We are three parts in one: we are a spirit; we have a soul, which is our mind, will, and emotions; and we have a body—our earth suit.

God revealed to me that my mind, will, and emotions led my desires and decisions, and then my body would follow. But the spirit—the part of me meant to be led by God—was being quenched.

Being led by the Spirit required intentional discipline, which involved choosing to renew my mind and shift every craving thought away from self-gratification and towards God's truth.

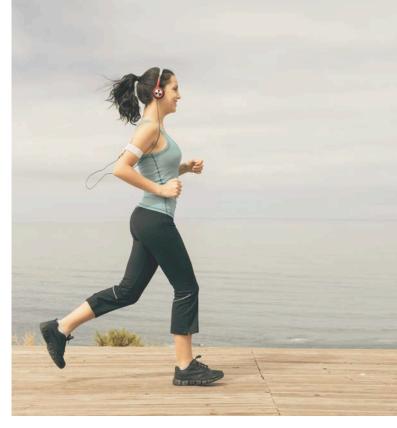
Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 9:27 (NLT):

#### "I DISCIPLINE MY BODY LIKE AN ATHLETE, TRAINING IT TO DO WHAT IT SHOULD." NLT

My body and soul had come together, controlling my actions and decisions. If you think about it, it's upside-down thinking. As Christians, we should be led by the Spirit.

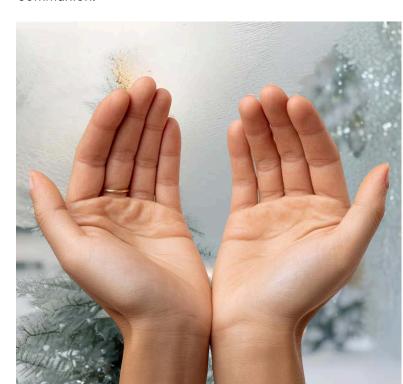
Lord, give me the mind of Christ. Help me to overcome the belief that I want and need this. Remove wrong thinking. Quiet my flesh!

But surrendering my thoughts and transforming my mind with God's Word wasn't easy. It takes discipline to reverse years of habits.



One of the most transformative aspects of my journey was incorporating daily communion alongside fasting. Why? Because communion is a healing meal, a symbol of Jesus' sacrifice. Taking communion heals, restores, and renews, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. I drew closer to the Lord than I ever had, leaning into Him instead of always thinking about my next meal or snack. I would pray when my stomach growled, and He sustained me.

I had a prayer that I prayed every day with my communion.







—First, I examined myself and asked God to forgive me where I had fallen short. Repenting for gluttony opened up God's love and grace to flow in and through my life. When you take communion, you are accepting everything Jesus died for.

—I prayed out loud, "Lord, it's not right that I suffer from lack of \_\_\_\_\_." (You can put anything in the blank. For me, it was a lack of self-control, gluttony, my mind, and areas where I wanted physical healing. "I judge any illness in my body as being from satan, and I reject it. I refuse to receive it any longer. I partake of the sacrifice of Jesus' body, and I receive the abundant life you have provided. In Jesus' name!"

—Partake of the bread as a symbol of the physical and spiritual torment Jesus bore to free us from all areas of our lives.

-Take the cup.

—"Lord, I give you thanks for all you provided for me through the New Covenant in Christ Jesus. I partake of those now. I am healed. I am redeemed. I am the head and not the tail. I am above and not beneath. I take the healing you sacrificed to give me and I thank you and praise you for it in Jesus' name. Amen."

Communion became a sacred connection, a remembrance of Christ's sacrifice. With every moment of reverence, I felt His love wash over me in a way I never had before.

Of course, my body bucked at this new schedule, demanding what it was used to. The hunger pangs came, along with all the temptations, but I kept praying through them. When I shifted my focus from my stomach to my Savior, I discovered something powerful: His grace sustained me.

I must tell you, when I say I do a food fast, it doesn't mean I only drink water. I don't skip my coffee (just saying!). My mornings consist of coffee and water until lunchtime, when I break my fast for the next seven hours.

Over time, something changed. I no longer felt enslaved by food. Instead, I felt empowered—not by my strength but by His. But let me be real—this is still a journey. I don't have it all down perfectly, and there are days when I struggle. But every time I surrender, I find His grace waiting for me, reminding me that progress is more important than perfection.

This isn't only about food. It's about saying *no* to the flesh and *yes* to the Spirit. It's about surrender. It's about trust. And in that surrender, God showed me the freedom I never knew was possible.

Oh—in case you're wondering—I did lose those 20 pounds. But more importantly, I gained something much better: self-control, freedom, and a deeper walk with God.

Furrender Trust Freedom



How Can I Pray for You: The Revelation that Changed Everything

What if one simple question could forever change a life?

How Can I Pray for You reveals that life is more than surviving the ups and downs, more than checking boxes of religion, and more than trying to be good enough—we were created for an intimate relationship with God and a bold purpose in His Kingdom. This revelation transformed Caron's journey. Now she is sharing what she's learned with you!

Through testimony, scripture, and biblical truth, *How Can I Pray for You* shows how God's love breaks through shame, fear, and doubt. It reveals that salvation is just the beginning of your journey with Christ; each believer is called into a life of meaning, freedom, and impact. Filled with encouragement and practical tools, this book equips readers to share the good news with confidence, compassion, and boldness--reminding people that we are created for more!

Lives are changed when someone is brave enough to pray. That someone could be you!



# A LITTLE LESS SPLURGE AND A LOT MORE JOY

My husband and I are both early risers, so the call for Christmas is at daybreak for the Largin family. Watching our 11-month-old daughter, Lilly, in the soft glow of lights from the Christmas tree and the scent of pine returned me to my own Christmas mornings as a child. Holding a hot cup of cocoa in my hand, I watched as our daughter crawled up into my husband's lap, and for the first time, I felt God tell me, this is what Christmas is about... family.

As we opened each gift with our baby girl, we felt blessed. Gifts for her seemed to come from everywhere: grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, friends, and of course us, her parents—we had things we wanted to give her as well. But the day after Christmas I was overwhelmed with the amount of STUFF and I began to ask myself, "Does she really need all of this right now?"

It was the perfect question because it sent me on a quest to find the perfect balance at Christmas.

The tradition of the American Christmas is to give as much as you can now, going into financial debt, and then spend the rest of the year paying it off. We found ourselves in grief from the debt, rather than the joy of Jesus' birth. Determined to be financially responsible for the holidays, we devised a new plan.

On Lilly's first Christmas, I watched as she played and asked myself three questions:



#### HOW MANY TOYS DOES SHE REALLY NEED?

It is amazing what your kids find as the most interesting toy from year to year. For my little girl aged two, it was the boxes everything came in and the red flyer wagon from her Bubba. At age three, it was a little star stage that when you pulled the curtain string, the audience clapped and cheered. Every year, she seemed to play with about three gifts. While the gifts she showed the most interest in stayed in her room, the others went into a closet for later. As she became more interested in one toy over the other, I would pull out a new toy from the closet, introduce it to her, and then prepare the old toy to sell at the next local resale event. This kept fresh toys in front of her all year long, and we were able to do most of our Christmas shopping at the resale events, saving money and making money at the same time.



## WERE ANY OF THE TOYS FIRST STEPS TO LEARNING?

Being educators, we wanted her to focus on educational toys. Books, imagination toys (toy kitchen, musical instruments, etc.), and creative toys (Legos, puzzles, building, etc.) were not counted amongst the other toys. We loved toys that encouraged imaginary play, especially with friends, giving her a chance to share and learn the importance of teamwork.



## HOW MANY TOYS SHOULD WE GIVE AS PARENTS AT FUTURE CHRISTMASES?

This was the hardest. As parents we want to shower our kids with gifts, but not all gifts are received equally (remember when your parents gave you socks and underwear?). Limiting the gifts to three meant we had to *know* our daughter, not simply buy gifts to put under the tree. We decided on three because one gift would come from me, one from her dad, and of course, one from Santa. I also purchased matching pajamas that we opened on Christmas Eve. So technically, I guess you could say we gave her four gifts.



Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16

While these three questions remained in our minds throughout her years at home, as she grew older, what to buy without breaking the bank became the challenge. Below are some of the gifts we gave over the years as she became an adult.



When she reached about five, we started including her in another gift, the gift of giving. Each year, as a family, we would buy gifts for a family in need we knew. She would shop with me at the resale events, picking out what she thought the children would enjoy. Around Christmas Eve the presents would be given anonymously. It was hard, but she did well keeping the secret.

As a teenager, gift-giving became more of a family gift. We gave experiences for the family or for her and a friend to enjoy. Tickets to events like a football game, a stage play, or the local museums. Other times we gave adventures to Stone Mountain, a state park pass, or skeet shooting. We found that one of her favorite gifts was quality time with us.

I have always loved giving homemade gifts for the holidays. So together as a family we baked cookies and breads, created custom spices, flavored oils, knitted or

24 | As for Me and My House

crocheted granny slippers, and tied many polar fleece blankets for our friends and relatives. These gifts are from the heart and teaching our kids that they have the skills to make or bake something special allows them to participate and be creative in the future.

I have always loved giving homemade gifts for the holidays. So together as a family we baked cookies and breads, created custom spices, flavored oils, knitted or crocheted granny slippers, and tied many polar fleece blankets for our friends and relatives. These gifts are from the heart and teaching our kids that they have the skills to make or bake something special allows them to participate and be creative in the future.

But I think our most favorite gifts to give to friends and each other is a letter. All three of us love a good letter of remembrance. Letters that remind us of how blessed we are to have such good friends and relationships. Letters that build us up and remind us of who we are in Christ and what may lie ahead because of the gifts we see in each other. We would decorate the paper with drawings and stickers. Smiles enter the room when the family sees that there are envelopes decorating the tree.

So, join us as we splurge less and embrace the joy of Christmas this year. Be thoughtful with your gifts. Love your children with less of the world and more of you. Buying second-hand is as good when you find the right gift. And as you prepare for Christmas, my prayer is that you move your focus from the world's idea of Christmas to God's glorious Gift. In His eyes, Jesus is the reason for the season.





## Tammy Largin

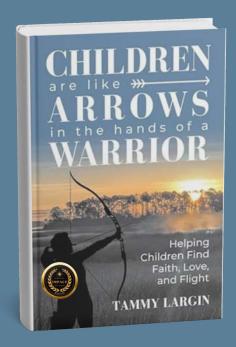
Author • Speaker • Mom Mentor





#### CHILDREN ARE LIKE ARROWS IN THE HANDS OF A WARRIOR

Now you can glean wisdom from "warrior," author, mother, and teacher, Tammy Largin, who masterfully integrates biblical parenting and archery concepts with personal anecdotes of raising her daughter "differently." In the pages of *Children Are Like Arrows in the Hands of a Warrior*, you will find both overarching parenting principles and nitty-gritty details, including: . . .



- Embracing God's love for yourself and your children so that you can help them find love and faith.
- Modeling biblical decision-making skills so that your children learn to make smart choices as early as possible.
- Developing age-appropriate manners and communication skills.
- Instilling freedom in your children without allowing them to control your household.

... and more ...



AS FOR ME AND MY PARENTING CONTACT MISSY

#### **NAVIGATING HOLIDAYS WITH YOUR ADULT CHILDREN:**

HOW TO CREATE JOYFUL, CONNECTED TRADITIONS AS LIFE CHANGES

As the holiday decorations begin to appear in the stores, I anticipate the excitement of the season ahead. I recognize that parenting shifts in every season of life and one of the most unexpected transitions is when our children become adults. They begin to build their own lives and create family traditions themselves. The holidays, once predictable and centered around our home, suddenly look different. Traditions change, schedules change, and our expectations change.

If I'm going to be totally honest, our lives change every year. Our children's lives change and we begin to recognize that our holiday expectations must change with them.

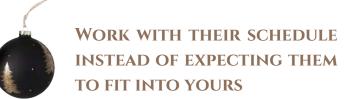
It can be bittersweet. While we are so proud of who our children have become and the lives they're creating, we also long for the magic of those earlier years when everyone was under the same roof.

The brilliant reality of life is that it will always be moving forward. Every season carries its own beauty if we choose to approach it with love, flexibility, and understanding.

Learning how to navigate holidays with adult children really is about learning how to honor the life they're building while keeping connection, joy, and togetherness at the heart. The goal isn't to cling to old traditions, but to create new ones that work for who you all are *now*.

When we approach our adult children with grace, collaboration, and a willingness to evolve, we won't simply "handle" the holidays. Instead, we create a legacy of love that will follow our future families for generations.

Here are three powerful tips that can make this transition smoother and far more meaningful for everyone in your family unit including you, your children, their spouses, grandchildren, and the extended family you're becoming.



One of the greatest gifts you can give your adult children is flexibility. With new careers, marriages, babies/young children, and in-laws, they now have more responsibilities and recognize their need to create traditions.

Instead of holding tightly to "how it's always been," shift to, "What works best for you this year?"

This one question will release pressure on all sides.

Some years the Christmas meal may not be at your house. Sometimes it may not even be on the actual holiday itself. Be assured, it is okay because the joy of this celebration is not about the date; it's about the people you are spending it with.

When you approach them with no expectations, you:

- \*Honor their autonomy
- \*Reduce stress
- \*Remove guilt
- \*Strengthen communication
- \*Create a climate where they want to get together
- \*Reduce feelings of obligation

You also let them know that your love is not determined by tradition but by relationship. It may require humility and the loosening of old expectations, but it creates something much better: new traditions that respect the lives they're building.



When children grow up, marry, or partner with someone, suddenly holidays become a juggling act. One family becomes two, which brings more traditions, homes, and calendars for a start. Then multiply this by the number of annual holidays and life just became more challenging.

This can create pressure for your adult children who feel torn between wanting to honor you and wanting to honor their spouse's family.

One of the best solutions is also the simplest: bring everyone together when possible.

Instead of making your kids choose between families, consider combining the celebration. This might mean:

- \*A shared Thanksgiving dinner
- \*A Christmas Eve brunch with both sides
- \*A Holiday game night
- \*A blended family meal where everyone brings a dish.

Yes, this may require stepping outside your comfort zone or trying a different blended family way of doing the turkey or deciding who is bringing the stuffing. Enjoy it and embrace the window into the life your new family member grew up with. It will give you understanding into why they are so wonderful.

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

Psalms 145:4

This approach communicates: "We're on the same team. No dividing lines. No tug-a-war. Just family."

It shows your children that their new life isn't a threat to the one you had, but rather an expansion of love and community. Over time, these blended gatherings can become some of the richest holiday memories your family ever creates.



## ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO HOST THE FAMILY GET-TOGETHER

As parents, we often hold a certain picture of the holidays . . . one where we lead, initiate, cook, decorate, and carry the emotional weight of pulling it all together. But what happens when your children want to create traditions of their own and take on ownership of hosting the holidays? Suddenly you're taking on a new role. So how do you approach it as a supportive, joyful participant?

This can feel strange at first. But it's actually a gift.

When your children (or their spouses) host, it gives them:

- \*Ownership
- \*Confidence
- \*A sense of adulthood
- \*Freedom to create their own traditions
- \*Pride in welcoming family into their space.

Your role shifts from orchestrator to their biggest encourager.

It can actually be freeing to simply show up with something for the table, offer help where needed, and allow them to take the lead. Sit back. Enjoy and celebrate the home they've built and the legacy they are building.

Most importantly, let them feel the honor of being trusted to carry each holiday forward in their own way.



Because at the end of the day, holidays aren't about perfection. They aren't about the date, the meal, traditions, or the logistics.

They're about those you celebrate and love coming together . . . it's about family and friendship.

<sup>29</sup> | As for Me and My House

#### MISSY MAXWELL WORTON

AUTHOR SPEAKER COACH PUBLISHER







WRITING AND RELEASING BOOKS AND MOVIES FOR KINGDOM IMPACT

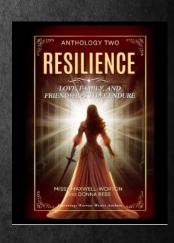


Missy Maxwell Worton is a multi-award-winning author, speaker, coach, and President and CEO of Light Warrior Publishing and Warrior Writer Authors. She is also the founder of the Warrior Writer's Training, empowering aspiring authors to share their stories for Kingdom Impact. Missy writes across various media platforms, including film, television, and multiple magazines. Her debut book, *Don't Mess With This Mama*, became a bestseller.

Her greatest desire is to awaken women to the divine calling within them as daughters of a mighty and loving God. Through her company, she inspires, encourages, and helps first-time authors write for healing, releasing their books to impact lives and launch fulfilling careers rooted in faith.







If you are looking to write your book in 2026 contact Missy for an interview to see if Warrior Writer's is right for you at



#### LOOK WHAT GOD HAS DONE!

Every December, I sit down to write this Community article. It's my opportunity to share spiritual nuggets we have learned throughout the year and to celebrate YOU, the magazine subscribers and Legacy Leaders who continue to say *yes* to God, to transformation, and to your Kingdom calling.

But this year feels especially sacred. Because in 2025...

I finished The Legacy Series.

Four books. Four parts of a God-given assignment. Four layers of Kingdom discipleship that have shaped not only my own walk, but the stories of thousands who have learned to live, love, learn, and lead, with the powerful legacy Christ Jesus has for each of us.

With the unfolding of the final book, *The Leading Legacy* last October, I felt gifted the completeness of this business: the 'Fulfill Your Legacy' business God downloaded in me nearly ten years ago was finally complete.



If you've ever felt stuck, weary, or held back by the enemy's lies, then stay close; we give tangible steps and Spirit-led support for you or your ministry to step into deeper intimacy with the Lord, to break free from footholds, and to strengthen your walk with God . . . to live boldly in your faith, and to step into your call and commission with humble confidence.

We want everyone to lead from a place of wholeness, equipped, and unified in the faith. Becoming mature Christians, helping to fulfill every life, one person at a time.

#### SO, WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED THIS YEAR?

## Community Flourishes When the Trinity Is at the Center:

If this year taught us anything, it is this: Life elevates God's way when we put the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit back in the center. Jesus told us plainly...

"SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE Things will be given to you as well," (Matthew 6:33)

Every breakthrough this year
Every testimony
Every restored marriage
Every healed heart

Every business launch

Every ministry birthed

Every miracle moment has come from this one pattern:

Seek Him first. Then watch everything else fall into place.

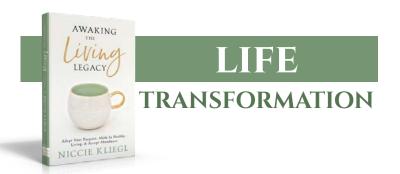
This is how community strengthens, believers grow, and how everyday men and women rise as Spiritual Leaders—rooted, grounded, aligned, surrendered.

HOW ARE YOU SEEKING THE LORD? ARE YOU SEEKING THE LORD? AND IS THERE SOMETHING YOU CAN ADD TO YOUR LIFE IN 2026 TO SEEK THE LORD AT A NEW, DEEPER LEVEL? THERE IS TRANSFORMATION HERE.



#### WHAT THE LEGACY SERIES TEACHES US

A Four-Part call for Life, Home, Community, and Nation—and how these four callings form a complete commission for Kingdom living.



#### Book 1: The Living Legacy (The YOU Book)

Identity, Purpose, and Becoming Who God Says You Are. The first book lays the foundation of all Kingdom life: identity. It is the deep inner work that answers the most essential questions:

Who am I in Christ?
Why was I created?
What has God assigned to my life in this generation?

This book takes believers into the heart of Ephesians 1 and Psalm 139, reminding them that purpose doesn't begin with performance—it begins with identity in Christ. You learn to align your mind, your choices, your habits, and your desires with who God already says you are.

This is where Legacy begins—inside the heart, where God forms the character, confidence, and conviction required for every other part of Kingdom life.

Scripture consistently shows us that every calling first begins with a becoming. Moses had to discover who he was before he could deliver Israel. David was anointed long before he was appointed. Jesus, before performing a single miracle, received this affirmation from the Father: "This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased," (Matthew 3:17).

Identity precedes assignment. Purpose flows from design.

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

Acts 2:38-39 ESV

Do you know your identity in Christ? Do you still listen to the lies of the world, your critics, your past shortcomings? Or do you see yourself as God does, redeemed?

When believers finally see themselves as God sees them—beloved, chosen, set apart, empowered by grace—everything changes. Life becomes less about striving and more about surrendering. Less about proving and more about partnering. Less about performing and more about becoming the true you God always intended.

This book leads you into that journey of unveiling—where you stop living from your wounds, from the history you have adopted, and begin living from your worth in Christ as a beloved child of God.



#### Book 2: The Loving Legacy (The GOD Book)

Building a Home Covered, Strengthened, and Ordered by God.

In this book, God inspires us to commit to a life built on a strong tower, our home, and a strong home is built on God Himself. The goal is not simply family harmony; it is a household covered by God, aligned with truth, and protected by obedience.

Joshua declared, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

This book teaches you how to actually do that—how to bring God into marriage, parenting, daily routines, health, stewardship, communication, and atmosphere. This is where Legacy grows roots—in the home, where love is shaped, faith is formed, and spiritual covering is established.

Scripture reveals over and over that the home is God's first training ground for leadership, ministry, and influence.

Before Paul ever teaches on church structure, he teaches on household order (Ephesians 5-6). Before Timothy could lead the early church, he had to be "faithful in his own household." He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect.

"IF ANYONE DOES NOT KNOW HOW TO MANAGE HIS OWN FAMILY,
HOW CAN HE TAKE CARE OF GOD'S CHURCH?" (1 TIMOTHY 3:4-5 NIV)

God has always used families, homes, and households as the incubators of revival.

A God-centered home is not a perfect home; it is a surrendered home.

It is a place where prayer saturates decisions, where forgiveness flows easily, where God's Word is honored, and where the atmosphere makes room for the Holy Spirit to dwell. When a home is covered by God, the enemy loses access, unity is restored, and generational blessings begin. This book equips you to build a home that is not only stable but Spirit-covered, Godanchored, and unshakeable.

Is your home unshakeable? Can it withstand the extremes of outside forces? God is the foundation of the unshakeable and covered home we are passionate about seeing in every house.



#### **Book 3: The Learning Legacy (The JESUS Book)**

Impacting Your Community With the Grace, Love, and Mission of Jesus.

The third book shifts from home to community, teaching believers how to reflect Jesus in real, tangible ways. The crux of this book is simple and compelling: Love like Jesus. Serve like Jesus. Reach people like Jesus. Make disciples in the way YOU were uniquely designed to.

It's about living the Great Commission—not just as a pastor or as a missionary because this command is for all of us—all believers who carry Christ. We need to do this in our ministries for sure, but your ministry is likely your workplace, neighborhood, friendships, and city.

This is where Legacy expands—when the Jesus inside you begins to transform the world around you.

Jesus' ministry model was profoundly simple: He saw people.

He loved people.

He served people.

And He discipled people-everywhere He went.

The Bible never limits disciple-making to clergy; it calls every believer to participate . . .

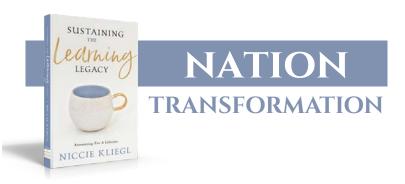
"THEN JESUS CAME TO THEM AND SAID, 'ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE."

**MATTHEW 28:18-20 NIV** 

You don't have to preach sermons to make disciples; you simply live reachable, compassionate, Spiritbreathed, Jesus-reflecting lives that spark transformation in others.

You become the hands that heal, the words that comfort, the friend that listens, the mentor who guides, and the example that points people toward Christ.

This book awakens believers to the truth that your community is your ministry, and how to love others like Jesus, letting Him teach, inspire, and flow through you, which is often the first Gospel people ever encounter.



#### Book 4: The Leading Legacy (The HOLY SPIRIT Book)

Being Equipped by the Holy Spirit to Lead, Minister, and Transform the World.

The fourth and final book brings everything together by showing believers how to walk in Holy Spirit empowerment—to live, love, learn, and lead with supernatural wisdom, boldness, and authority.

Rooted in Ephesians 4:11-13, this book equips saints—not only leaders in churches—to move in their God-given roles so the Body of Christ reaches maturity, unity, and fullness.

"SO CHRIST HIMSELF GAVE THE APOSTLES, THE PROPHETS, THE EVANGELISTS, THE PASTORS AND TEACHERS, TO EQUIP HIS PEOPLE FOR WORKS OF SERVICE, SO THAT THE BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP UNTIL WE ALL REACH UNITY IN THE FAITH AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD AND BECOME MATURE, ATTAINING TO THE WHOLE MEASURE OF THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST."

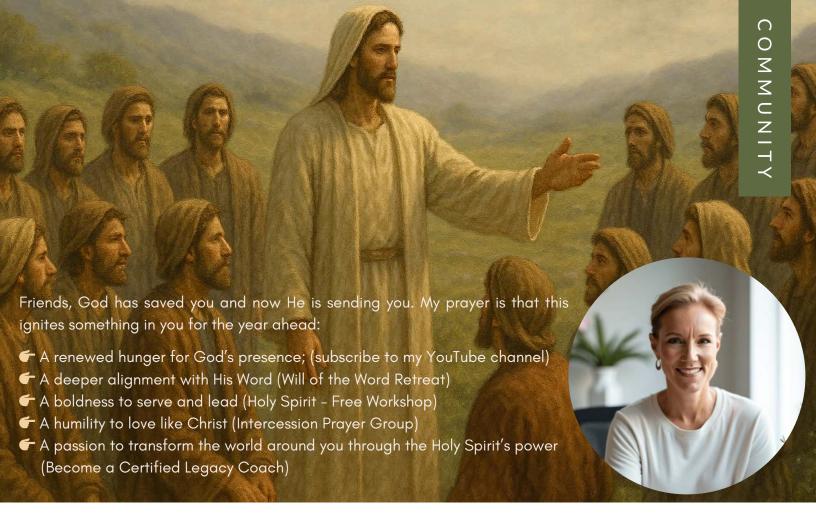
**EPHESIANS 4:11-13 NIV** 

This is where Legacy multiplies—through Spirit-led influence that transforms families, communities, workplaces, churches, and even nations.

From Genesis to Acts to Revelation, every major move of God is fueled by the Holy Spirit. Jesus Himself did ministry "in the power of the Spirit" (Luke 4:14). The early church exploded not through strategy, but through Spirit empowerment—signs, wisdom, unity, courage, and supernatural love.

The Holy Spirit is not optional for Kingdom leadership.

He is essential.



He equips.

He empowers.

He gives gifts.

He strengthens the inner man.

He speaks, guides, warns, comforts, and commissions.

And He calls believers to operate not from natural talent, but from supernatural anointing—to minister with power, lead with humility, serve with authority, and restore what is broken through the Spirit's fire.

This book helps believers step boldly into their roles so they can heal others, intercede in prayer, influence culture, strengthen the Church, and partner with the Spirit until we "reach the fullness of Christ."

Do you know the authority you have in Christ Jesus? Do you know of your unique gifts and talents? Are you using them?

God has called you to make disciples of all nations. We either step in and do our best (getting equipped and confident enough to obey) or we hide our talent, which God warns against in the Bible.

### MY GIFT TO YOU: STEP INTO 2026 WITH RENEWED FAITH & FRESH FIRE

The Legacy Series is more than information—it's impartation of the Trinity. We are only just beginning to see what God will do with a people who choose to live Spirit-led, Kingdom-focused, and Jesus-centered. Join us in the Legacy Leader Community or through The Legacy Series Books.

As a thank you for being part of this magazine and this incredible journey, I've included special promos to elevate your life, home, gifts, and leadership in Christ as we step boldly into 2026.

#### To God Be the Glory!

Legacy Leaders and Subscribers to this magazine, thank you for your faithfulness, obedience, and for saying *yes* to transformation, to truth, and to the call of God on your life.

Here's to a powerful, Spirit-filled, Christ-centered 2026. Let's seek Him first and let Him elevate everything else. Merry Christmas and God's richest blessings on your new year!



#### **YOUTUBE**

- 7am Daily Bible in a Year
- 11:30am Christian Life Coaching
- Daily shorts for spiritul maturity

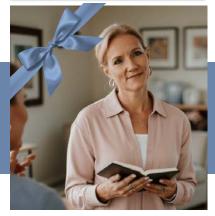




#### **WOW RETREAT**

- Friday January 30th-Sunday
- Learn the whole bible
- Sisterhood
- Learn to be a prayer warrior





## HOLY SPIRIT WORKSHOP

- Monday at 7 pm CT, Dec. 29, 2025
- Know the functions of the Holy Spirit
- How the Holy Spirit equips
- Learn to discern your divine calling
- Get exercises to operate





## INTERCESSION PRAYER GROUP

- Submit your prayer request 24/7
- Faithful Intercessors standing with you
- Get two-way communication
- Private Inner Healing prayer per request





BECOME A
CERTIFIED
LEGACY COACH

- Learn the fundamentals of coaching
- Get certified
- Complete business setup
- Personalized strategy session
- Small group & Private coaching format

