

# **Soul Fuel**

**A Devotional/Prayer Journal by**

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## FORWARD

Life can seem daunting at times, even for the Christian. We are constantly battling the forces of this world, as well as those who think we are silly for believing the way we do.

We may look with longing at the latest gadgets or clothing styles and be tempted to spend our savings on these material goods. Or we may lose friends because they think we are persnickety people now that we want to live right. And then there are the times when life just doesn't seem fair; we lose a loved one or our job. The kids seem to have left the faith behind when they entered adulthood. Our debt builds and we can't seem to get out from under the mountain of bills. But through it all, God is there. All the trials of life are His way of building us up and making us stronger. This devotional is written in hopes that all who read it will desire to live a life glorifying to

God. It is my prayer that each of you reading this will share your faith with joy. I'd like to dedicate this book to my church family. Each one of you plays such an important part in my life; and to my Pastor, who, despite it all, has spent countless hours behind his desk, studying hard to discover the truth in God's Word. The passion you possess is a gift to you from God, and a gift you give to each member of your congregation every time you step into the pulpit. Your gift has blessed me in countless ways, hence the writing of this book. And to my Pastor's wife, who gives a whole new meaning to the phrase, "There's beauty in the breaking." You are the strongest, most dignified lady I know, and I love you. May God bless all who read this book.

***By insolence comes nothing but  
strife, but with those who take advice  
is wisdom. ~Proverbs 13:10~***

How many times have you sought advice from a friend, only to go your own way, knowing it wasn't right? God tells us in His Word, that we are wise to take advice from other Christians. That's not to say we have to always do what our friends tell us. It's just that if the alternate option is something we shouldn't do, and we do it anyway, then God says we are fools. Taking advice from non-Christians can be dangerous as well. Though what they have to say may seem rational, if it's not Biblical, then it very well may harm us. Before consulting anyone when a decision needs to be made, pray. Take it to God. If you are still unclear on what to do, seek out a brother or sister in Christ. You will profit by it.

***You shall love the Lord your God with  
all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your mind. ~Matthew  
22:37***

Loving God isn't something we should do when we feel like it. It's not a Sunday only thing. Loving God should be done every day of our lives. It should be evident in our daily conversations. It should show itself in our acts. It should be a part of who we are, daily. Loving God with every ounce of our being doesn't leave room for foolishness. After all, God doesn't watch over you part of the time, does He? No. The Word tells us He is ALWAYS with us. Worldly people and things want part of you, but God wants your all. Shouldn't you be striving to give it to Him?

***And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." ~Mark 16:15~***

Preachers and Sunday school teachers proclaim the Word of God to their students. Missionaries travel to other countries spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But did you know it's not supposed to stop there? Even if your gift isn't teaching, preaching, or working with other nationalities, you still have a duty to tell others the Good News found in the Gospel. Proclaiming the Gospel to others can happen as close as your next door neighbor over a cup of coffee. It can happen in a checkout line with the tired cashier, or in a letter to a friend. Have you ever thought about taking Bible tracts with you wherever you go? Yes, that is part of spreading the Word. So get out there and do your

duty. When the day comes to reap your reward, how wonderful will it be for Jesus to introduce you to those who came to Christ because of your planting and watering?

***When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent. ~Proverbs 10:19~***

How many times have you been in a situation where you just had to speak your mind? How many of those times would you have been better off not saying anything? There are times when we need to speak up, but we also need to know when to stop, or not say anything at all. When our words start hurting others, even if we feel they deserve it, we have allowed ourselves to step into sin. It's not always the things we may say to the person we are talking to, it is also what we say about others when they are not around. These things always have a way of getting back to the slandered individual. Whether it be from someone who overhears your conversation, or the "friend" you decide to vent to. Be careful what

you allow to part from your lips,  
because one thing is for certain, your  
sin always catches up with you.