

A SHORT DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL

Held by the God Who Knows the Way

Reflections on trust, rest, purpose, and hope

*“Use whatever gift you have received to serve others,
as faithful stewards of God’s grace.”*

1 PETER 4:10

A personal reflection shaped by Scripture

I Want to Know You, God

I want to know You, God - not only know about You, but acknowledge You in the deep, penetrating way we know someone we truly care about.

I want to believe that You want what is best for me. I want to seek You on roads I have walked before, on roads I have never seen, and on those wild roads where no path seems to exist.

Even in the middle of the wilderness, when I feel alone: trust Him.

Not with my own strength, O God. Show me that You can handle what I cannot. Teach me to be humble, careful, and faithful with the work already in my hands.

Sometimes a familiar office and fixed hours felt easier. This new freedom is different. It asks me to receive, to choose, to trust, and to stop believing that I must do everything alone.

A dirt road winds through a dry, hilly landscape at sunset. The road is light-colored and shows tire tracks. The surrounding vegetation is sparse and dry, with some small trees and shrubs. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with soft clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**“Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in Him, and He will act.”**

Psalm 37:5

Receiving Help Is Not Failure

The life I receive may not arrive in the form I once imagined. I may not have my own car, my own place, or every part of life arranged by my own effort.

Instead, I may live with a Polish sister who lends me her car. Again, God reinforces a truth I am still learning:

I do not have to do it all alone.

Freedom is not independence from everyone. Sometimes freedom is learning to receive love, help, provision, and community without shame.

When I do not know what to do, I will seek God. And when I do know what to do, I will still invite Him into my conversations, plans, work, and decisions.

Even when I feel ready for more, I can ask Him to strengthen me instead of quietly returning to self-reliance.

Light Is Stronger Than Fear

Anxiety has often known exactly where to grip me. Fear tells me that worrying is responsibility, that control is wisdom, and that I am safer when I keep rehearsing every possible problem.

But God's light is brighter, stronger, and more powerful. Love wins. I do not have to magnify every dark thought simply because it entered my mind.

“Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith...”

HEBREWS 12:2

What I keep staring at grows larger in my attention. I can focus on problems, or I can return my eyes to Christ and the possibilities of faithful life with Him.

Self-control also belongs in my thinking. A sound mind can pause and ask: Is this thought rooted in love, truth, humility, and faith?

Worry sometimes disguises pride: it acts as though everything depends on me. Humility says, “Father, this is too heavy for me. I give it to You.”



**“Come to Me, all who are weary
and burdened,
and I will give you rest.”**

Matthew 11:28

Shalom: Nothing Missing, Nothing Broken

In Scripture, shalom is more than the absence of conflict. It carries the sense of wholeness, completeness, flourishing, harmony with God, and well-being.

- Wholeness - life gathered together instead of fragmented by fear.
- Flourishing - growing according to God's wisdom, not merely achieving more.
- Harmony - being right with God and learning to live from that relationship.
- Hope - believing that hardship is not God's final word.

Jeremiah 29:11 was spoken to Judah in exile. It did not promise immediate ease or a private dream life. It promised that God had not abandoned His people: His covenant purpose was restoration rather than destruction.

God loves me and desires my true good. He wants restoration, peace, and hope - according to His wisdom, not my fear.

The Sensitive Child

I was always the sensitive child. The one who cried easily. The one who felt different. The one who noticed what other people noticed about me. The one who learned to perform for school, trophies, and approval.

*I just want what is best for people.
That is all I ever wanted - to share light and
love.*

That love was not created by Instagram, teaching, or achievement. The little girl already carried tenderness. It was pressed down for years, but it was not extinguished.

Sensitivity can be painful, but it can also become compassion. The tenderness I experienced may be part of what helps me notice people who are overlooked today.

Childhood cannot simply be skipped. Its joys and wounds do not have to define the future, but they become part of the person who now knows how much safety, patience, and kindness matter.

From Performing to Serving

I want to use the gifts God has given me to help people - not for fame, not merely for Instagram, and not to prove that I am valuable.

Funny enough, when I began teaching, I stopped posting so much. I once thought teaching might exist for the content. Instead, content became a tool, while helping real people became the purpose.

*“Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in Him, and He will act.”*

PSALM 37:5

I have gifts, experience, and the ability to create value. I can pray for meaningful work and receive fair payment without degrading myself or pretending humility means scarcity.

The deeper question is not, “How impressive can I become?” It is: “How can what God entrusted to me become useful to someone else?”

Purpose does not have to be glamorous. It can look like one class, one conversation, one safe room, one practical act of love.



**“God... richly provides us with
everything
for our enjoyment.”**

1 Timothy 6:17

Enjoy the gift. Worship the Giver.

From Surviving to Dreaming

I feel blessed - for my gifts, possibilities, friends, family, health, and life. For the beach. For the ocean touching my feet. For the ordinary joy of being alive.

This is not denial of hardship. It is a shift in attention: from scarcity to gratitude, from self-protection to purpose, from merely surviving to hoping again.

“What is my: I couldn’t wish for anything more?”

My answer is not first a house, visa, career, or relationship. It is to be loved as I am, to feel safe, and to have room to be myself.

A future partner may reflect that love, but first and foremost I have Jesus’ love. I am a child of God. My deepest safety cannot depend on another human being carrying what belongs to Christ.

God loves me fully today, before I achieve another thing. And because I am loved, He continues shaping me into the likeness of Christ - not so I can earn His love, but because I already have it.

She Would Be Proud

The one who cried easily. The one who felt different. The one who wanted people to be okay.

If she met me today, I do not think she would be impressed first by my portfolio or my hourly rate.

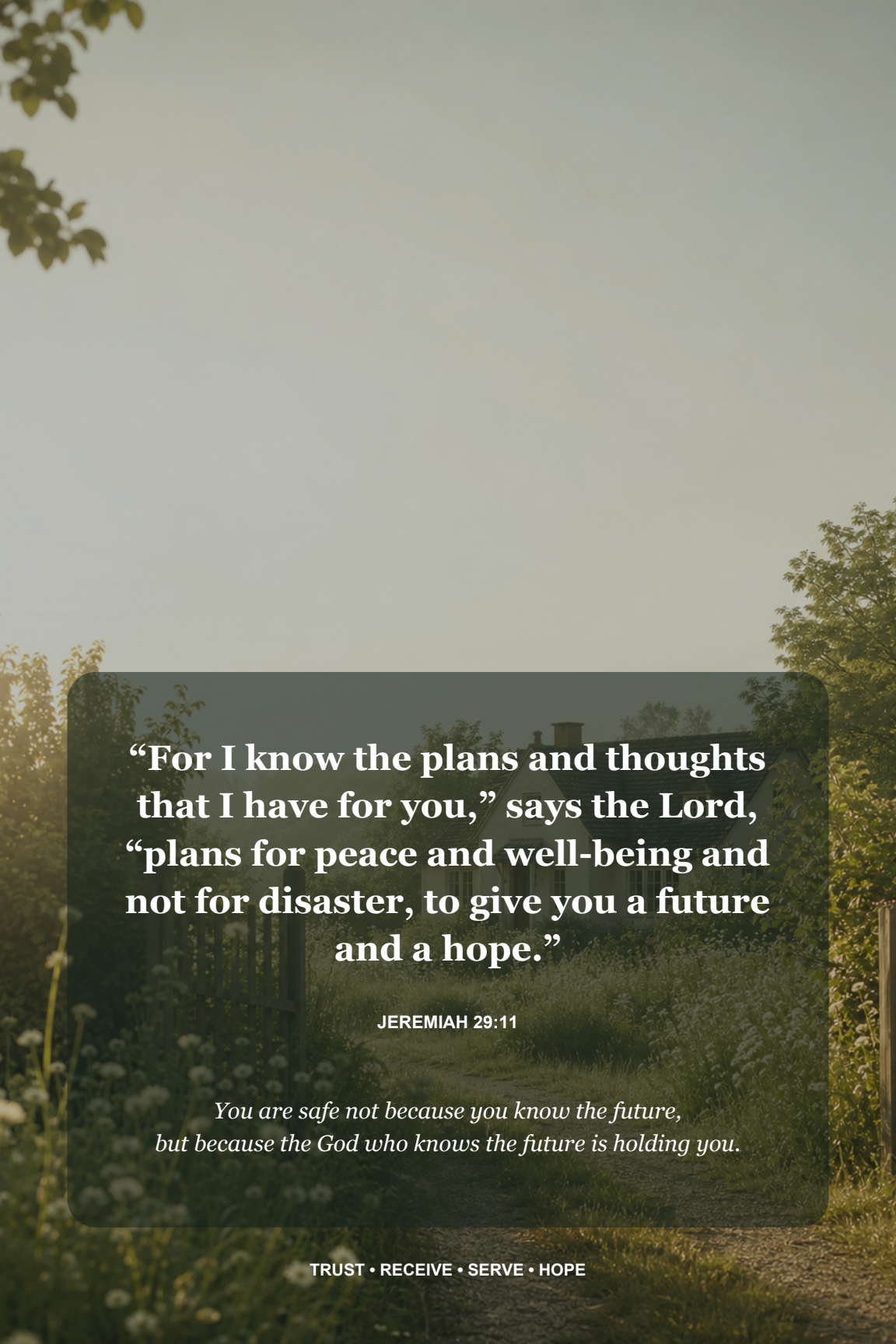
I think she would feel relieved.

Because I am becoming someone who is safe. Someone who still cares. Someone who did not let hardship extinguish her kindness.

These reflections capture something precious:

- a woman beginning to replace fear with trust;
- scarcity with gratitude;
- and self-protection with purpose.

The story does not end with perfect certainty. It ends with tears of thankfulness - and that is a beautiful place to begin again.



**“For I know the plans and thoughts
that I have for you,” says the Lord,
“plans for peace and well-being and
not for disaster, to give you a future
and a hope.”**

JEREMIAH 29:11

*You are safe not because you know the future,
but because the God who knows the future is holding you.*

TRUST • RECEIVE • SERVE • HOPE