## Women of the Conference



If you made the decision to accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour today, we want to welcome you to the family! We pray this booklet will be helpful as you move forward in your freedom.

### Awaken and arise!

As you step into my light, you will see what I have in store for you. I will guide every step and I will straighten your path. Be ready for the new journey I have for you.

### Stop being afraid!

I am with you; my spirit is calling out to you to come. It is your time to shine and be the light in this world. Be ready to be blown away by what I will do through my Holy Spirit in you. It is time to step into my light.

#### FATHER'S LOVE LETTER An intimate message from God to you.

My Child.

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. Psalm 139:1 I know when you sit down and when you rise up. Psalm 139:2 I am familiar with all your ways. Psalm 139:3 Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. Matthew 10:29-31 For you were made in my image. Genesis 1:27 In me you live and move and have your being. Acts 17:28 For you are my offspring. Acts 17:28 I knew you even before you were conceived. I chose you when I planned creation. Ephesians 1:11-12 You were not a mistake, for all your Jeremiah 1-4-5 I determined the exact time of your birth and where you days are written in my book. Psalm 139:15-16 You are fearfully and wonderfully made, Psalm 139:14 I knit you together in your would live Acts 17:26 mother's womb, Psalm 139:13 And brought you forth on the day you were born. Psaim 71:6 I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. John 8:41-44 I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. 1 John 4:16 And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. 1 John 3:1 Simply because you are my child and I am your Father, 1 John 3:1 I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. Matthew 7:11 For I am the perfect father. Matthew 5:48 Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. James 1:17 For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. Matthew 6:31-33 My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 Because I love you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3 My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. Psalm 139:17-18 And I rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17 I will never stop doing good to you. Jeremiah 32:40 For you are my treasured possession. Exodus 19:5 I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. Jeremiah 32:41 And I want to show you great and marvelous things. Jeremiah 33:3 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. Deuteronomy 4:29 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4 For it is I who gave you those desires. Philippians 2:13 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. Ephesians 3:20 For I am your greatest encourager. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you. Psalm 34:18 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. Isaiah 40:11 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eves. Revelation 21:3-4 And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. Revelation 21:3-4 I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. John 17:23 For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. John 17:26 He is the exact representation of my being. Hebrews 1:3 He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. Romans 8:31 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 His death was the ultimate expression I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. Romans 8:31-32 of my love for you. 1 John 4:10 If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. 1 John 2:23 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. Romans 8:38-39 Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen. Luke 15:7 I have always been Father, and will always be Father. Ephesians 3:14-15

My question is... Will you be my child? John 1:12-13 I am waiting for you. Luke 15:11-32

Love, Your Dad Almighty God

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As I stand at the door that is closed, I look up to God, my Father, and say "What do I need to do?" I hear him whisper:

"Open the door my daughter and step into the light. It is time to embrace what I have in store for you. This new journey in my light is going to bring you freedom like you have never known before. It is going to bring you joy, peace and hope.

You are going to be made new in me. As you step into the light, you will sense a new stirring in your heart. The light, my Holy Spirit, is going to guide you and direct you.

When you take that step, when you open the door, the devil trembles because he knows that he will lose his grip on you. When you chose to be led by God, the devil has no authority in your life as the battle was won on the cross. Do not be afraid to open the door and make the changes He is calling you to make. He is at work and He is in control! He will make you whole again. He says to us his daughters:

"Are you ready for all that I have in store for you? Are you ready to be Change Makers, Prayer Warriors, Marriage Restorers, Peace Makers, Healers, Teachers, Encouragers? But even more exciting, are you ready to be my BRIDE, who shines for me? Are you ready to be used by me? Are you ready for this new season I have waiting for you?"

Behold, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If your heart is open to hear my voice and you open the door within, I will come in to you and feast with you, and you will feast with me. Revelation 3:20 (TPT)

What are you waiting for? Today is the day! All you have to do is to say this short prayer aloud:

"Dear God, I know I'm a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I confess with my mouth and believe with my heart that Jesus is Your Son. I believe that He died for my sin on the cross and that you raised Him to life again. I want to trust Him as my Saviour and follow Him as Lord, from this day forward. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen."

> "In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents." **LUKE 15:10 (NLT)**

" In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!" LUKE 15:7 (NLT)

## Welcome to the Family!

We are so delighted that you have chosen to accept Jesus into your life. It is the best decision you will ever make! You have begun a most wonderful journey in which Jesus promises always to be with you. You are now a member of God's eternal family. This does not mean that life will suddenly become easy - it won't. What it does mean is that the power that raised Jesus from the dead now lives in you. As you bring God into your life and keep right with Him, He will guide you through any problems you face.

### We encourage you to:

- Tell someone else about your new faith in Jesus.
- Spend time with God each day. Develop the daily habit of praying to Him and reading His Word. Ask God to increase your faith and your understanding of the Bible.
  - Luke a disciple's journey with Jesus
  - Acts the acts of the Holy Spirit at work
  - Genesis the creation story
  - Psalms songs, poems, prayers, declarations that you can speak over yourself
  - John, Matthew, Mark each disciple's story of their walk with Jesus
- Seek fellowship with other followers of Jesus. Develop a group of believing friends to answer your questions and support you.
- Find a local church where you can worship God.

As you discover who God is, and what he has in store for your life, remember that you have a whole new family backing you. Even more exciting is that God has you! He will always be there for you, will always walk alongside you, and will never let you go. Even when you stumble and fall, He will pick you up. He is a loving and caring Father. One who never lets go, even if we choose to walk away for a time. His arms are always wide open, waiting for us to return.

May this booklet help you grow in your new faith. May you find answers in His word, time spent in prayer with our Father and through others who know Jesus. May this journey bring freedom, joy, peace, hope, excitement, and love into your life.

Loads of love The Women of the Valley Team

### As I stepped into the light, I heard a voice that said:

"Welcome home my child. I have been waiting for you! I knew that today would be the day where you chose to move out of the darkness where you have been living and into my light.

As you came through the door, I saw you, and my heart began to leap with joy, love and excitement as my child was returning home.

As you stepped into my light, your past was stripped off you, the lies and deceptions that you have believed have been removed from your mind and heart. What you have spoken over your own life is now gone and forgotten, never again will you speak those words over your life again.

You have been made a new creation, and you belong to me. You are mine and I love you. You are my child whom I show favour, grace, and forgiveness. I hold nothing against you. Your sins are forgiven, and you are healed.

Your chains have been broken; you are set free! Walk in my freedom, and the wholeness I have bought upon you, because you were brave and chose to respond to me. You will never have to live in fear, bondage, brokenness or under lies again.

You can now live a life that is filled with truth, and WHO I SAY YOU ARE. Today is a new beginning. From this day you will be my light that shines in those dark places. You will share my love with others and the great news of how you have been saved and set free. That you now know TRUE FREEDOM.

People will see the change in you straight away and will ask you what is different. You won't be afraid to share that you invited me into your life and that you have walked away from the darkness of your old life. That you are on a journey following my plans and purposes for your life. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future.

Your loving Father, God

### To the One I Love



I have loved you from the day I formed you. I created you in your mother's womb. I knew what I was creating. You might not always believe it or feel it, but you are created in my image. You are beautiful, you are unique, there is no other like you. So, don't try and be someone else, don't try and become someone other than who I have created you to be. You are who you are, and I wanted you that way.

You have been given the shape of your body for a reason. Your height, eyes, hips, hair colour, skin colour, everything I gave you for a reason. So please stop trying to change it because your beauty is so unique to you. There is no other like you.

I have given you special skills and talents. Now is your time to show the world who I created you to be. I am going to equip you in mighty ways, and I am going to use you to be the light in the darkness. Through you and your story, you will bring my name to many who are stuck in the dark. Through you, my Spirit will be known. You do not need to fear anything, because I am with you. I will guide your words and each step that you take. All you need to do is trust me and know that I will never leave you. You are my child, and I will never let you go.

You are where I want you to be, and you are so loved by me, Your Heavenly Father. So, do not be afraid for I am with you.

I created you. I know every part of you. I will mould you and refine you so that you can be who I designed you to be. At times you will face hardships, but you do not need to despair. It is through these times, that you will lean into me, and grow closer to me. You will gain the strength that you need to face the hard times through me and with me. It is in these times that I will grow you, and nurture you so that you will become stronger and bolder for me.

Your fears will be taken away, your brokenness will be made whole, your healing will be complete, the job you have wanted will come to you, doors will be opened and you will see my favour over your life.

All I ask as Your Heavenly Father is that you trust me. Have faith in me and know that I will give you the desires of your heart. It might not be as you expect or be in your timing, but my plan is so much better for you.

Your loving Father

## **Hiding Behind**

Hiding behind those masks (of which there are many), is a beautiful wonderful woman of God. Who, if she had to come out of hiding, would have an amazing story to tell.

The masks that she hides behind have kept her from really showing who she is and prevent her from seeing what her Father intended for her.

She is afraid to come out of hiding because she won't know who she is. She only knows the girl behind the masks. As she steps out of hiding and slowly starts taking off the masks, she starts to realise that she has missed out on so much.

She starts to see how much of her life has not been lived to its full potential. She sees that she has lived with so much pain and has believed the many lies spoken over her.

As one mask fades away, her Father gently starts working on removing the next one. It hurts her, and she goes through a lot of pain, but He does it in such a loving caring way.

Because she is allowing Him to take control, and not trying to do it in her own strength, He is smiling and helping her to remove every mask and its associated pain that she has lived with for so long.

He shows her what it is like to live and walk in freedom. To see herself as her Father created her, not what the world thinks she should look like, or what she herself thinks she should look like. He makes her into His beautiful princess.

> He says: "Stop hiding and be real with others, yourself and me. When you are real, you will find true freedom in your life."

# Affirmations of who God says you are

One of the most important things to know when you have accepted Jesus into your life, is to know who He says you are. Once you genuinely believe and understand it with your whole heart and mind, you will see your life transform.

#### This is who God says you are:

**I am forgiven.** 1 John 2:12 (NLT) ... "your sins have been forgiven through Jesus."

I am never alone. Hebrews 13:5 (NLT) ... "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you."

**God meets all my needs.** Philippians 4:19 (NLT) "God ...will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."

I am free from condemnation. Romans 8:1 (NLT) "there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus."

I have a future of hope. Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**I have eternal life.** John 10:28 (NIV) "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand."

I am a new creation. 2 Corinthians 5:17(NLT) "...anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

I am an heir of God. Romans 8:17 (NIV) "Now if we are children, then we are heirs heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ..."

I am God's workmanship. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

I am seated in the heavenly realms with Jesus. Ephesians 2:6 (NIV) "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus"

I was loved by God before the creation of the world. Matthew 25:34 (NIV) "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world."

### I have been adopted as

**God's child** Ephesians 1:5 (NLT) "God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure."

**God takes care of me.** Psalm 16:5 (NIV) "Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure."

**I am accepted.** Romans 15:7 (NIV) "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

I am blameless. Ephesians 1:4 (NLT) "Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes."

I am a citizen of heaven. Philippians 3:20 (NLT) "But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives..."

I am chosen. John 15:16 (NIV) "You did not choose me, but I chose you..."

**My life is restored.** Psalm 71:20 (NLT) "You have allowed me to suffer much hardship, but you will restore me to life again and lift me up from the depths of the earth."

I am strong. Ephesians 6:10 (NIV) "...be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power." I am wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14 (NIV) "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."

Nothing can separate me from the love of Jesus. Romans 8:35 (NLT) "Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?"

I am chosen by God holy and dearly loved. Colossians 3:12 (NIV) "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

## Who is God

Just as we need to understand who God says we are, we also need to understand who He is. The Bible is full of verses of who God is, how His ways are always best, and how He wants the best for His children. Here are a few of our favourites:

- **1 John 1:5 (NLT):** "This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all."
- Psalm 116:5 (NIV): "The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion."
- **1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT):** "The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure."
- **Psalm 68:19-20 (NIV):** "Praise be to the Lord, to God our Saviour, who daily bears our burdens. Our God is a God who saves; from the Sovereign Lord comes escape from death."
- **Micah 7:18-19 (NIV):** "Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea."
- **Psalm 50:6 (NIV):** "And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for he is a God of justice."
- James 1:17(NIV): "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."
- **Psalm 18:30 (NLT):** "God's way is perfect. All the Lord's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection."
- Numbers 23:19 (NLT): "God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?"

- **Psalm 84:11-12 (NIV)** "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favour and honour; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you."
- **1 John 4:7-9 (NLT):** "Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him."
- **Exodus 34:5-7 (NLT):** "Then the Lord came down in a cloud and stood there with him; and he called out his own name, Yahweh. The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out: "Yahweh! The Lord! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations. I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren; the entire family is affected— even children in the third and fourth generations."

God's Word is filled with promises from our God to provide and deliver. The Bible is the best place to turn to when you are searching for the truth, as well as what God promises for you. As you read these Bible verses about the promises of God, claim them over your life!

Freedom from addictions, deliverance from sin, financial provision, overcoming depression and anxiety, repairing a marriage, restoring health, being free from fear, hope for lost, and many more are the blessings and gifts that God promises to provide for those who believe in Him.

### Gods promises to His Children

- Isaiah 41:10 (NLT): "Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand."
- Isaiah 26:3 (NIV): "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in you."
- **Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV):** "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."
- John 16:33 (NIV): "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
- Psalm 32:8 (NIV): "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."
- Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV): "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."
- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NIV): "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weakness, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."
- Isaiah 40:31(NIV): "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint."
- Isaiah 43:2 (NIV): When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

- Psalm 16:5-11 (NIV): Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.
- Psalm 23:4 (NLT): Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.
- 2 Samuel 22:32-34 (NIV): For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God? It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he causes me to stand on the heights.
- Philippians 4:6-9 (NLT): "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.'

# Daily declarations to speak over yourself

God is for me, not against me. He is faithful and trustworthy. He fights for me and is bigger than any giant I may face. I am ready for my breakthrough. I am not moved by what I see. I am anointed and appointed for a time such as this.

### Every morning say the following words to yourself in the mirror:

You are God's DAUGHTER You are STRONG You are BEAUTIFUL You are NOT worthless You are LOVED

### Every evening say the following words to yourself in the mirror:

You are STRONG You are BEAUTIFUL You are BRAVE You are LOVED You are CHOSEN by God

# It's a spiritual battle

As you begin this new journey, it is important that you cover yourself daily in the armour of God so that the Holy Spirit is upon you wherever you go and whatever situation you face.

### The Armour of God – Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.<sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

### Simple truths to repeat when you're in a spiritual battle

- God's got this
- The Lord fights for me
- Jesus Loves me
- I am a child of God
- The battle belongs to you God
- He is able
- His grace is sufficient
- .
- Joy comes in the morning I am fearfully and wonderfully made •
- Jesus is enough for me •
- I am a new creation in Jesus •
- Jesus conquered the grave •
- Sin doesn't define me, Jesus does •
- Fear has no grip on me
- I am not alone
- Be still and know
- The battle is won

## My Princess... Grow where you are planted

I know you sometimes wonder if your life has any real worth. But I assure you that I can use you to impact those around you. Just as I used Paul in prison, I will use you wherever you are or whatever circumstances you are in.

Let me water you with my holy Word, and you will begin to bloom wherever you are planted. Come to me in prayer and let me empower you with my Spirit. Even if you can't see the harvest of your hard work now, I promise that others will one day look back at the time you were in their lives and remember your acts of kindness, words of wisdom, and love for them. So, for now, my valuable princess, let me help you blossom in a world that is searching for the meaning of life.

Love,

Your King and Gardener of Life

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 (NIV)

### I Possess what I Confess

- I confess Jesus is Lord. (Romans 10:9-10). I possess salvation.
- I confess that "by his wounds we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5). I possess healing.
- I confess that the Son has set me free. (John 8:36). I possess absolute freedom.
- I confess that "God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5:5) I possess the ability to love everyone.
- I confess that "the godly are as bold as lions" (Proverbs 28:1). I possess lion-hearted boldness.
- I confess that God has said that He will never fail me nor abandon me. (Hebrews 13:5). I possess the presence of God each step of my way.
- I confess that my God will meet all my needs. (Philippians 4:19) I possess the Spirit of the Lord so will lack for nothing.
- I confess that I can do all things through him who gives me strength. (Philippians 4:13) I possess supernatural abilities.

### Just in case you are doubting yourself today:

- 1. You were wonderfully made.
- 2. You are loved.
- 3. You matter.
- 4. You are enough.

**Today choose:** Worship over worry. Faith over fear. Peace over panic. Believe in a sovereign God who gives us all His saving grace.

God my creator, my Father, my number one in my life.

You have rescued me so many times, you have cradled me in your arms more times that I felt I deserve. Yet you say:

"No, my daughter, you are worth it. You are worth my love, my grace, my comfort. You are more than worthy of all I pour out over your life.

You are my beloved daughter and princess who I am so in love with and so proud of. You have walked many tough roads, but you have held onto me and trusted me to bring you through it all.

Your faith in me has brought you the blessings you deserve. Your patience and steadfastness have paid off.

Your love for your family, friends and even strangers brings joy to my heart. You are always willing to put everyone ahead of your own needs and I see it, my precious daughter. I honour you and give thanks that you care beyond what your heart can handle sometimes, but I know I gave you the heart that you have, to love and care so much. I will never give you more than I know you can handle.

For you, my daughter, are stronger than you think and braver than you believe.

This is your time to shine and grow and see what I, your heavenly Father, has in store for you. Your faithfulness in praying for others and carrying them in their times of need, is a testimony of the faith you have in me.

Now is the time where you will be blessed, my precious daughter, for being a blessing to so many others.

Get ready my Princess, I am going to blow you away."

## **Getting Baptised**

Baptism in water is one of the first steps of obedience for a person who has committed their life to Jesus.

- Matthew 28:19 (NIV): "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"
- Acts 2:38 (NIV): "...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."
- Acts 10:48 (NIV): "So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ..."

## What Baptism means

Baptism is a deeply personal decision; however, it is not a private matter. The Word instructs us to make our choice public. It is an outward expression to all that God has already started in your heart.

- The baptism waters are like a bath. In Acts 22:16, Paul says to "be baptized and wash your sins away". It depicts spiritual cleansing from the guilt of sin.
- The baptism waters are like a graveyard.
  Romans 6:4 says that "we died and were buried with Christ by baptism". Baptism reflects an inward decision to die to "the old you" who rejected and ignored Jesus. Baptism is a break from your sinful past.
- The baptism waters are like a maternity ward. Baptism reflects how we are united with Jesus in his resurrection. We have a new life. **2 Corinthians 5:17** says that "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Once you have received Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, have repented of your sins, and put your trust in Jesus, then it is time to be baptised. If you belong to a church, or small group then you should speak to a leader about being baptised. Invite your family and friends to witness your decision to follow Jesus with all your heart. It is a wonderful opportunity to share with them what Jesus has done and is doing in your life.

### Sister in Jesus,

We hope this booklet will help you in your new walk with the Lord. Use it as reference for guidance, prayer, affirmations, and declarations over your life.

You are now a part of a bigger family. Don't be afraid to reach out for help or encouragement via our WOTV Facebook or Instagram pages or our website (https://www.womenofthevalley.co.za).

We encourage you to stay close to the Lord by reading His word - the Bible. If you do not have a Bible or cannot get one, you can access scripture and Bible commentaries via the web:

- <u>Daily Audio Bible</u> a daily podcast of Bible readings and prayer requests from a global online community.
- <u>Free Bible Audio App</u> Listen to Scripture on iPad, iPhone, and Android devices.

Join a Bible-based church to find a Christian community to support you and help grow your Faith. There are many churches who have their services online or have apps for your smartphone should you not be able to physically join a church at this time. Ask God for guidance in finding the church community that He wants you to belong to.

Bear in mind that the core relationship for a believer is with God - not with a church or a church leader. Be sure to invest time on your personal relationship with Him.

We trust that God will bring Spirit-filled Christian sisters alongside you as you walk in your new Faith, trusting in Jesus.

May God richly bless you!

The Conference Team