



Where do I begin God?

By Robin Gove

Inside Outside LIFE Makeover Journeys with God

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Author Robin Gove

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We hope you enjoy our Journeys with God from

He's SPEAKING! Are we LISTENING? Ministry.

Our goal is to encourage people to build a love relationship with God by SPEAKING and LISTENING to him daily.

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Dedicated to my husband

Dave

*He lovingly lived through all of these LIFE Makeovers with me.
His love and devotion carried me through it all.
I will be forever be grateful to him.
Thanks, Handsome!*

And special thanks to our four sons,

David, Jeremy, Andrew, and Aaron

*They have spent many hours listening and encouraging me.
They have also used their talents to help me to complete this project.*

And finally, very special thanks to my friend

Marilyn

*I wish everyone could have a friend like her.
She spent hours working with me to complete this project.
Her cheerful attitude always blessed my days.*

Welcome to



Journey with God

Where do I begin God?

Name: _____

Date Your Journey Begins: _____

The Beginning of my Inside Outside LIFE Makeover

I remember it so vividly like it was just yesterday. I sat at my desk gazing out my window at the woods behind my home. The peacefulness of the view was overshadowed by all of the thoughts dancing around in my head. "What can I do to make changes in my life? Where would I even begin? I am not qualified to be doing this?" Feelings of insecurity could not be erased from my mind. Deep inside of me, I was longing for a fresh Makeover in my life.

You might wonder what made me realize I needed to make some changes in my life. I will be totally honest with you. **MY LIFE WAS A MESS.....**

- **I was overweight and my blood pressure and cholesterol were way too high.**
- **I had tried so many diets with no weight loss.**
- **I was addicted to caffeine and chocolate and I would eat to feel better.**
- **After being married many years my marriage was so.....routine.**
- **Our finances were a mess. I worked very hard each day and I was not making any money. We were VERY HEAVILY in debt.**
- **I did not even know how to have fun.**

I was tired of who I had become. I was out of control. I would eat properly and exercise, but it only lasted for a short time. My energy levels were so low that I completely lacked motivation. There never seemed to be enough hours in the day to complete everything I needed to do. I was overwhelmed and discouraged.

I kept asking myself if I wanted to live with who I had become or did I want to change? I could complain about it all the time or get busy and do something, but where would I possibly get the motivation to change?

I also thought over and over and over, where would I ever begin to make changes in my life? The voice in my head would tell me, "This is the way you have been all of your life. You will never change."

I wanted a better road for my life, so even though there was fear in my heart, I decided it was time to begin an Inside Outside LIFE Makeover. Now four years later, I can say, the Journey has been challenging, but I like the person I am now better than who I was. God has transformed this caterpillar into a butterfly and I am ready to fly.

Do you want a better road in your life? It will begin with a choice. If you choose to continue reading this book, I want you to know that you are not alone. We will be with you all the way.

As you begin this Inside Outside LIFE Makeover Journey with God, pray that God will encourage you to follow through. Pray the following prayer.

Dear God,

Please go before me on this Journey. Please speak to me and help me to find the time be alone with you. Help me to hear your voice and then obey it. Thank you for what you are going to do.

In Jesus Name, Amen

Now you might ask, "What is this Inside Outside LIFE Makeover all about?" Continue reading to find out.

What is an Inside Outside LIFE Makeover?

Makeover is a very popular word in our society today.

You can have a MAKEOVER on just about anything. If you look at television shows, magazines, and newspapers, you will find MAKEOVERS for your kitchen, house, body, wardrobe, family...

Let's talk about an Inside Outside LIFE Makeover.

What is it? Let me explain.

I want you to think about someone you know that looks awesome on the Outside. This person's body is in perfect shape because of proper eating habits and daily exercise. Maybe they are very stylish and have great clothes that are perfectly pressed. Their hair is always silky, clean and shiny. You might say this person looks perfect on the Outside, but what about the Inside? If a person's Inside does not match the Outside how do you feel about them?

Now let's think about someone else you know. Maybe this person is not attractive on the Outside and does not wear fancy clothes. This person could possibly be overweight or underweight, but when you think about how they are on the Inside, they are wonderful. You know this person will always be there when someone needs help. This person could even be a little shy or even outgoing, but has a very caring way about them. People feel so important when they are around them. They are always honest and trustworthy.

The world might not call this person beautiful or handsome on the Outside, but on the Inside they are beautiful beyond words. So if you think about it, what is more important, our Inside or our Outside?

Now what about our Outside appearance? If we have enough money we can change anything we want. We can have a facelift or a tummy tuck. We can have hair removed, or hair put on. We can have new nails put on, or have our eyebrows or lips painted on. We can take products to buildup our muscles and make us look firm, or we can wash that gray out of our sideburns and look younger. This list goes on and on.

What we look like on the Outside requires a choice on our part..... right?

What about the Inside? I began to think about what people might think about my Inside, or about me as a person, so I have made a choice to go on an Inside Outside LIFE Makeover Journey. I realized that I needed to begin on the Inside and work my way through to the Outside. I wanted a new beginning in my life.

Do you want a new beginning?

Then come along?

Let's get started...

WELCOME

Today you have chosen to go on one of our
6-day Inside Outside Makeover Journeys with God.





My LISTENING Room

Take some quality time alone to just think, pray and plan. It is important to find a place to get alone with God. We will call this place My (your) LISTENING Room.

Here is a description of My LISTENING Room.



It is a tiny walk-in closet with a desk and chair. I have a stereo that I bought at a garage sale for \$5.00. I also have headphones to listen to my favorite Christian music. The power cord runs through the closet and out the door. My chair is located between my hanging clothes, which are on each side of my closet. There are several pictures of doors which are hung on the wall where I can see them. When I shut the door and turn the light off, everything is quiet and dark. Each day I open the door to this room and go into it. Oh yes, there is a book in my hand, it is my Bible.

My LISTENING Room is not elegant or fancy. It is very simple. I have dreams of one day having a fancy LISTENING Room, but for now, this is mine and I love it.

So if you could have a LISTENING Room and design it anyway that you would want, what would it look like? I have listed a few people’s dream LISTENING Rooms to prompt your thinking.

Dream LISTENING Rooms.....

“My room has many windows and the sun is shining brightly all around. It is peaceful and quiet outside. God’s creation is everywhere I look. I am sitting in a reclining chair with a cool glass of water on the night stand. The windows are open, and I feel a gentle breeze throughout the room. I am alone.”

“My room is in the basement of my house. It is located in the corner of the room. A lava lamp is sitting on the table. I am sitting on a long, soft couch with a warm blanket over me. There is a soft light above my head, just enough to see the words.”

“My room has pretty sunflower wallpaper. It is completely clean and there is no junk lying around. The lighting is from a lamp. I am sitting in an oversized chair with a footstool at my feet. I want it to be quiet, and I am, of course, all alone with God.”

As you read the descriptions of the different rooms, everyone had different ideas of what their room would look like. That is because God made everyone unique. Let your mind wander and dream about this quiet place where you could get alone with God.

Stop Reading and think about this. Write your LISTENING Room description in your My Journey Journal.

My LISTENING Room would.....

Now you may not be able to create this LISTENING Room in your life now, but you can do like I have done and put together something to create your own space to be alone with God.

When you have found and put together your LISTENING Room, go into it and continue reading this book.

ARE YOU IN YOUR LISTENING Room?

Then you are almost ready to begin...

My Journey Journal

Throughout my life I have written daily Journals of my thoughts and feelings. I have suitcases full of them. I have found that writing things helps me to understand my thoughts and to remember them. I have always done them like I was talking to God.

So, as I began my Inside Outside LIFE Makeover, I realized the only way I could keep track of everything was to write in a Journal.

We encourage you to write your thoughts in a journal each day and date it.

If you would like to purchase an Inside Outside **LIFE Makeover “My Journey Journal”**, go to www.hesspeakingarewelisting.com.

Let's Begin

If you are using the written version, read the instructions below.

If you are using the computer version, go to the next page.

Written Version

It's time to start your **Inside Outside LIFE Makeover** *Journey with God*.

Journey Tips:

Tip One

You will need a Bible, your Journey Journal, pen and a dictionary.

Tip Two

At beginning of every daily Journey we encourage you to take time to confess your sins. This is very important!

Tip Three

Many of the Bible verses are written out, but we encourage you to look up any additional verses in your own Bible. These verses were quoted from the New International Version of the Bible, but you can use any version. Many verses are repeated to help you to memorize them.

Tip Four

We encourage you to look up the words we have selected in your dictionary.

Computer Version

It's time to start your **Inside Outside LIFE Makeover** *Journey with God*.

Journey Tips:

Tip One

You will need your Journey Journal, a Pen, and a Dictionary.

Tip Two

At the beginning of every daily Journey we encourage you to take time to confess your sins. This is very important!

Tip Three

Many Bible verses are repeated to help you memorize them.

Getting Started:

- *Take out the Journey CD from the back of the book.
 - *Place your bookmark in this book and set it aside.
 - *Choose the CD with the same title.
 - *Insert the Journey CD in your computer and wait for presentation to appear.
 - *Some computers will show **runpptview.exe** after inserting Journey CD. Click on **runpptview.exe** and wait for presentation to appear.
 - *Begin with the Orientation.
 - *After completing the Orientation, continue with Day One (if you have the time) otherwise **STOP** and begin Day One tomorrow.
 - *Continue on your Journey daily for the next six days.
-

Do not read this book until you complete your 6-day **Inside Outside LIFE Makeover** *Journey with God* CD.

Are you ready to begin your **Inside Outside LIFE Makeover**
Journey with God?

Who are you?

Several years ago I had someone come to me who had been working his whole life and did not even know who he was. He did not know what he liked or disliked. I encouraged him to stop and take some time to think about himself. We are not always programmed to do this.

So what did he have to do? He had to erase from his mind the idea that he needed to be thinking about others all the time and not himself. It was time to think about what he needed and wanted for his life. This was very hard for him to do, because we are not taught to do this. The day he chose to begin a Journey of discovery about himself was the day he began his Inside Outside LIFE Makeover.

Now we have been taught throughout our lifetime that we should think of others. It is wonderful to do this, but we encourage you to stop and find the time to think about what you need. How could you possibly work on an Inside Outside LIFE Makeover in your life and still keep all the commitments that you have now. Something might have to go.

**GIVE YOURSELF PERMISSION TO LET GO
OF EVERYTHING YOU ARE DOING OUTSIDE OF YOUR FAMILY.
HONESTLY, TAKING CARE OF OUR FAMILIES IS A BIG JOB.
THEN TAKE THE EXTRA TIME TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
THIS IS A TIME OF REFLECTION IN YOUR LIFE.
IF THIS IS NOT A DESIRE IN YOUR HEART,
THEN PUT THIS BOOK DOWN UNTIL IT IS.**

**GOD ALLOWED YOU TO PICK UP THIS BOOK, SO RELAX AND REALIZE THAT
GOD IS PROVIDING TIME FOR YOU TO FOCUS ON YOURSELF AND YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.**

Dear Friend;

Are you ready to commit to follow through and take this weekly Journey with God? The Bible tells us that God wants to speak to us when we take the time to listen. Exciting things will happen when we make time for God.

ARE YOU READY TO COMMIT TO THIS?

Sign your name and date it!

THEN LET'S GO.

We will be praying for you.



SPIRITUAL Makeover

Book 1, Week 2: A New BEGINNING

MY LIFE IS A MESS...



Day One

Where Do I Begin God?

Karen said,

**“I WANT TO GET INTO THE BIBLE,
BUT I DO NOT KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN.”**

In loving memory of Karen who went to be with Jesus on October 18, 2005

My dear friend Karen is with Jesus now, but these were the words she spoke to me several years before she passed away that inspired this
“Journey with God.”

I think a lot of people are asking the same question.

As you begin your Journey with God, he will SPEAK to you when you LISTEN to him. You will be blessed for “coming close to him.”

.....So let's get going and Journey with God.....



Where Do I Begin God?

Day One

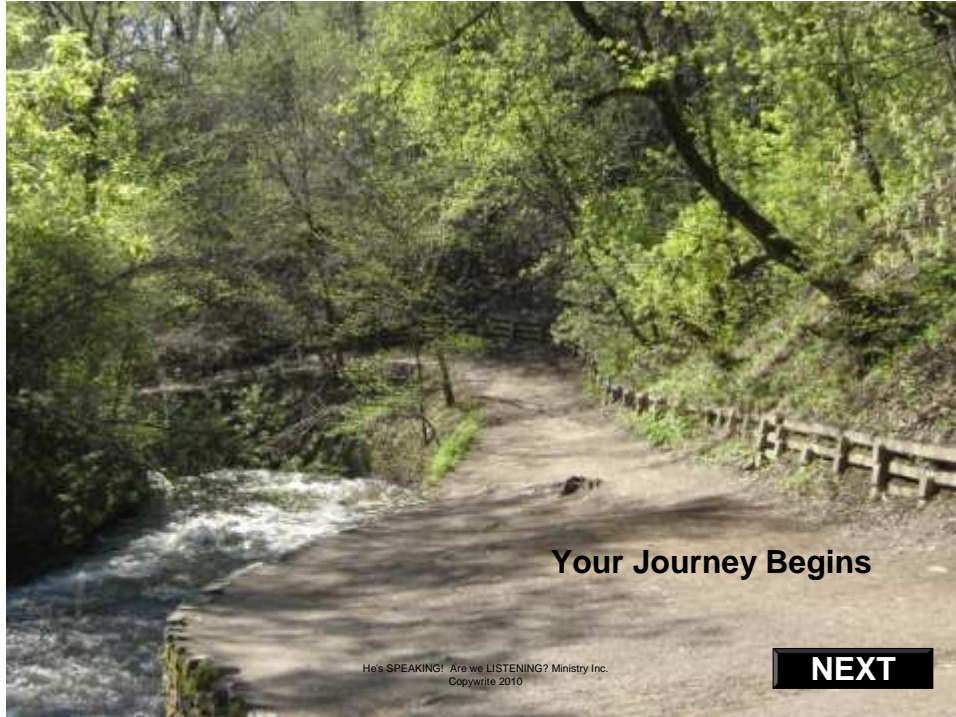


The door to Karen's house

Matthew 6:6

**But when you pray,
Go into your room,
close the door and pray
to your Father, who is unseen.
Then your Father, who sees
what is done in secret, will
reward you.**

Open the door to Your LISTENING Room.....



Day One

Power in Music

Sit still, close your eyes, and "LET GO." Listen to your favorite Christian music.

Prayer Power

Pray that you will have a clear mind as you begin your Journey.

Take a few minutes to confess your sins.

Isaiah 59:2 Psalm 103:12

Dear God,

I want to begin reading your Word (the Bible), but I do not know where to begin. People tell me different ways, but it is hard for me to start reading. I believe you want me to do this. Please help me! God, take control. Thank you for what you are going to do. Now as we begin our Journey, let's talk about who you are.

Who are you God?

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Jeremiah 10:6

No one is like you, O LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power.

Dear God,

You are the creator of everything. There is no one like you. You are mighty and powerful. Please help me to understand more about you and what you desire for me.

Psalm 119:34

Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

Psalm 119:125

Dear God,

If I want to have a relationship with someone, I need to communicate with them. This communication involves both SPEAKING and LISTENING to each other. It also requires taking time to get to know the person better. If I want to have a relationship with someone, I will find the time to do it. What about our relationship?

James 4:8a

Come near to God and he will come near to you.

Dear God,

The choice is mine. This must be the answer to "Where do I begin God?". It is a choice. It is my choice. I know you will not force me to have a relationship with you. I have made a choice to come near to you by finding my LISTENING Room and spending time with you there. Now it is in your hands to SPEAK to me, and teach me how to LISTEN to you.

Communication in any relationship requires both SPEAKING and LISTENING to each other. When we do not have this, we become distant. Let me think about a relationship I have with _____. When we get together and talk, our relationship grows, but if we do not see each other for awhile, our relationship becomes distant. It works the same with our relationship. If I desire to have a relationship with you, I need to both SPEAK and LISTEN to you regularly. What does the Bible say about this?

I SPEAK

Philippians 4:6

(Living Bible Version)

**Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything;
tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers.**

You LISTEN

Isaiah 65:24
Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.

You SPEAK

2 Timothy 3:16
All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness...

I LISTEN

Psalm 1:2
But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Dear God,

I would like to try and communicate with you more often. I have been in my LISTENING Room today. It has been a little different for me. As I continue on this daily Journey, teach me more about SPEAKING and LISTENING to you.

Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding...

My Journey Journal

Optional: Begin writing a letter to God, sharing with him what is in your heart.

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

Prayer Power

Thank God for this day!

This is the end of Day One.



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Two

IT IS A CHOICE

It is your choice if you want to “come near to God.”

I made a choice many years ago to make God a priority in my life. I did not know where to begin or what to do. I asked God to help me. I decided that if I wanted to begin reading the Bible the best place to start would be in the beginning, so I began to read in Genesis.

As I tried to become consistent at “coming close to God”, I prayed that God would help me. I asked him to give me understanding. I wanted to have a desire to read the Bible but it did not happen over night. It began with a choice and started out slowly. Gradually my heart’s desire was to go into my LISTENING Room on a daily basis.

I enjoy coming close to God more than anything and I still have so much to learn.

Would you like to come close to God this week? It begins with a choice. Tell God what is in your heart.

Let’s get ready to Journey with God today!



Where Do I Begin God?

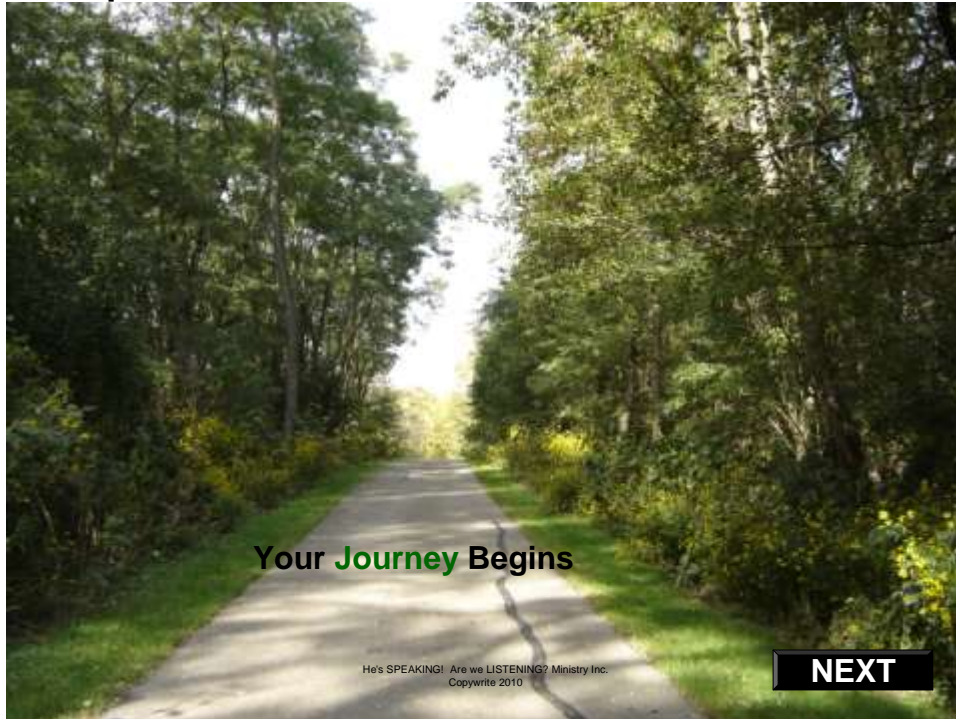
Day Two



Matthew 6:6

**But when you pray,
Go into your room,
Close the door and pray
to your Father, who is unseen.
Then your Father, who sees
what is done in secret, will
reward you.**

Open the door to Your LISTENING Room.....



Day Two

Power in Music

Sit still, close your eyes, and "LET GO. " Listen to your favorite Christian music.

Prayer Power

Pray that you will have a clear mind as you begin your Journey.

Take a few minutes to confess your sins.

1 John 1:8-9

Psalm 103:12

Dear God,

Let's Journey together today. Thank you for helping me to find the time to spend with you. Life is so busy. Sometimes I think I would like to slow it down, and other times I like the excitement of the pace. Since we have begun our Journey, I have been thinking about spending time with you. It is awesome that you want to come close to me. It has made me question why it is so hard for me to "come close to you."

SPEAK to me, I am LISTENING!

PRIORITIES

Dictionary Definition

Dear God,

What are my priorities? What are the top five areas of importance to me? Please help me to be honest and think about them. They could be things like television, food, and exercising. Is there anything in my life that I could not live without? Help me to take a few minutes and think about them, and then write them down.

My Journey Journal

Think about the top five priorities in your life and write them in your Journal.

(Replace the underlined word with your name.)

Exodus 20:1-3

And God spoke all these words: “ I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.”

Dear God,

Do I have any other gods in my life that come before you? I need to spend a few minutes thinking about this. What are the gods in my life?

Prayer Power

Ask God to SPEAK to you about any gods you might have in your life.

Dear God,

A god in my life could be something I feel I need to do, or partake in everyday. After thinking about it, could _____ be a god in my life? I have never looked at it before as a “god.” I enjoy doing the things that I want but I am not sure they are your desire for me as well. Your word (the Bible) says you long for me to find the time to “come near to you”.

You are SPEAKING to me! Am I ready to LISTEN?

Matthew 22:37-39

Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is like it; ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

Deuteronomy 6:5

Dear God,

If we love someone with all of our heart, we should want to spend time with them. Why is it so hard to do that with you? Is it because I do not physically see you? Do I REALLY

love you? God SPEAK to me in a way that I have never experienced before. Help me to have a desire to LISTEN every day.

Ezra 7:10

For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

Colossians 4:2

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Dear God,

Are my priorities right? What can I do to make changes? You know what is hidden in my heart. I am going to take a few minutes right now to be still, and let you SPEAK to me.

Prayer Power

Think about your priorities. Ask God to SPEAK to you about them.

Dear God,

Fill me with a desire to make you a priority in my life. I have been trying to do this for several days now, and it is challenging. If you want me to do this, you need to make our times together something I look forward to. I will leave it in your hands.

Prayer Power

Pray that God will give you a desire to make him your priority.

Dear God,

Thank you for Journeying with me today. It has been great. You do SPEAK to me, if I will only LISTEN. Talk to you tomorrow!

My Journey Journal

Continue your letter to God telling him about your priorities.

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

This is the end of Day Two.



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Three

Do we have any “gods” in our lives?

I do not like to think of anything being a “god” in my life except the true God of heaven, but I have discovered there are many things in my life that are “gods” to me.

Anything that we must have or do everyday, that comes before God, is a god to us. Addictions can be “gods” that keep our bodies run down so we do not feel like doing anything but our addiction. Examples of addictions could be caffeine, alcohol, food, smoking, or drugs. Television can be a “god” to us if we overindulge in it too much. The bottom line: Anything that we do on a regular basis which takes our time, and does not leave time for God, could be a “god” in our lives.

The simple answer is to put our “gods” into the hands of a powerful God who can help us. All we need to do is SPEAK to him about it, LISTEN when He SPEAKS, and then OBEY.



Where Do I Begin God?

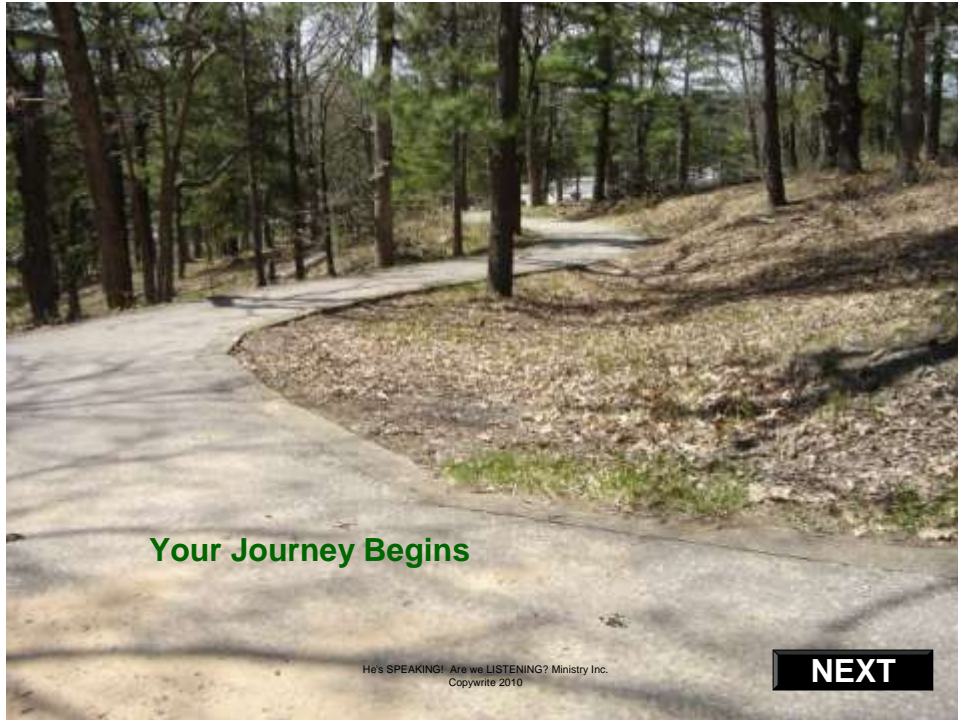
Day Three



Matthew 6:6

**But when you pray,
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Open the door to Your LISTENING Room.....



Day Three

Power in Music

Sit still, close your eyes, and "LET GO." Listen to your favorite Christian music.

Prayer Power

Pray that you will have a clear mind as you begin your Journey.

Take a few minutes to confess your sins.

Psalm 51:1-2

Psalm 103:12

Dear God,

The past several days we have been talking about what I am doing with my life. I believe I should try to get my priorities straight. A very important priority is to find time with you daily. This helps me to be spiritually healthy and vibrant.

Now what about my physical body? I am not sure that I am doing a very good job in this area of my life. Finding the time to do any physical exercise is challenging. What I eat is not always the best thing for my body. It seems like there are times I need certain foods to keep me going. My energy level is zero. If I do not take care of my physical body, I will become run down and tired. As a result, I do not find the time to spend with you. What does the Bible say about this area of my life? As we Journey together today, please SPEAK to me about this.

SPEAK to me, I am LISTENING!

1 Corinthians 3:16, 17

Fill in the blanks with the word YOU or YOU ARE.

Don't _____ know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in _____? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and _____ that temple.

Dear God,

Your Spirit lives in me. I need to take care of my body which is the temple of your Spirit. Am I doing that? It is challenging trying to take care of my physical body. It seems the older I get, the harder it gets. I am going to think about what I am doing to take care of my body. (Stop and think for a moment!)

Galatians 6:7-8

Matthew 19:26

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Dear God,

I am supposed to honor you with my body! What I eat does not bring me closer to you. Is there any food or temptation that I crave so much it controls me? Could it be my "god"? Am I out of control in this area of my life? Do I give in to temptations that do not help my body? If what I do hurts my temple, I should not be doing it.

2 Corinthians 7:1

Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

Galatians 5:16

1 Thessalonians 4:4-5

...that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God...

Colossians 3:1-5

Prayer Power

Think about this: Am I taking care of my temple? If I am not, confess it to God.

Psalm 65:3

When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

Dear God,

Thank you that I can be assured that when I ask your forgiveness, you will give it. I would like to take a few moments to praise you for being a loving and forgiving God.

Prayer Power

Thank God for being loving and forgiving.

Dear God,

This week we have talked about getting our Spiritual and Physical life in order. I feel a bit overwhelmed. It seems like it takes a lot of work to get them in order. It is not easy to do, but I need to start somewhere. I cannot do it on my own. I need to give it to you. Thanks for taking me on this Journey today.

Philippians 4:13

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

My Journey Journal

Write how God has spoken to your heart.

Prayer Power

Pray that God will be your strength.

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

This is the end of Day Three.



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Four

**How can we possibly DO IT ALL?
We are already very busy in our lives.
We are trying to find time to Journey with God.
How can we possibly try and add time
to take better care of our physical bodies?**

I HAVE MADE A VERY IMPORTANT DISCOVERY. When I am not eating right and taking care of my physical body, it TRULY effects whether I even want to spend time in My LISTENING Room. I am not sure why this is, but it has been proven to me over and over.

When I kick my bad eating habits, too much caffeine and junk food, and start making good choices, suddenly I feel like exercising again. I even feel like praying more and going into My LISTENING Room more frequently.

Here is an example. I know someone who smokes and wants to quit, but has not come to the point where he can truly let it go. One day he decided that he was going to do it. He did not smoke all day. He realized he got more accomplished that day.

I can not explain it, but I have experienced this. When we are taking care of our physical bodies, it helps in every area of our lives, especially our Spiritual lives. If you do not believe what I am saying, try it, IT TRULY WORKS!



Where Do I Begin God?

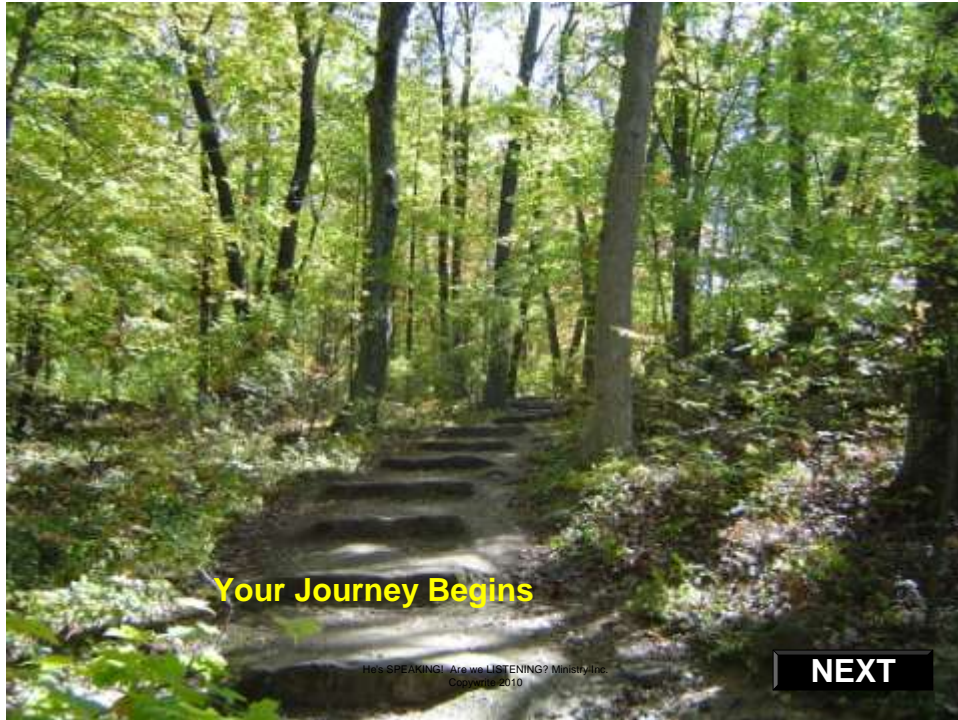
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Isaiah 53:6

Psalm 103:12

Psalms 139:13-14

**For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.**

Dear God,

You have created me just the way I am. I sometimes wonder why you made me this way. If I believe the Bible, and I do, you have made me wonderfully. Thank you God for giving me life. Thank you for loving me with all of your heart. As we Journey today, please...

SPEAK to me. I am LISTENING!

Psalm 57:10

**For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.**

Psalm 36:5-7

Dear God,

You are so loving and faithful. I would like to take a few minutes to thank you for your faithfulness, and ask you to help me to be faithful to you.

Prayer Power

Thank God for his faithfulness.

Dear God,

I want to be faithful to you, but it will require action. I have been learning that coming near to you is one of those actions. Another one is taking care of my temple, my body, where your Spirit lives. You crafted me into the person I am. Your desire is for me to take care of my body, both on the Inside and the Outside. The more I LISTEN to you, the more I will understand what actions grow out of my faith. My faith should produce in me a desire to be an obedient follower of Jesus.

James 2:17

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

OBEDIENCE

Dictionary Definition

What does the Bible say about obedience?

John 14:23

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching.

My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."

1 John 5:3

Dear God,

When I obey you, it shows you how much I love you. What are some commands in the Bible that I must obey? Please SPEAK to me, I am LISTENING!

Psalm 119:11,16b

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Luke 18:1b

...always pray and not give up.

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

Dear God,

Your Word speaks of many things that I should be doing as a Christian. There are two very important things that need to be priorities in my life: Prayer, which is SPEAKING to you, and getting into the Word (the Bible), which is LISTENING to you. The more time I spend with you, the more I will get to know you. I am noticing that as I take the time to listen, you are speaking to me. Thank you for all you are teaching me.

Prayer Power

Ask God to give you the desire to be obedient.

My Journey Journal

Write how God has spoken to your heart.

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

This is the end of Day Four.



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Five

OBEDIENCE

I know that God wants ME to OBEY him.

HE longs for ME to open my communication with him.

HE WANTS TO SPEAK TO ME.....DO I WANT TO SPEAK TO HIM?

HE WANTS TO LISTEN TO ME.....DO I WANT TO LISTEN TO HIM?

My lifestyle is busy! It is hard!

Several years ago I decided to experiment with this whole idea of finding time for God! I committed myself to start small, and spend five minutes each day with him. There were days that I had a lot going on, but I tried my best to find the time to communicate with God.

What I discovered amazed me! When I truly put God first, even though I was busy, it seemed like I accomplished more than ever that day. I tried this over and over, and it works. God rewards those who earnestly seek him.



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Five



Matthew 6:6

**But when you pray,
Go into your room,
Close the door and pray
to your Father, who is unseen.
Then your Father, who sees
what is done in secret,
will reward you.**

Open the door to Your LISTENING Room.....



Your Journey begins..

Day Five

Power in Music

Sit still, close your eyes, and "LET GO." Listen to your favorite Christian music.

Prayer Power

Pray that you will have a clear mind as you begin your Journey.

Take a few minutes to confess your sins.

Psalm 32:1-5

Psalm 103:12

Dear God,

It has been great going on our Journey every day. Thank you for helping me to find the time to go into my LISTENING Room. I know we are almost at the end of this Journey, so I want to reflect back today. It is true, you do SPEAK to me if I find the time to LISTEN.

My Journey Journal Reflecting Back

Look through your *My Journey Journal* and think about how God has spoken to you.

Dear God,

Reflecting back on this week, there are two questions that I am asking myself. "Do I want to come near to you?" "Do I want to have open communication with you?" It is my choice. You will not make me do it. If I choose to come near to you and have open communication, what should I do?

Prayer Power

Speak to God about your feelings.

1 Kings 8:61

“But your hearts must be fully committed to the LORD our God, to live by his decrees and obey his commands, as at this time.”

Proverbs 16:3

Hebrews 11:6

Dear God,

Please allow my faith in you to grow each day. Forgive me for allowing anything in my life that might keep me from you. Please God, help me to break down any other “gods” in my life, and give me a hunger and thirst for more of you.

Psalm 42:1-2

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

Isaiah 26:9a

Dear God,

Please make this the desire of my heart, even though I might not feel this way now, it is what you want for me. I need to trust that you can work in my heart, and fill me with a great longing for you.

Psalm 63:1

O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Prayer Power

Pray about what is in your heart.

My Journey Journal

Write a prayer of commitment to allow God to be the center of your life.

Psalm 73:25

Dear God,

My faith requires actions. I have been learning this week what I need to do for my faith to have actions. Please teach me more about this as I come close to you each day. Thank you for this day. Help me to be a blessing to someone. I Love You!

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

This is the end of Day Five.



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Six

OUR FAITH HAS TO HAVE ACTIONS

A scripture verse in the book of James says, “faith without actions is dead.” Those are pretty powerful words.

I have discovered at times my ACTIONS get out of control. I end up doing too much. The key to actions is BALANCE. There are so many good things to become involved in, and it is good to choose what we want to do; but we cannot become so busy that we leave God out of our lives.

It is HARD to say “NO” when someone asks us to do something. It is HARD not to sign up the kids for so many things. It is HARD to give up working so much. Here is the point...

If we put God first, all the rest falls into place.

DO YOU BELIEVE THIS? Try it, you will like it!



Where Do I Begin God?

Day Six



Matthew 6:6

**But when you pray,
Go into your room,
Close the door and pray
to your Father, who is unseen.
Then your Father, who sees
what is done in secret,
will reward you.**

Open the door to Your LISTENING Room.....



Day Six

Power in Music

Sit still, close your eyes, and "LET GO." Listen to your favorite Christian music.

Prayer Power

Pray that you will have a clear mind as you begin your Journey.

Take a few minutes to confess your sins.

Luke 5:24a

Psalm 103:12

Dear God,

This is the last day of our Journey this week. It has been great! I want to praise and thank you for all you have spoken to me about. You have shown me that you are SPEAKING; I just need to take the time to LISTEN.

Joshua 22:5b

...to the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul.

1 Peter 1:22

Dear God,

These verses talk a lot about love. Do I love you with all my heart and soul? Please fill me with...

LOVE FOR YOU!

Prayer Power

Pray that God will fill you with a love for him.

Dear God,

I know this is something you want me to have in my life—a love for you. So I know you will DO IT!

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

My Journey Journal

Think about your Journey and write a love letter to God.

Dear God,

I would like to spend the rest of our Journey today “Glorifying You.” You deserve to be given the glory for all you do in my life. I do not want to ever forget that.

Psalm 57:5

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

Psalm 63:3

Psalm 72:19

Psalm 145:5-14

Romans 11:36

Dear God,

Thank you for being the God that you are.

Power in Music

Meditate on the words of your favorite Christian music.

My Journey Journal

Open your My Journey Journal and read your LOVE LETTER TO GOD out loud as a prayer.

If you have not written one, just say what is in your heart.

OR

Read the following passage as a prayer.

1 Chronicles 29:10-13

Power in Music

End this Journey by listening to your favorite songs from this Journey.

Prayer Power

Praise God for going on this Journey with you.

Not GUILT, just DESIRE

**Congratulations,
you have made it through this six-day Journey *Where do I begin God?***

YOU ARE AWESOME!

Now as you leave, we do not want you to leave feeling overwhelmed, but encouraged. You have taken a wonderful step in your life to PUT GOD FIRST. Maybe you have been doing that for a long time, but this Journey is a different way to spend time with God.

Of course, satan will want you to feel guilty, overwhelmed, and discouraged because you have not spent any or very little time with God. Do not let him do that to you. I do not believe that God wants us to feel guilty. He just wants us to desire to spend time with him.

If you do not think you are filled with that desire, it is so simple. JUST ASK GOD TO FILL YOU WITH A DESIRE FOR HIM. He will fill you with a desire for him. Just start out small by spending time with him in Your LISTENING Room and leave the rest to God.

It has been great going on this Journey with you. We hope you will join us again next week. We would like to encourage you to try four weekly Journeys. It's been said that when you do something for twenty-one days, it becomes a habit. So until we meet again...we will be praying for you.

This is the end of Day Six.

We invite you to go on another Journey with God.



In our fast paced society it is hard to STOP and find time for God on a daily basis. We realize God wants to build a love relationship with us, but often we do not know where to begin. Our ministry wants to help you on your Journey of building a love relationship with God.

We have discovered that people are motivated to find time to read the Bible when it relates to something they are experiencing in their life. This is why we have developed our topical Bible Journeys with God. These Journeys will encourage people with different life situations

Listed below are the topical Journey titles. Each Journey lasts for six days and will take you 5-20 minutes to complete. You may choose either the written or CD version. They are grouped into sessions, but can be used separately.

Journeys with God

Spiritual

1. Help, I want to get off this treadmill!
2. A New Beginning
3. Where do I begin God?
4. Power in Prayer

Marriage

1. Remember when we first met?
2. MARRIAGE Makeover
3. Do I have JOY in my life?
4. Let's Begin Again!

Financial

1. FINANCIAL Makeover
2. My Job is Getting me Down
3. I'm Forgiven
4. I SURRENDER

Physical

1. My Body Needs a MAKEOVER
2. Do I REALLY want to give up this CRAVING?
3. God I Need Your Strength
4. The Key to Life is BALANCE

Family

1. What is a FAMILY?
2. FAMILY Makeover
3. Forgive and Forget the Past
4. RELATIONSHIIPS

FUN

1. I don't know how to have fun!
2. FUN Makeover

DREAM

1. What should I do with my life?
2. DREAMS

Single Journeys

I'm ENGAGED
I'm in SALES
I've Lost Someone I Love
I'm feeling BLUE today
I'm in the MINISTRY

Congratulations
*You have completed your 6-day
Inside Outside LIFE Makeover
Journey with God*



Encouraging people to build a love relationship with God
by speaking and listening to him daily.

Contact Information

Mailing Address: 2935 Fish Hatchery Road #261
Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 608-514-9000

Email: journey@hesspeakingarewelisting.com

Website: www.hesspeakingarewelisting.com

Monday Morning Blog: www.robingove.blogspot.com