

LIFE  
ON THE  
NARROW  
ROAD

*Books by Ann Goodfellow*

- God Is Waiting to Meet You
- God Wants You to Know Him
- God Wants to Bless You
- God's Promises
- Today Is No Ordinary Day
- Encountering God
- Life on the Narrow Road

LIFE  
ON THE  
NARROW  
ROAD

Journeying with God  
toward Eternity

*Ann Goodfellow*

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## *Preface*

Life is a journey. I began my journey with the Lord in 1952, many years ago, but it is only now, in my latter years, that I have been challenged to write about that journey. With Jesus Christ by my side, my faithful Lord, I have walked through happy and joyous times, as well as through difficulties and challenges. But through all of life, He has been my constant Companion, drawing me closer to His side, and increasing my faith and trust in His abiding grace, mercy, and truth.

I pray that as you read the words He has written, you will discover that He is more faithful than anyone. He helps, encourages, comforts, protects, speaks, and challenges us all to walk the narrow road that leads to life with Him. Jesus showed us the narrow road. He walked it faithfully, confidently, and with love in His heart for all people. He wants to walk with us as we live with the promise of eternal life at the end of this journey. Day by day He encourages us to keep on keeping on.

The journey is one that Jesus describes in Matthew 7:13-14:

*Go in through the narrow gate, because the gate to hell is wide and the road that leads to it is easy, and there are many who travel it. But the gate to life is narrow and the way that leads to it is hard, and there are few people who find it.*



## *Introduction*

*I'm a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world.*

—*Saint Teresa*

When I read this quote by Saint Teresa, it struck me that God has a way of using various implements and people to achieve what He desires.

Many years ago I asked God what He wanted me to know. He challenged me to meet with Him every day and that He would give me a verse from His Word. He did so; and as I read what He had pointed out to me, He inspired me to write the thoughts He placed in my mind.

I have a little notebook, and I write these thoughts down in pencil. The wonder of these writings from God is that He knows just what He wants to say.

This inspiration is open to everyone who wants to know what God wants to impart to them. It takes a quiet place, a still voice, a listening ear, and a desire to hear Him. He willingly meets with you at any time and at any place. Still your heart in adoration of His majesty, and wait and listen. There is an art to waiting on God, but once you have found it and faithfully meet with Him each day, you will find that there is a great deal that God wants to say to you.

I urge you to write down what you hear. It is wonderful to realize that God knows all things and directs our thoughts and reading to what

is important for that day and that time. We can go back days, months, or even years later and read what God imparted to our seeking hearts, and see just how relevant His words were, and still are.

This book is full of devotions that God has given me on my journey with Him. We have a destination that we are moving toward, on the narrow road leading to the narrow gate, and every meeting with God is to grow us in wisdom and knowledge as we journey to our final destination—eternal life with Him—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Come with me on this journey as God guides us from our first step onto the Road of Holiness (Isaiah 35:8), that narrow road that He has planned for us to walk, toward our meeting Him face to face and the end of life's journey.

A journey of 1,000 miles begins with the first step. Jeremiah 29:11-13 says:

*I [God] alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for. Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you. You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart.*

Life is a journey—one that brings many experiences across our path, some pleasant, some wonderful, some scary, some dreadful. But throughout our journey, we have a constant Companion with us to help us, guide us, teach us, and protect us. God knows the starting point, the journey, and the final destination—and He helps us day by day. As we journey with God, He desires our interaction with Him, a conversation, discussion, and listening for His direction and advice on how to go forward.

## *How to Use this Study*

The reflections are not linked to any specific week of the year, and can be used at any time.

The prayers at the beginning of each week are to help quiet your thoughts and draw near to God to hear what He has to say to you.

It is recommended that you make the prayers your own, personalizing them as much as possible, and reflecting on the thoughts that God imparts to your heart. Pray before going on to the Scripture reading, reflection, and thought for the day.

Take time to linger with the prayers and reflections, then close with your own personal prayer to end your time of quiet before the Lord.





# Week 1

## God's Plan for Your Journey

### CONVERSATION WITH GOD

Lord, I know that You want me to begin this journey with You. I ask that You will reveal Your plans to me each day as we journey together. I seek Your will and way for my life, and pray that You will open my ears so that I can hear Your instructions. I want to walk Your way, Lord, on the Road of Holiness, and to grow to know You in a deeper, more loving, and more faithful way. Help me to align my plans with Yours so that I fully understand the journey that we are on together.

### WAITING AND LISTENING

I wait for Your plan, Lord, at the starting point, eager to see where You are taking me. I rejoice that You are joining me on this journey and that Your presence and Your good advice will keep me on the path You desire me to take. Guide my feet, Lord, and help me to keep focus on the road where You are taking me. I look forward to this journey with You by my side. Thank You, Lord.

### GOD'S TEACHING

*This will be an exciting journey, My child. Take each step with Me by your side, and come and talk with Me about your experiences. I long for you to enjoy what I have planned for you, not just for today and tomorrow, but for the years stretching ahead to the time of our face-to-face meeting. Let us start, here and now, on this journey that will enrich you and bless you far more than you can envisage. The journey begins!*

### THANKSGIVING

Thank You, Lord, for this opportunity to walk the road of life with You by my side. Thank You for what lies ahead, and I pray that I may learn and grow in our relationship. I know and understand that it may be a rocky road at times, but that at others I will see the stars and wonder at the beauty that You have set on the road before me. All I ask, Lord, is that You guide me, and that I may know the wonder of Your presence as I experience what You have planned for me.

# Day 1

## God's Plan

Scripture Reading: Zechariah 4:6-7

*The angel told me to give Zerubbabel this message from the Lord: "You will succeed, not by military might or by your own strength, but by my spirit. Obstacles as great as mountains will disappear before you..."*

God, our wise God, has an almighty plan for our world and each person in it. His plans were laid right at the beginning; and though people try to thwart His plan, they are not able. God's plan will succeed despite our fumbblings. God guides us to the place He desires us to be. He shows us what we must do and rejoices when we obey. God's plan for our lives is perfect; and if only we would walk His way, we would know the fullness of joy and contentment.

### ∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞

*Thank You, Lord, that Your plan for my life was set before I was born. Thank You that You guide my every footstep, and guard me in all circumstances. You walk with me along life's journey to the place and time of our meeting and are waiting eagerly for that glorious day.*





## *Day 2*

### *Day by Day*

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:19-21

*Yes, may you come to know his love—although it can never be fully known—and so be completely filled with the very nature of God. To him who by means of his power working in us is able to do so much more than we can ever ask for, or even think of: to God be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever! Amen.*

Day by day walk in the presence of the Lord. Dedicate all to Him, asking for His guiding hand to be upon all the activities that the day brings. Ask Him to bless all meetings and the people involved. Ask that your labor may bear fruits of love, care, and compassion that bring glory to Him. Ask that all may be done in accordance with His will. Live day by day in the presence of the Lord, lifting family, friends, workmates, leaders, and all activities to Him for His blessing.

#### *∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞*

*Be with me, Lord, as I face the challenges of this day, and help me to show loving-kindness to all I meet. May I rejoice in the blessings that this day brings and readily share all that You have given me with others.*



## Day 3

### ***Obedience to His Commands***

Scripture Reading: James 5:20

*Remember this: whoever turns a sinner back from the wrong way will save that sinner's soul from death and bring about the forgiveness of many sins.*

If you are seeking God's will for your life and go out in obedience to His commands, then you are surely part of His plan. What He has put in place will come to fruition. Do not doubt that God has given you the task that you are performing. Do not doubt that His hand is guiding you along the path He desires you to tread. His plans are made and you are part of His almighty plan. What He has put in place cannot be defeated by people's plans. Go forward boldly and confidently in your task and service for God. You are part of His plan for the salvation of the world.

#### ∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞

*Thank You for Your involvement in my life, Lord, and for the task You have entrusted to me. May my service draw others closer to learn of You, and grow in their desire for a close relationship with You.*



## *Day 4*

### *God has Prepared the Way*

Scripture Reading: Amos 3:7

*The Sovereign Lord never does anything without revealing his plan to his servants, the prophets.*

God has prepared our way for us, and has many things that He wants us to do. He prompts us to follow this way, or to do that task, and both are in His plan for our lives. He begins that specific task with us and enables us to continue to completion. Do not think that it is by chance that you are doing that work! God has prepared it for you and cares for you in every way as you continue in it. There is nothing that God will not do to bless you and draw you closer to Himself. Allow yourself to be led by God and rejoice that He thinks that you are worthy and able to do that task for Him.

#### *∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞*

*Lead me, precious Savior, along life's pathway and fulfill in me the desire to work and serve You to the best of my ability. Draw me close to Your loving side, I pray!*



## Day 5

### ***Seek what God has in Store***

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:11-13

*I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for. Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you. You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart.*

Have you even given thought to what God has in store for you? Have you seen His hand upon your life up to this present time, guiding you along a certain path, shutting some doors, and opening others? Do you have the certainty of God's involvement in your life? Rejoice that God cares! Rejoice that He has plans for your prosperity and that His daily walk with you has brought you to just where you are at this moment! If you have decisions to make about changes, be sure to involve God, for He knows what is best and will guide you in His perfect way! What lies ahead is in God's plans, for your well-being! Trust in the Lord, yield all to Him and let Him put His plans into place! We are safe in His care!

#### ∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞

*I know You are leading me, Lord, and I pray that I may not deviate from the path You have set out before me. Keep me close to You, Lord, and may I always seek Your will before venturing further along that path.*



## *Day 6*

### *Plans for Your Well-Being*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 23:9

*The Lord Almighty planned it...*

God is an awesome God. He makes plans for our well-being and then brings them to fruition. He gives us dreams of what might be, and then He helps those dreams come true. All that God does is good and a blessing to us. As we seek to know what God has in store for us, He reveals a little to us, wanting us to enjoy what He brings to us each day. He guides our living, our being, and our doing, and encourages us to live close to Him. God reveals His will to us, wanting us to use what He gives for the benefit of many. As we live with Him by our side, He surrounds us with His loving care. He teaches us His truth, and His Holy Spirit guides us as He desires. God's plans for us are perfect in every way. His presence is always near to our seeking hearts. Praise God for His perfect plans and purposes.

#### *∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞*

*Thank You, Lord, for always being concerned for my well-being and for making plans that are the best for me. May I always follow You as You reveal Your plans to me.*



## Day 7

### *Every Eventuality*

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 1:5

*The purpose of this order is to arouse the love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and a genuine faith.*

In life we can get caught up in all sorts of plans that we think are good and right. But God's plan for our lives is for us to remain faithful all the time. Serve God's plan which is given in order to "arouse the love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience and a genuine faith." God is conscious of the difficulties and temptations that we face, and so urges us to keep our faith by living close to Him. As we regularly come to Him in prayer and supplication, He will reveal His loving heart and His plan for our lives. God loves us so much that He doesn't want even one hair on our heads to be harmed. He is very concerned about the love we hold in our heart, and encourages us to share the love He has given us with many others. God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—wants to have a place in our hearts where He can live and bring fullness of life to us. Give God thanks for His love!

#### ∞ PRAYER THOUGHT ∞

*Keep me close to Your side, Lord, that I may not stray from Your plan. May my heart be set on You and Your pure love. I need Your help and guidance every hour of every day so I can be an able witness to others about Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Thank You for Your abiding love!*

