# Mornings with God

Prayers and Devotions for Women

**Emily Biggers** 



© 2013 by Barbour Publishing, Inc.

Print ISBN 978-1-62029-170-2

eBook Editions:

Adobe Digital Edition (.epub) 978-1-62029-704-9 Kindle and MobiPocket Edition (.prc) 978-1-62029-703-2

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted for commercial purposes, except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without written permission of the publisher.

Churches and other noncommercial interests may reproduce portions of this book without the express written permission of Barbour Publishing, provided that the text does not exceed 500 words or 5 percent of the entire book, whichever is less, and that the text is not material quoted from another publisher. When reproducing text from this book, include the following credit line: "From Mornings with God: Prayers and Devotions for Women, published by Barbour Publishing, Inc. Used by permission."

All scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

Published by Barbour Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 719, Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683, www.barbourbooks.com

Our mission is to publish and distribute inspirational products offering exceptional value and biblical encouragement to the masses.



Printed in China.

# CONTENTS

Introduction5
A Joy-Filled Morning7
Glorify the Lord17
Nearest and Dearest27
Grow My Faith, Father37
Resting in Jesus49
Grant Me Patience 59
In Your Strength, Lord
The Power of Influence 81
Confidence in Christ
Godly Wisdom 105
Amazing Grace
Hope for Things Unseen
And the Greatest of
These Is Love
Counting My Blessings 149
In God I Trust
A Generous Heart 171
True Beauty
Conclusion



### INTRODUCTION

As women seeking to live out our faith in a busy world, we simply must begin each day in the presence of God. He longs to make

Himself known to us. Mornings with God is a collection of prayers, scriptures, and brief devotions to help you start each morning with the Lord. As you read the prayer selections, make them your own.

Meditate on the scriptures. You may wish to keep a journal on hand to record your personal thoughts.

God loves you, and He desires daily fellowship with you. You are a daughter of the King of kings. Begin each morning with your Father.

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Mark 1:35



A Joy-Filled Morning





## THE JOY OF THE LORD

Lord, some mornings I wake up ready to go! I feel rested and energetic. Other mornings, I wonder how I will make it through the day. Remind me that as Your child, I have a power source that is always available to me. I may not always feel joyful, but the joy of the Lord is my strength. As I spend time in Your Word, renew my strength, I pray.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Those who read and meditate upon the Word of the Lord know His heart in a unique way.

True joy comes through a relationship with the Father.

For the joy of the LORG is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10



## JOY COMES IN THE MORNING

Good morning, God! How many nights will I cry myself to sleep before I remember that Your Word promises joy when I wake? In the darkness of the night, my troubles seem insurmountable. But they're not. Everything seems fresh in the morning. I realize once again that together, we can do this. Thank You, Father, for a new day! May I discover true joy in it. Amen.

When worry overwhelms you in the darkness, trust what God has shown you to be true in the light. Each day His mercies are new!

Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Lesalm 30:5



# True Joy

Thank You, Father, for Your Word, which teaches me how to experience true joy. This world sends me a lot of messages through the media and through those who do not know You. I have tried some of the things that are supposed to bring joy, but they always leave me empty in the end. Thank You for the truth. Help me to abide in You, that I might be overflowing with joy. Amen.

Did you realize that Jesus Christ wants you to be *full* of joy? Even *overflowing* with joy? Read John 15, which teaches how to be joy-filled.

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

John 15:11



# JOYFUL IN HOPE

God, the longer I live, the more I realize that joy and hope go hand in hand. I have joy because my hope is in You. Thank You, Lord, that as Your daughter, I do not go out to face the day in hopelessness. No matter what happens, I can find joy because my hope is not in this world or in my circumstances. My hope is in the Lord. Amen.

Those who trust in the name of the Lord are set apart. There is joy in the countenance of a believer that does not shine forth from the face of the hopeless.

Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God. Psalm 146:5



# Joy in the Name of the Lord

Father, this morning I meet You here for just a few moments before the busyness of the day takes over. I trust You. It is not always easy to trust, but You have proven trustworthy in my life. I find joy in the knowledge that You are my defender. You go before me this day into battle. I choose joy today because I love the name of the Lord Almighty. Amen.

What joy there is in this: if you are a daughter of the sovereign God, you never have to wonder if He will be there for you. He is trustworthy.

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

Psalm 5:11



### JOYFUL REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCES

Lord, there are days when I can't help but rejoice in what You are doing. But many times the daily grind is just rather humdrum. There is nothing to rejoice about, much less give thanks for! Or is there? Help me, Father, to be joyful and thankful every day. Each day is a gift from You. Remind me of this truth today, and give me a joyful, thankful heart, I ask. Amen.

Do you know someone who is always wearing a smile? That individual has made a choice to be joyful regardless of circumstances. *Choose* to have a joyful, thankful attitude.

Rejoice evermore. Eray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16—18



# JOYFUL IN SONG

Heavenly Father, this morning I come to You with a song on my lips and joy in my heart. I thank You for all that You are doing in my life. You are at work when I sense Your presence and even when I don't. I praise You for being God. I rejoice because I am Your daughter. Amen.

The Bible speaks of rejoicing with song, praising God through music, and even dancing before the Lord. How will you praise your heavenly Father today through music?

The LORG is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

2 Salm 28:7



### NO MORE SORROW

Jesus, Your disciples were dismayed. You told them You were going away but that You would see them again. Those men had walked and talked with You. You were their leader, their friend. How lost they must have felt at Your crucifixion! But three days later. . . Wow! Lord, You turn mourning into rejoicing. Help me to trust in this. Thank You, Jesus. Amen.

Today your heart may be heavy with loss or longing. One day there will be no more sorrow, only joy! Claim this promise from God's Word.

And ye now therefore have sorrow:
but I will see you again, and your
heart shall rejoice, and your joy
no man taketh from you.
John 16:22



# Joy in God's Word

Thank You, God, that in Your holy scriptures I find the ways of life. I find wise counsel on the pages of my Bible. You reveal the truth to me, Lord, and there is no greater blessing than to know the truth. You tell me in Your Word that the truth sets me free. I am free to live a life that brings You glory and honor. May others see the joy I have found in You! Amen.

God may not write the answers to your questions in the sky, but they are written on the pages of His timeless, truth-filled Word.

Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

Acts 2:28



# Glorify the Lord





### GLORIFYING GOD IN MY WORK

God, today as I work both in my home and outside of it, may my attitude glorify You. I am not of this world, but I am in it, and often it has too much influence on me. May I think twice before I grumble, Father, about the tasks set before me this day. I will choose to work as unto my Father, and may my countenance reflect Your love to those around me. Amen.

God ordained that humankind should work and then rest. He modeled this for us in His creation of the world. Work. . .because God calls us to do so.

And whatsoever ye do,
do it heartily, as to the Lord,
and not unto men; knowing
that of the Lord ye shall receive
the reward of the inheritance:
for ye serve the Lord Christ.
Colossians 3:23–24



### SERVE ONE ANOTHER

God, I have not been put on this earth to serve myself. It is not all about me. Sometimes I forget that! Service is what this life is all about, isn't it? Father, give me opportunities to show love to others today. Make every moment a "God moment." Help me to be aware of the many needs around me. Create in me a heart that loves others and puts them ahead of myself. Amen.

Consider your motive for service.

Are you serving others because you want to be noticed for your kindness? Or are you serving others in love and true compassion?

By love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Galatians 5:13–14



### OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Father, with this new day, give me new eyes. Show me the hungry, the lonely, the tired. Show me those who need encouragement, those who need a friend, those who need to see Jesus in me. I don't want to miss the chances that You give me to be a blessing to others. I know that when I serve others, the heart of my Creator is blessed. Make me aware of others' needs, I ask. Amen.

Today offer a smile or a hug. Give away your time, talents, or resources. It will come back to you tenfold in the blessing you receive for serving others.

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25:40



### PUTTING GOD FIRST

Father, a glance at my bank statement causes me to shudder. Where does my money go? Am I too concerned with what the world says I must possess to be cool, to fit in, to appear successful? Your Word says that I cannot serve both material wealth and You. I choose You, Lord. Be the master of my life and of my checkbook. I need Your help with this. Amen.

God knows this world sends you a lot of messages. He understands temptation. Call on Him to help you make wise financial decisions. Put Him first, and He will provide all that you need.

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:24



### SHOWING MERCY

Jesus, like the good Samaritan in Your parable, may I too show mercy. Some may never enter the doors of a church, but what a difference an act of grace could make! Put before me opportunities to show unmerited favor. That is, after all, what You have shown to me. You died for my sins. I never could have earned salvation. It is a free gift, an act of grace. Make me merciful. Amen.

Two other men saw the man who had fallen among thieves. Will you pass by, as they did, when you see someone in need? Or will you show mercy like the good Samaritan?

Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him.
Then said Jesus unto him,
Go, and do thou likewise.
Luke 10:36–37



# WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

Heavenly Father, sometimes I am a Sunday Christian. How I want to worship You with the rest of my week! Please help me to be mindful of You throughout the week. May Your will and Your ways permeate my thoughts and decisions. Whether I am taking care of things at home or working with others in the workplace, may I glorify You in all that I say and do. Amen.

As you go about your daily activities, remember the Lord. Do everything with Him in mind. WWJD:

What would Jesus do?

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31



### USE ME, LORD

Savior, You laid down Your life for me.
You died a horrible death upon a cross.
It was death by crucifixion, which was
reserved for the worst of criminals. And
You had done nothing wrong. You came
into the world to save us! You gave Your
very life for us. Jesus, take my life. Use me
for Your kingdom's work. Only in losing
my life for You will I save it. Amen.

Jesus was a servant-king. The world looked for grandeur but found Him riding on the back of a donkey and ministering to society's lowlifes. Serve as Jesus modeled.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. Mark 8:35



### A GIVING HEART

Father, may I be honest? Sometimes I don't feel like serving. They keep asking if I will help with this or that at church. And there is always a collection being taken up. Can't I just focus on me? I have my own needs! But oh, the peace I feel when I lay my head on my pillow at night knowing I have loved with action, with sacrifice. Make me a giver, I ask. Amen.

The very richest people in the world are those who give it all away. There is a joy in generosity that the stingy forfeit with every coin saved.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35



### GLOBIFYING GOD

Father, I tend to seek the glory for myself. It is human nature, I know, but I want to be different. I am Your daughter. Let me shine, and when others ask me, "Why the smile?" or "Why the good deeds?" let me point them to You. You are the source of all that is good in me. You have given me each ability I have. May I reflect Your love through my good works. Amen.

Always point others to your heavenly Father when they notice you. There is nothing good in you without Him.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16



Nearest and Dearest

