



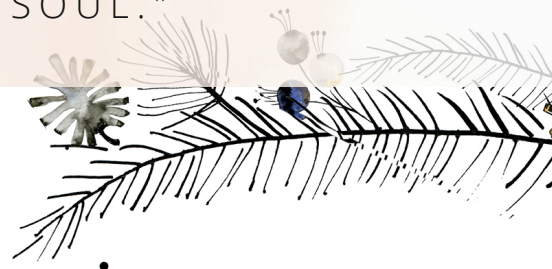
25 Days of Praise

Week Four

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS *unfailing love*

"I WILL BE GLAD AND REJOICE IN YOUR UNFAILING LOVE,
FOR YOU HAVE SEEN MY TROUBLES, AND YOU CARE
ABOUT THE ANGUISH OF MY SOUL."
PSALM 31:7 NLT

25 Days of Praise | Day 21
Praise God for His Unfailing Love
Lynn Cowell



It didn't matter that it was a Monday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. I was still going to crawl into bed. My body, refusing to hustle, even while staring at the incomplete to-do list, simply couldn't move on. After pulling the shades, I donned my sleeping mask, and slipped under my comforter. Should I cry? Should I sleep? Sadness left me stunned even as shame tried to snuggle up next to my heart. My mind began to spin with all I should be doing, all the people I was failing, when Truth spoke to me. See, I had been studying for months portions of God's word that speak of His great love. Those words came to me when I needed it most.

The psalmist wrote in Psalm 100:5 "For the Lord is good, and his faithful love endures forever; his faithfulness, through all generations." (CSB)

At this moment, I didn't feel good. And therein lays the beauty of the Lord and His word. No matter what I was feeling about me, the Lord remains good, and even when, and especially when, I am not capable of being good. His faithful love just keeps pouring over me. Coming toward me. And it does so for ever and ever and ever; it never stops.

You and I can never do anything to cause His love to quit coming toward us; not even quitting on your responsibilities in the middle of the day. His love is not dependent upon us. It doesn't come to me or you for the good we do nor does it come to a trickle when I cannot do a thing.

His love is formed on the foundation of His perfection; not my own. He isn't afraid of our flaws.

That takes so much pressure off me! It's not about how good I am, but how good He is.

For this the psalmist also writes: "Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind." Psalm 107:31 It is impossible for His love to fail to come toward me, even if I fail.

David says God's love is unfailing—it won't fall short of what we expect. His love is completely dependable and faithful. It's inexhaustible, meaning we can't burn it out! His love is endless.

That kind of love is almost impossible for us to understand. We've had people say they love us, but then they die, leave, move away or simply don't act like they love us. The people who love us the most might get tired of us sometimes, grow impatient and need time alone and away from us. This type of love, when it is gone or feels used up, can leave us empty inside and hurting. This is especially true here at the holidays when everything is "supposed" to be happy all the time.

Yet, here is Father with His love, as great as the height of the heavens above the earth, something we, in our humanity, cannot wrap our minds around.

May we find comfort this day, that no matter how long we may take in and observe God's unfailing love for us, we will never know its true depth. We will never wear Him out, annoy Him or cause us to take His love away. His love is truly unfailing!



Lynn Cowell is part of the Proverbs 31 Ministries' speaker and writing teams. As the author of several books, written for women of all ages, her newest book is: *Loved & Cherished: 100 Devotionals for Girls*. Lynn calls home North Carolina, where she and her husband, Greg and the occasional backyard deer are adjusting to life as "just us". Along with their three adult children, the Cowells love hiking, '80's music and anything combining chocolate and peanut butter.

You can find many free resources at LynnCowell.com. Connect more with Lynn on Instagram at [@LynnCowell](https://www.instagram.com/LynnCowell).



PRAISE GOD FOR *His word*

"YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO GUIDE MY FEET
AND A LIGHT FOR MY PATH."
PSALM 119:105 NLT

25 Days of Praise | Day 22

Praise God for His Word

Michele O'Leary

I used to be intimidated by the Bible.

Where do I even start, and how does it relate to me?

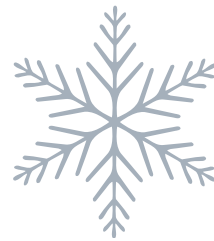
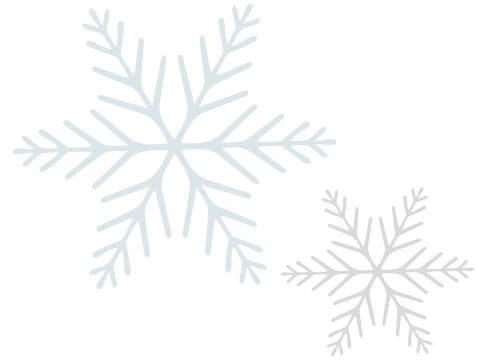
But one day, God grabbed my hand and said,
"Let's go on an adventure together."

And so began my love story with God and the
hunger for His Word.

The Bible isn't stories of yesteryear; His word is alive and is a guide,
a map of how to live out our faith and to fight against sin. Each word
in the Bible transforms and renews who we are and how to live as a
Christ Follower (Romans 12:2).

It is also a weapon to help us in our times of battles; God's word is a two-edged sword
(Hebrews 4:12). His words remind us He fights for you and me (2 Chronicles 20:15).
The Battle is the Lord's.

God's Word is a love story of redemption and grace. Jesus died on the cross
because of love (John 3:16). I praise God for His word. He calls me to read His
truths every day for a relationship, for fellowship, and for rest (Matthew 11:28).
His words soothe my soul (Proverbs 16:24) and remind me of His deep love (Romans 5:8).



The more I read God's word, the deeper I fall in love with Him, and I better understand His ways and desires. As I store up His Word, the better I know how to live and love like His son, Jesus, and reflect His fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) in a hurting world.

Thank you, Lord, that You love us so much that You gave us a beautiful guide in how to live out a life that illuminates You. May we hide Your Word in our hearts every day to know You better and love You more deeply.

Amen.



Michele's call from God encourages women to seek, walk, and find their purpose in Christ. She is a Christian blogger and loves to write about the love of Jesus.

Michele lives in Fredericksburg, VA, with her husband, Dan. She is mom to two adult children and their spouses and is Gigi to four beautiful grand-girls. She takes delight in a big bowl of chips and salsa.

You can find more information about Michele and her ministry on her website at www.micheleoleary.com. You can also connect with her on Instagram: [oleary_michele](https://www.instagram.com/oleary_michele)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS *compassion*

"BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE, WE ARE NOT
CONSUMED, FOR HIS COMPASSIONS NEVER FAIL."
LAMENTATIONS 3:22 NIV

25 Days of Praise | Day 23
Praise God for His Compassion
Jodie Barrett

Compassion.

The first thing I did before writing this was google the definition of compassion. Quickly, I knew that I was seeing a worldly definition.

"Sympathetic pity" were the first words I saw and shook my head. The Father of Compassion has more than sympathetic pity for His children. I dug deeper and stumbled upon this from Compassion International,

"Compassion alludes to kindness and sympathy, but there is something deeper, something even more profoundly powerful, in its meaning. The origin of the word helps us grasp the true breadth and significance of compassion. In Latin, 'compati' means "suffer with." Compassion means someone else's heartbreak becomes your heartbreak. Another's suffering becomes your suffering..."

Yes. Yes. Now we are getting somewhere.

Suddenly, I remembered sitting in a bed, away from home, preparing for a bible study that I would teach the next day. I had studied before, but God was impressing something into my heart that I could not let go of and the message was clear. He asked me to allow my heart to be burdened for the things that burden His heart.

What burden's our Father's heart? Sin and the separation it creates. He is burdened for those who have not turned to repent. He is burdened for the lost. So burdened, so filled with compassion, that He sent Jesus, His only son. So filled with mercy, that He is patient, "not wanting anyone to perish" (2 Peter 3:9).



Praise God, "for his compassion never fails (Lam. 3:22)."

His mercy meets us every day. We are assured of this in the next verse of Lamentations 3.

Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.

Lamentation 3:23

With just two days until Christmas, now is a good time to reflect, remember, and offer praise for the babe born in a manger, also willingly died on the cross. For my sin. For your sin.

He took our suffering upon Himself.

John Piper writes, "...when you see him this Advent season as Son of God and as King of Israel and as Son of Man, make sure that you see him dying to give you eternal life and, therefore, see him as glorious." And that He is...glorious, and worthy of praise.

Father, thank you for your compassion. Because of your great love we can rejoice and praise You. Your mercy and grace abound. We are grateful and we lift our voices to praise You. In Jesus name, Amen



Today, stop and pray for those who do not know Jesus. Ask God to burden your heart for the lost.



PRAISE GOD FOR THE GIFT OF *eternal life*

And this is what he promised us--eternal life.

1 John 2:25 NIV

25 Days of Praise | Day 24

Praise God for the Gift of Eternal Life

Jodie Barett

Only God can forgive all our sins. Only God has been and always will be. When we use the word eternal my heart grows wide and my mind just about explodes. In a world of temporary, how can anything be forever?

There you have it—in a world of temporary there is no eternal.

But Jesus is not of this world (John 17:16) and His mission was clear. He came that we might have eternal life.

Webster begins to define eternal without mentioning God stating “having infinite duration: EVERLASTING” as its first definition. But it is followed with “characterized by abiding fellowship with God.” In fact, the only other thing it mentions as eternal is “eternal damnation.”

Oh yes, let us praise God for eternal life. Let us remember that the babe born on Christmas Day, always was and always will be, Our Savior.

He came so that none should suffer eternal damnation. He came that we might have life and have it abundant (John 10:10).

Believers are given the promise of eternal life. In this temporary world we are urged to think on things above (Colossians 3:2). When we are discouraged, a shift in our focus

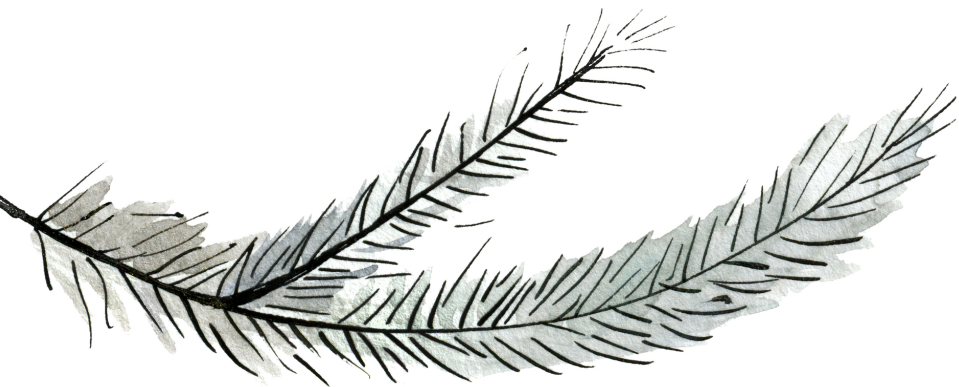
from earthly to heavenly reminds our hearts of the things that help in this race set before us. When our gaze is upon the eternal, strength, love, and HOPE abound. In a world of hurt, hope can prevail.

Michele O'Leary writes, "Today, as Christ-Followers, our souls labor for the second coming of Christ. We are looking for Love's pure light to break open the Heavens and flood this land with perfect love. Until then, remember, our Immanuel is always with us, and His love wraps us up in a warm embrace."

Close your eyes a moment and envision that warm embrace. The Word is clear. Nothing can separate us from The Eternals love. Nothing.

"...nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us." Romans 8:39 The Message

Rejoice! Rejoice! Let all the world rejoice in the life he came to give~ *eternal life.*



"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 ESV

PRAISE GOD FOR *who He is*

"THE SAVIOR---YES, THE MESSIAH, THE LORD---
HAS BEEN BORN TODAY IN BETHLEHEM,
THE CITY OF DAVID!"
LUKE 2:11 NLT

25 Days of Praise | Day 25

Praise God for Who He Is

Jodie Barrett

As we end our 25 Days of Praise, I pray it is not an ending, but a new beginning. Loss led me to lean into God harder than ever before and what I found was that focusing on God, who He is, and what He offers, was healing. I could not praise God for the hurt and heartache, but I could praise Him for Who He was and what He was able to do in the heartache.

Isn't that why Jesus came? We needed healing. Sin was breaking the world and we needed a Savior. A Messiah. He was long awaited. Promised. And God made a way for the Lord to be born in the city of David.

"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them."

Luke 2:6-7 NIV

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests. When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." Luke 2: 11-15 NIV

As you pause and reflect on that first Christmas, praise God for sending His son.
As you ponder these things in your heart, like Mary, praise God for His love.
As you return to your daily activities, praise God for sending a special gift that very first Christmas.

The miracle of Christmas is a babe born of a virgin birth. He was born with a clear purpose. He was born to carry the weight of our sins to the cross. He was born to die on that cross for you and me, for all. He was born to give us a gift. That gift is called eternal life.

Today praise God for Christmas. Not the season, but the birth of Jesus, the one and only son of God, born to save all. And let this be a beginning, rather than an ending. Let praise continue to be offered. May our breath be an offering.

Together we say hallelujah! Together we praise the Lord.



Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

Psalm 150:6