



CAN YOUR DRY BONES LIVE, LLC.

DECLUTTER YOUR SPIRIT, ORGANIZE YOUR HEART & MIND

Devotion & Journal Guide

by Shonda Angelou

CAN YOUR DRY BONES LIVE DEVOTION GUIDE FOR SPIRITUAL DECLUTTERING AND ORGANIZATION.

THIS DEVOTION GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO HELP BELIEVERS FIND CLARITY IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST. SOMETIMES WE GET SO CAUGHT UP IN THE PRACTICE OF CHURCH THAT WE END UP UNCHANGED, STRUGGLING TO PRAY AND LACKING A DESIRE FOR GOD'S WORD. DUE TO THE CURRENT STATE OF GLOBAL HEALTH, NOW IS THE TIME FOR US TO REFOCUS AND REASSESS.

WHAT IS YOUR STORY OF CHRISTIANITY? WHEN AND WHY DID YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

HOW HAS YOUR LIFE (ACTIONS, WORDS, THOUGHTS) CHANGED SINCE BECOMING A CHRISTIAN?

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WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT JESUS?

WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN COMMON WITH
WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT JESUS?

THINK ABOUT THIS:

THE PURPOSE OF THIS LIST ISN'T TO HAVE YOU BEATING DOWN YOURSELF, INSTEAD IT'S TO SPARK PRAYER AND A REALITY CHECK FOR YOU. UNFORTUNATELY, SOMETIMES, THE LONGER WE PROFESS TO KNOW JESUS, THE MORE RELAXED WE BECOME AND SETTLE FOR LOOKING A BIT LIKE CHRIST INSTEAD OF GIVING HIM ALL OF US TO LOOK LIKE HIM. SOMETIMES WE HAVE TO COMPARE OUR LIVING TO HIS STANDARD TO FORMULATE A MINDSET OF GROWTH. THE BIBLE TELLS US PEOPLE CAN STILL DO GREAT THINGS IN JESUS' NAME AND NOT ACTUALLY KNOW HIM. THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE US.

WRITE A PRAYER: IF CHRISTIANITY IS ABOUT BEING CHRIST LIKE WHAT IS HOLDING YOU BACK FROM BEING MORE LIKE CHRIST? IDENTIFY AND RENOUNCE THOSE THINGS AND ASK GOD TO GIVE YOU A HEART TO LIVE FOR HIM TRULY.

"We overcome fear with action."

My prayer for you:

Father, in the name of Jesus, bring revelation and transformation to Your child as they dig up the fallow ground and prepare for the planting of Holy seed and the cultivation of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Expose every dry bone and dead area in their relationship with You, every loveless habit they have come to love, every religious function made mundane because relationship lacks. Give them a new desire for Your presence, for Your voice and Your word.

Loose them from every demonic stronghold of halfhearted worship, sluggish obedience, ungodly familiarity. Allow them to see the beauty and reward of a genuine relationship with You. Expose the weights that easily anchor their feet on the path of Laodicean Christianity, and let the consuming fire of Your Holy Spirit reignite their passion for an eternity with You. I ask Father that You speak to Your child in a new way, grant them an experience with You that will change their Christianity forever. Amen.

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WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP DO YOU
WANT TO HAVE WITH GOD? WHAT ARE
YOUR GOALS FOR YOUR CHRISTIAN WALK
WITH GOD?

WHAT DO YOUR GOALS SAY ABOUT HOW YOU
PERCEIVE/SEE/UNDERSTAND GOD?

THINK ABOUT THIS:

WE SET GOALS IN MANY AREAS OF OUR LIVES, WE CANNOT LEAVE OUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A VISION FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, ONE CENTERED IN BIBLICAL EXAMPLES. TAKE THE TIME TO ASK GOD WHICH OF THESE BIBLICAL FIGURES YOU CAN LOOK TO AS A ROLE MODEL, AND STUDY THAT PERSON'S WALK WITH GOD, THEIR STRUGGLES BUT ALSO THEIR REWARDS AND HOW THEY OBEYED & HONORED GOD THROUGH THE HARDEST OF TIMES. BY STUDYING BIBLICAL FIGURES YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS POSSIBLE WITH GOD IS EXPANDED. GOD'S GOAL FOR YOU IS HIMSELF, KEEP DRAWING CLOSE TO HIM AND EXPERIENCING HIM IN AMAZING WAYS SO THAT YOU LIVE LIKE HE IS YOUR INHERITANCE.

WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST OR WANT TO BE LIKE IN THE BIBLE? WHAT ABOUT THEM ATTRACTS YOU, AND WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN COMMON WITH THEM? HOW DO YOU BELIEVE THEY WERE ABLE TO TRUST AND OBEY GOD IN THEIR TOUGH SITUATIONS?

"God will not waste any of your story, He is cultivating you, even in the mundane. You still have time to become sweeter fruit."

My prayer for you:

Father, in the name of Jesus, I pray for a restructuring of priorities and a fierce clarity and focus on You. Cause Your child to cherish every moment spent alone with You, every opportunity to love, heal, give and edify in Your name. Transform Your child's thinking to be fully convinced that You are their home, and inheritance, and to see Jesus Christ as the goal. Give Your child a heart and mind to seek after You, to help others in their seeking. Even in their seeking, I pray Father that You would raise up a network of impactful genuine Christian individuals to pour strength, encouragement, sustenance, support into Your child and to pull out the stirred up gifts within. Just as righteous men and women lived a life that deeply impacted others because of their obedience, let Your child have an earnest desire and will to do the same. Amen.

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WHAT EVIDENCE IS THERE TO INDICATE THAT YOU TAKE YOUR MANDATE TO SHARE THE GOSPEL SERIOUSLY? NOTE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES IN THE LAST 45 DAYS.

HOW IS MY LIFE AS A BELIEVER ACTUALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE UNBELIEVERS AROUND ME (PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL MEDIA)?

THINK ABOUT THIS:

THE BEST WE HAVE TO OFFER OTHERS IS JESUS CHRIST, AND THE WAY WE DO THAT FIRST IS WITH HOW WE LIVE, HOW WE REACT TO SITUATIONS AND WORDS, HOW WE SPEAK TO PEOPLE, AND HELP PEOPLE. PEOPLE SEE YOU BEFORE THEY SEE YOUR GOD, AND HIS REPUTATION IS ON THE LINE EVEN IN THE MUNDANE THINGS OF LIFE. IF YOU LACK AN EXAMPLE, BECOME IT, GOD WILL TEACH YOU HIMSELF AS YOU SPEND TIME WITH HIM. EVERYDAY WE NEED TO CONSIDER THAT JESUS IS CALLING US TO LOVE OTHERS AND MEET THEIR NEEDS, TO BREAK FREE FROM "ME" AND "MINES," AND TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHERE WE ARE. IF SHARING THE SCRIPTURE OF THE DAY ON IG AND BROADCASTING SOME PRAYER WE DIDN'T READ TO ALL OUR WHATSAPP CONTACTS IS THE ONLY EVIDENCE WE HAVE, THEN WE'RE IN DELUDED. IT'S TIME TO LIVE THE GOSPEL ALOUD.

WRITE A PRAYER: BE HONEST, TELL OUR FATHER WHY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SHARING THE GOSPEL OR LIVING IT? TELL HIM YOUR FEARS, HANGUPS AND STRUGGLES, AND ASK HIM TO HELP YOU MOVE THROUGH THE FEAR AND FLY ON FAITH ANYWAYS.

"If we're excited about the gospel, we will leave everyone with a piece of it."

PRAY THIS PRAYER FOR YOURSELF:

Lord Jesus, expose my fears about sharing the gospel through my lifestyle and specifically when I am prompted to tell someone of Your love and sacrifice. Expose the skepticism I have about You and Your return Jesus. Even when I am worried about being rejected help me to recognize that it's not my gospel and therefore it's not about me, but about You. Don't allow me to sit comfortably focused on my family and watch someone live a life without having been shown the extravagance of Your love and grace by a believer. Help me to stop being paralyzed while people walk around as living dead, hopeless and feeling alone. You're not asking me to be their God, You're asking me to show what it means to live like I am convinced You love each of us personally and perfectly. Help me to anticipate heaven, and recognize that I don't want to be there alone, I want billions of people experiencing eternity with You together with me, and let this desire be fuel. Let the promise of heaven shape my evangelism. Amen.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR PRAYER TIME? IF YOU DON'T MAKE TIME TO HAVE FOCUSED PRAYER, WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT THAT? ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS?

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPERIENCE MOST-EACH TIME YOU PRAY? HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED ANY OF THIS?

THINK ABOUT THIS:

IF ALL CHRISTIANS PRAYED LIKE YOU PRAYED (SINCERITY, QUALITY, DEPTH) WHAT WOULD BE THE STATE OF THE CHURCH AND THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE? THAT'S HOW WE HAVE TO LOOK AT THINGS. IN GENESIS 18 ABRAHAM ASKED GOD TO SAVE SODOM AND GOMORRAH IF HE FOUND 10 RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE, GOD AGREED. IF IT TOOK 10 PRAYING PEOPLE TO SAVE YOUR FAMILY, COMMUNITY, SCHOOL FROM DESTRUCTION COULD THEY COUNT ON YOU? MORE THAN ANY OF THIS, WHEN WE CHOOSE NOT TO PRAY WE TELL GOD WE DON'T VALUE HIS VOICE; WE REJECT HIM. THE TRUTH FOR MANY OF US IS THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO REJECT GOD, BUT WE DON'T THINK TO PRAY UNLESS WE HAVE REQUEST FOR THINGS. CHANGE YOUR PRAYER STRATEGY, START WITH WORSHIP & THANKS, REPENT, THEN SELECT TRAITS FROM WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT JESUS, AND ASK GOD TO CHANGE YOU FOR HIS GLORY. ASK HIM TO USE YOU TO LOVE SOMEONE.

RUN TO THE WORD: DIG IN THE SCRIPTURES AND FIND 3- 5 SCRIPTURES YOU WANT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS. WHEN I WAS FIRST LEARNING TO TARRY IN PRAYER, I WOULD PRAY THE WORD OF GOD BECAUSE I WAS CERTAIN THAT WAS HIS WILL EVEN IF WHAT I WAS PRAYING WASN'T.

My prayer for you:

Heavenly Father, help Your child to pursue Your voice, comfort, and instruction in prayer with a desperation that corresponds to how much they know they need You voice. Each time they pray, send Your will to be done. Each time they pray let them rise feeling anchored in faith and standing tall in hope. Each time they pray for others, let miracles break forth for Your glory, let the foundation of sickness, pain, loneliness be shattered and swallowed up, in Jesus' name. Let their sincere prayers be flaming swords cutting through fear, paralysis, fruitless projects, complacency and faithless living. Even as they cultivate a lifestyle of prayer, let the way they live be the amen, the "I believe God can do anything." I also ask that You sanctify their expectations so that what they anticipate is pleasing to You. I also pray that Your child would never use prayer as an excuse for delayed obedience, but would get up from prayer time ready to pursue. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE GOD WANTS FOR YOU? ARE YOU EXPERIENCING ANY OF HIS DESIRES FOR YOUR LIFE? WHOSE DESIRES ARE YOU EXPERIENCING?

"God's goal for the believer is Himself."

My prayer for you:

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, cause Your child to seek first Your kingdom and all its righteousness, help them to be intentional about their obedience. Your word tells us to examine ourselves, and even as Your child has made this step, give them the fruit of self-examination, revelation. Show them the areas they are out of Your purpose and the doorway to get back. Father uproot and destroy every lie they have accepted about what it means to be in relationship with You. Cleanse them of the stain of ungodly examples and lessons picked up from their families, churches and intimate relationships that anchor their feet in godless tradition. Even as they have written their goals, open their eyes to see there is no limit in knowing and loving You. Take away any fear they have of loving You, of knowing You, of being used by You, make them eager to be aware of and walk in Your divine love and providence. Amen.

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IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, EXPERIENCING A DRY SPELL WHERE YOU'RE JUST NOT "FEELING," IT, WHAT ARE 3 LESSONS YOU THINK GOD WANTS YOU TO LEARN AS YOU JOURNEY?

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE IS THE LAST THING GOD TOLD YOU TO DO? HAVE YOU DONE IT? IF NOT, WHY? IF YOU HAVE, WHAT HAPPENED IN YOU AS A RESULT?

WHAT ARE THREE THINGS THAT BOTHER YOU WITH THE WAY CHRISTIANITY IS BEING DONE TODAY? WHAT SCRIPTURES SUPPORT YOU BEING BOTHERED?

On Prayer:

A relationship with God is just that, a relationship, and it should be treated as such. If you want to get to know the Lord Jesus, you have to spend the time in prayer, talking to Him openly and honestly. However, as with letting someone learn you, you have to commit to LISTENING, so you can learn them. You listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit in many ways, including reading the Word of God, getting into worship, moments of silence, and prayer.

Listen to me beloved, Your voice matters to God, He wants to spend time with you and hear from you. He has always loved spending time with His creation, thinking about how He walked the garden looking for Adam, how He took the time to nurture and teach Him. Do not allow any circumstance, including sin to keep you from running to God's embrace through prayer. He is not dead or mute, He will correct you, heal you, deliver you and teach you, He delights in His children, as does any father. Beloved, God wants you to bring literally EVERYTHING to Him in prayer (Phil 4:6; 1 Thes 5:17). We have to be better at communication, and move beyond being that person who only knows your number when they have a need, and never when life is going normal or great. He wants our prayers to be sincere, more than mundane repetitions and reposted social media prayers we don't even hold dear (Matt 6:7).

Start cultivating a lifestyle of sincere prayer today. Yes God knows everything but He still wants you to volunteer your personal life for Him to see, tell Him about yourself, what you like, don't like, wish. Moreover, tell Him what you know about Him, what you want to know and experience, you can never run out of things to ask God about, or listen to God about. The only way to love praying is to keep doing it, even when you don't feel like it. Write it, speak it, sing it... JUST PRAY!

Call to Action:

Set a your phone's timer for 10 mins and pray for that long at minimum. Do not stop praying until the timer goes off.

TIP: Get organized, and use your list of scriptures that you want to include in your prayers, and make a list of situations and people to pray for. Don't leave yourself off the list.





On Obedience:

Obedience is an outward expression and profession of our love for God, it says "God I want to make You happy, and experience the best of You." Don't read into this wrong, God doesn't give the worst of Himself to unbelievers, His word says He will be merciful to whom He pleases (Rom 9:18), and He rains on the just and the unjust (Matt 5:45).

It's easy to live life as though God isn't looking, it's even easier when we have no fruitful faithful prayer life. Ask yourself, "do I live like God isn't looking?" Unfortunately, after the high of new Christianity wears off, many of us find ourselves here, I've found myself here at different points in my walk. We get here by taking our focus off Jesus, and putting it on the sin we think we're missing out on, the life and accolades we want but don't "need" His help obtaining. Psalm 95:106 "They are a people whose hearts turn away from me. They refuse to do what I tell them."

We wrap this slipping away in excuses like, "God knows my heart," "You need to have a balance," "Nobody's perfect," and "He's still working on me." Guess what beloved? You're right, He does know your heart and right now knows it is turned away from Him, and you need to know your heart too, go google 'what does the Bible say about the heart' and study those scriptures. The Bible tells us that even when our ways seem right to us, God is looking at our hearts, testing our hearts and that we ought to keep our hearts with all vigilance, because it is desperately wicked (Prov 21:2; Prov 4:23; Jer 17:9). You're also right, nobody is perfect but that just means you aren't special, and therefore not exempt from obedience to Christ. If nobody is perfect, it means you're not the special needs kid in the class, so stop acting like it. The Holy Spirit is indeed still working on you, but you too have to still be working on you, check out Philippians 2:12 "Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear."

Our obedience problem is rooted in a belief problem, a pride problem, a Bible study problem and a church problem. Why do I say this? If we truly believed that Elohim, the God who spoke the universe into existence and formed man with His own hands instructed us to do something, we would do it. If we truly believed and anticipated Christ's surprise return for His joint heirs for an eternity in heaven, we would be busy investing the gospel and seeking returns. Sometimes we do believe but we just aren't convinced of the brevity of life, we assume we are immortal until we decide to do the work, that's pride. You don't get to delay obedience for when you feel like it, people need what you have. Someone's deliverance, salvation, healing, enlightenment is wrapped up in your obedience.





On Obedience:





The Bible tells us its very purpose in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (AMP) "All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God's will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage]; so that the [a]man of God may be complete and proficient, outfitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work." The Word of God itself is, sharper than any two-edged sword restores us to obedience and equips us for it. If you believe in the power of the Word of God, you are desperate for a heart to live it out, to share it and experience all that it says you can as a believer.

What's the church problem? Some of us have a hard time cultivating a heart of obedience because we are in churches where the Holy Spirit has no part, or we don't see the value of the church because it doesn't appeal to our entertainment needs. The Bible tells us in Ephesians 4:11-12 (NLT) "...the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ." If you believe you're in a dead church where people aren't being equipped for obedience fast and pray for the courage to leave, and for direction on where to go. Do not allow yourself to become hard-hearted toward God and distracted with resentment and bitterness toward church leaders who failed God's people. There are amazing leaders out there rightly dividing God's word, encouraging freedom in Christ, obedience to the Holy Spirit and growth. Don't give up.

What's the good news? You do not have to live in disobedience to God any longer, sin is not in charge of the believer, this right here is NOT just the way you are. God will meet you right there, but He won't leave you there. Your walk with God is about so much more than the prideful excuses for taking 40yrs in a barren wilderness. Pray for a desire to be like Christ, who even with His own discomfort, wanted the will of God more than His own. God created you to do good works (Eph 2:10) beloved, godly good pleases Him. He will give you a new heart, that's the Bible (Ez 11:19-20). It is not too late to run into obedience, remember "nobody is perfect," so that means if you veer off the path, catch yourself, repent and get right back on the road. Obedience isn't about never faltering, it's about not running farther away once you look up and realize where you are. You can do anything God asks of you beloved, say it, "I CAN DO ANYTHING GOD ASKS OF ME."

Call to Action:

In your planner, or google calendar, carve out time to focus on the obedience project. Send the e-mails, make the calls, write, record, upload. God will perfect the progress.





On Relationship:

A relationship with God can only be done ONE WAY, His way. Take the time to look into the Bible and study all the times God referred to Israel as His special possession, His children, and His wife. What you can notice in all of this is that God is personal, and He is the center and border of every area of the Christian's life. What this especially means is that your relationship with God does not have to look like another's, albeit it does have to actually be Biblically sound and genuine.



God wants to reach people using your personality, your flare, voice, and ideas, there are people whose hearts and minds will only respond to your personality. Ever been in a relationship where you constantly gave sound advice and it was never taken, but when some fly by night person comes and gives the very same advice, all of a sudden the advisee has a revelation and is inspired to make the change? The same thing happens here, some people are waiting on you to water those seeds of salvation and godly living with your voice and personality. Now this does not mean you don't have maturing and refining experiences ahead of you, but it means you don't need to run from God's call or presence because you fear He might change you. God is going to change you, He is going to transform your spiritual DNA which will be represented in the way you live. Stop fearing God requiring you to change, you can trust Him, that every change will be glorious.

Beloved, the caterpillar's whole mission is to prepare to become the butterfly, transformation is embedded in its DNA, just as it is in yours. God is not going to make you boring, lonely, or unfashionable. He will however, nurture godliness, make you ready to pour out valuable substance, make the fruit of your life beautiful and nourishing. His good pleasure is to be good to you, and good fathers are good because they love, provide for, prepare, nurture and discipline their children. God will transform your life into a garden of love, joy, peace, faithfulness, endurance, kindness, gentleness, self-control (Gal 5:22-23). He wants to see the things that are special, quirky, and common about you change lives.

Selah

Call to Action:

Begin every prayer session with repentance, pray scriptures of repentance and ask God to change You, even when it's uncomfortable for You. Ask Him to help you trust Him through the metamorphosis, and to believe that He is beautifying you.





Final Words

One day I was praying at home, while rocking my daughter to sleep, and God downloaded into my spirit, these very words you've engaged with in pages 1-15. I was excited, and I quickly journaled everything so that I could have it to reference later. You know what happened? I set the notebook down, fell asleep with my daughter and never saw the pages again. I was not only upset because I was truly excited to produce something helpful, but I was discouraged. I lost the very words from heaven, and then I remembered "it's not too late, pray." I created time to repent for choosing a nap over securing my notes on google drive or emailing a picture of them to myself, and then made time to focus and listen to God, and He gave the words again. This is my obedience project. My blog doesn't have a large following, so I know it's not about me, it's not about recognition or potential income. You needed this, and I needed to practice obedience and faithfulness. So invite as many people as you know need this to sign up to receive it.

I thank you for taking advantage of this resource, and I implore you to surrender to God's beautification process. His plan for you is so amazing, You are a walking advertisement of His grace, mercy, love, and kindness. You are the evidence that Jesus saves, and the way you live with hope and expectancy and joy is the evidence that He is coming again. You are the evidence that God is still mindful of His creation and loves us with an unfailing extravagant love. I beseech you sisters and brothers, to live in God's extravagant love always.

Grace & Peace,

Shonda Angelou

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