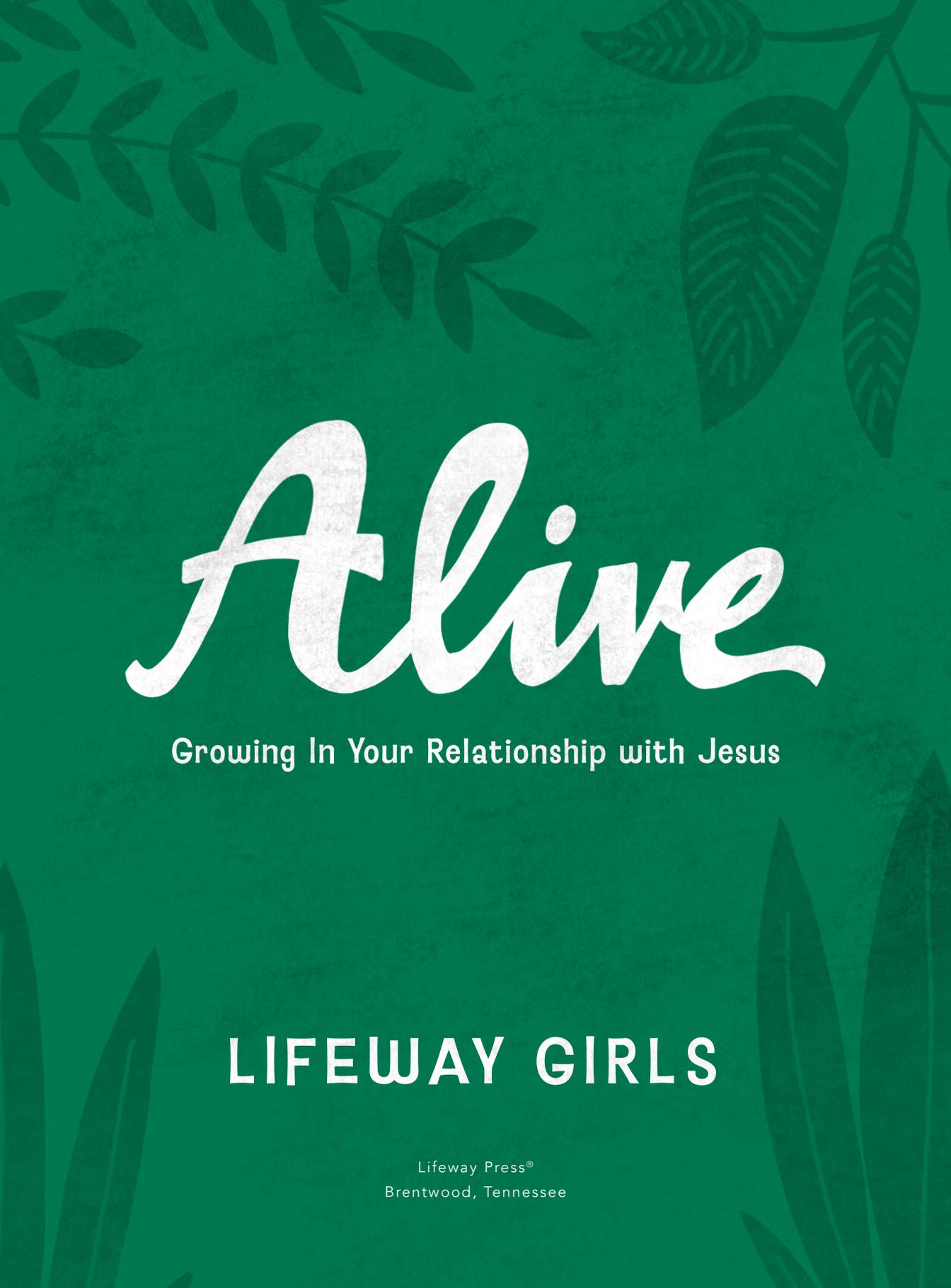


# *Alive*

Growing in Your Relationship with Jesus



LIFEWAY GIRLS



# *Alive*

Growing In Your Relationship with Jesus

**LIFEWAY GIRLS**

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Brentwood, Tennessee



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# HOW TO USE THIS STUDY

**WELCOME!** We're so glad you've picked up this book. *Alive: Growing in Your Relationship with Jesus* is a five-week Bible study on the basics of the Christian faith. Over the course of the study, you'll learn what it means to be alive in Christ—the beautiful reality of how Jesus changes everything—and how to walk out your faith as an individual and as part of the body of Christ—the church. Here's a look at what you can expect.

## GETTING STARTED

Because we believe discipleship happens best in community, we encourage you to do this study together in a group setting. Or, if you're doing this alone, consider enlisting a friend or two to go through it with you. This will give you friends to pray and connect with over coffee or through text so you can chat about what you're learning.



## PERSONAL STUDY

Each week of this study is divided into five days, but we encourage you to take it at your own pace. As you study, you'll encounter guided reading of Bible passages, teachings to help you understand what you've read, and questions that encourage you to engage with the Bible and apply its truths to your life.

## GROUP TIME

Welcome and congrats on making it to Week Three! We're over halfway through our study, and the prospect of you sticking with it. Since this week was all about community and togetherness, let's start with a little group activity.

Now, let's discuss the following questions together and reflect on the truths we've uncovered in our study of God's Word this week.

What stood out to you from this week of personal study? What has stuck with you? What surprised you or was new information?

The New Testament clearly communicates the importance of local church community. What are some excuses you've used or heard for neglecting to be a consistent member of a local church? What may be holding you back from fully participating in a local church?

What questions do you have about baptism or the Lord's Supper after your study this week?

Based on what you've learned from God's Word this week, why did God design us for community?

How have you seen the benefits of this design in your life recently?

How is God calling you to give to the church and your community through your time, abilities, and other resources?

As you reflect on the Bible passages you read this week, what stands out to you about the character of God?

How have you been challenged and encouraged in your relationship with Jesus through what you've learned?

What is some way you can use what you've learned this week to encourage someone else?

Read Psalm 68 as a closing prayer of worship and praise. Don't forget to continue working on our restoration verses this week.

*"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us," made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are so good!*

**EPHESIANS 2:4-5**

## LEADER GUIDE

### TIPS FOR LEADING A GROUP

**PRAY DILIGENTLY.** Ask God to prepare you to lead this study. Pray individually and specifically for the girls in your group. Make this a priority in your personal work and preparation.

**PREPARE ADEQUATELY.** Don't just wing this. Take time as previous each week to have a good grasp of the content. Look over the group notes and consider those in your group. Feel free to delete or reword the questions provided and add questions that fit your group better.

**LEAD BY EXAMPLE.** Make sure you complete all of the personal study. Be willing to share your story, what you're learning, and your questions as you discuss together.

**BE AWARE.** If girls are hesitant to discuss their thoughts and questions in a larger group, consider dividing into smaller groups to provide a setting more conducive to conversation.

**FOLLOW UP.** If someone mentions a prayer request or need, make sure to follow up. It may be a situation where you can get others in the group involved in helping out.

**EVALUATE OFTEN.** After each week and throughout the study, assess what needs to be changed to more effectively lead the study.

**CELEBRATE.** At the end of the study, celebrate what God has done by leading your group members to discover what they've learned and how they've grown. Pray together about what steps God may be asking you to take as a result of this study.

If you are leading a Bible study group through Alive, then first we want to say thank you! We have no doubt that God will use you to lead the girls in your group to better understanding of what it means to be alive in Christ.

Each group session contains the following elements. We've included a suggested amount of time based on one-hour group meetings. Adjust as you need to for the time you have together.

**GATHER (10 MINUTES).** At your first group meeting, make sure all the girls in your group have their Bible study books. Help ease into each session by starting off with some questions to get girls comfortable with one another. In the first session, you're provided with some introductory and general discussion questions to help group members get to know each other and introduce the study. This opening section is also the perfect time to look over the snacks and serve coffee meeting options.

**DISCUSS (40 MINUTES).** We'll find review and discussion questions in the Group Time each week. You are more than welcome to ask additional questions that you feel are important, or you can skip the questions we provided if more girls are wanting the discussion with their own eyes from the personal study. If you don't get through all of the questions, don't stress. These questions are designed to encourage deeper discussion. Bottom line: Follow the Holy Spirit's leading as you enter into this time.

As you go through your next study during the week, just a star by any questions or statements you might want to discuss with your group.

**CLOSE (10 MINUTES).** Before you end your time together, you will want to go over the memory verse and personal study that girls should focus on before you meet again. Then, close out in prayer using the closing activity or prayer prompt as a way to encourage your girls before they are dismissed!

## GROUP TIME

These pages are intended to be done together in a group. There are questions for review and discussion for a deeper understanding of Scripture. Complete the personal study each week before meeting as a group again.

## LEADING A GROUP?

You can find a Leader Guide on page 166. The Leader Guide offers several tips and helps. To find additional resources for leaders, visit [lifeway.com/alive](http://lifeway.com/alive).

## ICON KEY



Bible Facts



Study Tips



Key Words



Bible Characters

## ICONS

When you see these icons pop up, be on the lookout for background information and study tips that will be useful if you're new to Bible study.

# BIBLE STUDY TIPS & RESOURCES

We believe Bible study should be awe-inspiring, not overwhelming. But we know it might not feel that way for you yet. Throughout this study you'll find tips and insights to guide you, but here are a few things it's helpful to know from the start.

## HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

There are many ways to study the Bible, but this study follows an approach known as *inductive Bible study*. Each day you'll be prompted to:

**OBSERVE**—Examine what the text says.

**INTERPRET**—Ask yourself what the text means and learn from the teaching of others.

**APPLY**—Take what you've learned in the text and apply it to your life.

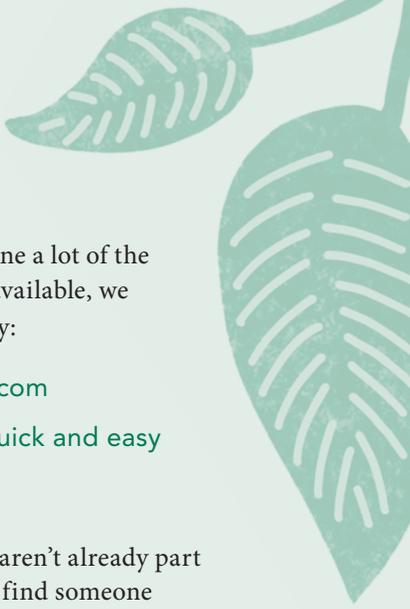
Through this study rhythm you'll learn to search God's Word for all the truth, encouragement, and wisdom it holds.

## READING A BIBLE REFERENCE

**GENESIS 1:1**

BOOK CHAPTER : VERSE

When you see “a” or “b” in a Bible verse reference (such as Genesis 1:1a), it's referring to the first half or thought in the verse (a) or the second half or thought in the verse (b).



## FREE RESOURCES FOR BIBLE STUDY

Thankfully, centuries of Bible students have come before you and done a lot of the hard work of study. Take advantage of that! Among the many tools available, we recommend bookmarking the following websites to aid in your study:

- An online, searchable Bible like [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) or [bible.com](http://bible.com)
- [Biblehub.com](http://Biblehub.com), which makes comparing Bible translations quick and easy
- A good online dictionary, such as [merriam-webster.com](http://merriam-webster.com)

Most importantly, please don't go it alone! Join a local church if you aren't already part of one. Participate in small group or discipleship opportunities, and find someone who can walk with you as you grow in your faith.

## STUDY TOOLS WORTH INVESTING IN

As you're able to grow your Bible study tool set, we recommend making sure you have the following:

- Study Bible, like the CSB Study Bible
- Bible dictionary
- Journal
- Set of book of the Bible tabs to help you quickly locate Bible books
- Highlighter/pen set

## A NOTE ON BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

The Bible, originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, has been translated into English many times. This study will primarily use the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) translation. But reading the same passage of Scripture from more than one translation is a helpful study tool, and you can find these translations and others on a Bible app or websites such as [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) or [biblehub.com](http://biblehub.com).



# INTRODUCTION

During His time on earth, Jesus summed up His reason for leaving heaven and coming to earth in one simple statement: “I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance” (John 10:10). The “they” Jesus was talking about is you and me, among many others. Abundant life with Christ is the beautiful promise Jesus offers to those who put their faith in Him.

But what does life with Christ really mean? What does it mean to be spiritually dead? How does being alive in Christ affect who we are, the way we live our days, or our hope for tomorrow? Whether you’re new to the faith or have been a Christian so long it’s difficult to remember your life before Christ, these are important questions for you to think through, and they form the backbone of this Bible study.

Beginning in Week One with the good news of the gospel—the miraculous change that moves us from spiritual death to life when we place our faith in Jesus—we’ll walk together through five weeks of study that unpack the basic, fundamental beliefs and instructions of the Christian faith. We’ll consider what it means to be Christians as individuals and as members of the Christian community—the church.

If this is your first Bible study, we are thrilled for you! Studying God’s Word helps us to know Him and hear from Him, fills us with hope for the future, and shapes us to live like Him today. And it’s a practice that only grows richer over time. We know it can be overwhelming, though. The Bible is a long, ancient book, and there’s a lot going on in its pages. We’ve designed this study specifically with you in mind, so you’ll find tips and extra insights along the way to help you better understand how to study and what you’re reading.

As much as Christianity can feel overwhelming, it is wonderfully simple at heart:

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

*Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.*

The words of this children’s song couldn’t be more true. Jesus loves you, which you know to be true because it says so in the Bible, God’s true and trustworthy Word. You belong to Jesus, and He is your strength. What is more beautiful and encouraging than this?

*Laura Magness*

# Transformation

## FROM DEATH TO LIFE

*But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses.*

*You are saved by grace!*

EPHESIANS 2:4-5



*The Bible tells one big story about how God's perfect creation was broken by sin and the lengths God takes (and is taking) to draw people back to Him. This first week of study explores the miraculous change that takes place when we realize our sinful state, turn back to God, and place our faith in Jesus Christ.*

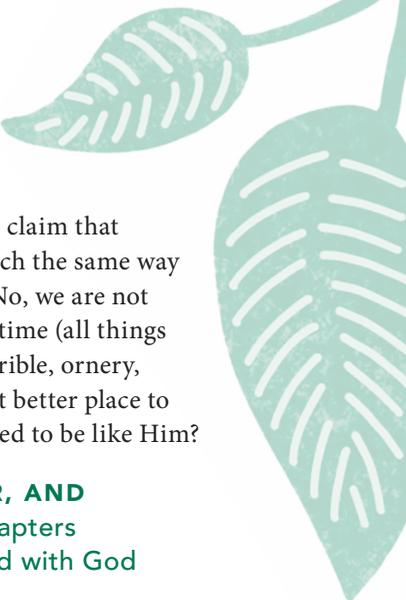




DAY  
01

# CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE

by Jaclyn S. Parrish



**Y**ou are like God. The Bible begins with the shocking, scandalous claim that humans, male and female, are made “in the image” of God—much the same way that someone might say you’re the “spitting image” of your mother. No, we are not all-powerful or all-knowing or universally present throughout all of time (all things that are true about God!). Nevertheless, you and every beautiful, horrible, ornery, ridiculous human being you know were created to be like Him. What better place to begin our study than by considering who God is and how we’re created to be like Him?

**LOOK UP GENESIS 1:1—THE FIRST BOOK, CHAPTER, AND VERSE IN YOUR BIBLE.** Read through all of Genesis chapters 1 and 2. As you read, circle every verb (action) associated with God in Genesis 1–2. List some of the words you circled here.

## THE BOOK OF GENESIS

*"The book of Genesis is the great book of beginnings in the Bible. True to the meanings of its Hebrew and Greek names (Hb bere'shith, 'In Beginning' [based on 1:1]; Gk Geneseos, 'Of Birth' [based on 2:4]), Genesis permits us to view the beginning of a multitude of realities that shape our daily existence."<sup>1</sup>*

The Bible begins with God’s story of creation. In its opening chapters, we read along as God makes, fashions, and forms. He speaks and blesses. He gives, names, and controls. And over and over again, He calls His work “good.” He is most insistent upon that point, repeating it again and again: “This is good! This is good! This is very, very good!”

God spoke beautiful and fascinating things into existence, finishing with humanity. Then He urged His created humans to do the same.

**READ BACK OVER GENESIS 1:26-28.** What was Adam and Eve’s “work assignment” from God?

These passages tell us that God placed His creation under the command of humans. But that “rule” was not the kind of rule tyrants wield over sycophants. It was the kind of rule gardeners exercise over gardenias. Like the first humans, you were made to cultivate creation, to care for it, to fashion new and exciting things from it, and to turn to those around you and say, “This is good! Take it, taste it, enjoy it. It is so very, very good!”

How might your work—schoolwork, chores, hobbies—look different if you approached it as an opportunity to reflect the beauty of God’s creation to others? Think of at least one specific example.



#### **Rest Like God**

*The Bible regularly tells us to follow God’s pattern for work and rest. It’s even one of the Ten Commandments given to us in Exodus 20:8-11.*

#### **READ GENESIS 2:1-3 AGAIN.**

Up until this point in the creation narrative, our God was a busy God, a working God. Then, as the work of creation drew to a close, God rested. Later passages in the Bible make explicit what is implied in Genesis 2:1-3: We are made in the image of a resting God, and therefore, we must rest. But how do we rest like God rests? He doesn’t grow weary. He doesn’t need sleep. His constant, conscious, sustaining power is what holds all reality in existence. God did not cease being God in Genesis 2:2. So what was He doing?

**READ BACK OVER GENESIS 1:26-31 ONE MORE TIME.** What was the last thing God did before He rested?

Observe the full sweep of Genesis 1. God began the universe with a flurry of activity, flinging stars in their places, carving mountains from the deep, braiding vines into jungles. Then, with a final flourish, He spread His arms out to His new creation and empowered humanity to go garden, to steward what He had made.

Bible scholar Allen P. Ross reminds us that the Hebrew word for rest in this passage “is not a word that refers to remedying exhaustion after a tiring week of work. Rather, it describes the enjoyment of accomplishment, the celebration of completion.”<sup>2</sup> If God’s work is the

joyful work of pouring good things out into reality, then God's rest is the thankful rest of drinking those good things in.

**My guess is you don't truly feel at rest often (sleep not included). How does this idea change when you think about it as an opportunity to delight and find peace in the good others (God or humans) have made?**

Genesis 1–2 sets in motion the natural rhythm of human life: work and rest, giving and receiving, offering good to others and accepting good from others. But of course, we don't carry this rhythm as we should. We'll deal with what went wrong tomorrow, but you don't need me to tell you that the world is not as it should be. Work that should be enjoyable and fun is exhausting and thankless. Rest that should be peaceful and serene is frantic and lonely. But choosing to follow Christ means choosing to reenter this dance of giving and receiving, to relearn the rhythm of Genesis 1–2.

**Consider these two "beats" of the rhythm of giving and receiving. Which one is more difficult for you to do, give or receive? What does that tell you about yourself? About your relationship with God?**

If giving is more difficult, then look for a way to make something good and offer it to someone else today. If receiving is more difficult, then make time today to enjoy something good, receiving it as a gift.

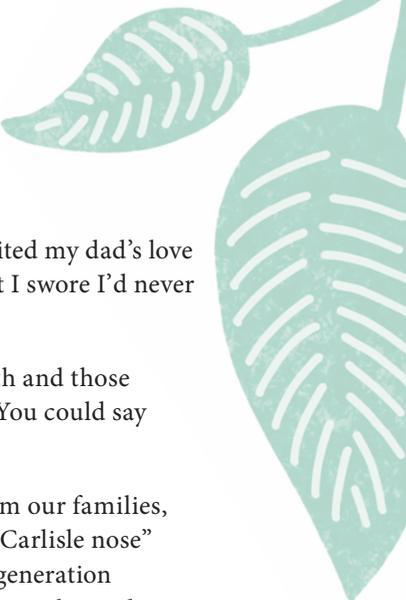
*Close your study in prayer. Praise God for His creativity and the intentionality behind His creation, and ask Him for eyes to see the beauty today. Delight in the ways He has created you in His image, and pray for a growing awareness of the purpose He has for you.*

DAY  
02

# BROKEN BY SIN

by Mary C. Wiley





I have my mother's eyes and my father's distinct nose. I also inherited my dad's love of books and, shockingly, all of my mom's parenting phrases that I swore I'd never use, like "make good choices" and "always take the high road."

I have both inherited traits and learned traits; those I was born with and those I have actively adopted into my own behavior, for better or worse. You could say I inherited some and enacted others, choosing to practice them.

So much of our lives are determined by what we have inherited from our families, whether we can recognize these things or not. Unfortunately, "the Carlisle nose" isn't the only thing I inherited from my father. Passed down from generation to generation, reaching all the way back to the garden of Eden, I have inherited sinfulness—and so have you.

## THE GARDEN OF EDEN

*The garden of Eden (Genesis 2) is the place where Adam and Eve, the first humans, lived. It is believed to have been located in the Tigris-Euphrates area of Mesopotamia. The garden included two trees—the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve were banned from Eden after they listened to the serpent (Satan) instead of listening to God.<sup>3</sup>*

Picking up where you left off yesterday in the book of Genesis, **READ GENESIS 3:1-7.**

What question did the serpent ask to tempt Eve in verse 1?

What about the fruit convinced Eve she should eat it?

After God created Adam and Eve, He gave them one rule: Don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That's it. Everything else was fair game. However, if they did eat from it, the consequence would be certain death. (Go back and read Genesis 2:15-17 for this context.) However, the serpent assured Eve that was not the case, that God was just holding back a good thing from her and that the fruit was actually good for her because it would make her more like God.

**What immediately happened after Adam and Eve ate the fruit? Have you ever had a similar response when you sinned?**

Eve was enticed by the serpent's temptation, and her trust in God wavered with catastrophic results. In a single moment, Adam and Eve's rebellion changed everything. While their bodies didn't immediately die, their close relationship with God did, and their physical death became an imminent reality. All the joyous life with God they had experienced was overtaken by shame. Sin entered the world, breaking God's perfect creation, and generation after generation has inherited it. Nothing is as it should be.



### **Righteous**

Acting in accord with divine or moral law: free from guilt or sin.<sup>6</sup>

## **THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS**

*Romans is the sixth book in the New Testament and was written by the apostle Paul. Apostles were those taught and/or sent out directly by Jesus. Paul's conversion from a persecutor of Christians to one of the early church's most influential leaders is recorded in the book of Acts. His letter to the Roman house churches is considered one of the most thorough descriptions of our salvation and its impact on our lives. In total, Paul wrote thirteen New Testament letters.<sup>4,5</sup>*

Flip to the New Testament and find the book of Romans. (Your Bible will have an index of Bible books with page numbers toward the front if you need guidance.) Then **READ ROMANS 3:10-20**.

This is uplifting, isn't it? But it's critical we understand that no one has escaped inheriting sin from Adam and Eve. My two-year-old never had to be taught how to take her friend's toy or to demand her way by stomping her foot and screaming. It's like she came pre-programmed. And in fact, she did. As all of us are—prone to sin from the moment our lives begin. Just as this passage says, there is not one person who is righteous, not even one (v. 10).

This passage holds strong words about what sin is and what is true about humanity and their sin. How would you define sin keeping these verses in mind?

What does this passage reveal about our sinfulness?

When I teach the kids at my church about sin, we always define sin as “anything we do, think, or say that God tells us not to do, think, or say; or anything we don't do, think, or say that God tells us to do, think, or say in His Word.” That's a lot of words to simply say that sin is rebelling against God and His good plan for us. We are born with a sinful nature that desires our own way rather than God's, and we choose to sin as we walk through our days.

Yesterday, we read God's rule about following His example of rest, which is one of His Ten Commandments (the foundational law for the people of God from the Old Testament). Paul has God's law in mind in Romans 3. God gave His children rules, not because He is an impossible-to-please dictator, but so that His people might flourish and have abundant relationships with Him. He gave His children instructions because He loves them and wants life for them. However, we can't keep the rules—we disobey. We sin. And just as sin separated Adam and Eve from God, it also separates us from Him.

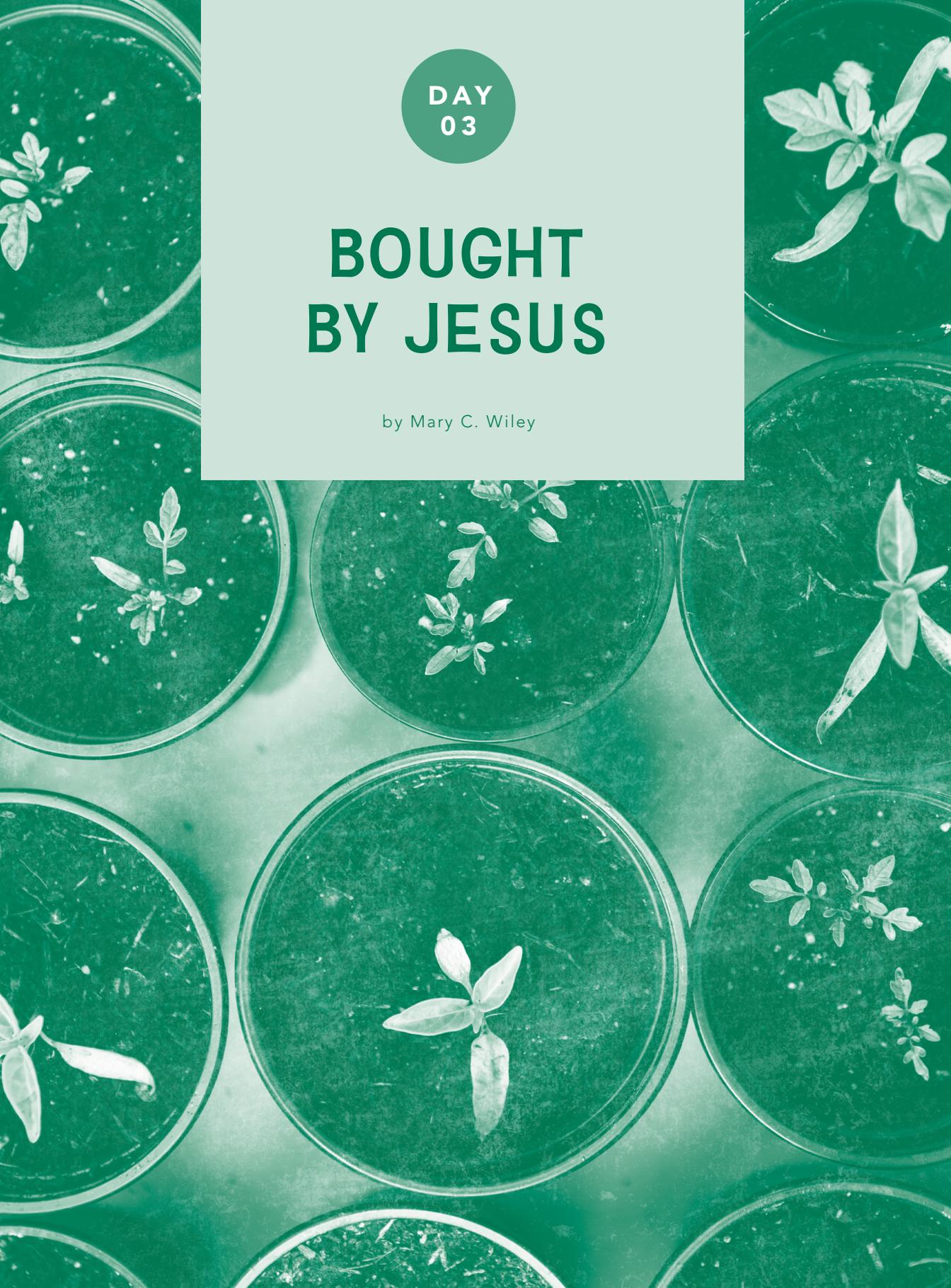
Thankfully, God knew this would be the case. Although we are incapable of being sinless while we live in this broken world, God has provided a way to fix our relationship with Him so that it is no longer broken.

**NOW READ ROMANS 5:12-21.** Compare and contrast how this text describes Adam (the “one man” of verse 12) and Jesus Christ (“the Coming One”).

WHAT WE HAVE IN ADAM	WHAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST

What evidence do you see of God’s grace in your life and the world around you? What hope do you now have that you didn’t have before?

*Spend some time in prayer. Begin with a time of confession, acknowledging your sin and asking God for forgiveness and mercy. Then take time to praise Him for the total forgiveness you have in Jesus.*



DAY  
03

# BOUGHT BY JESUS

by Mary C. Wiley

**M**y childhood church sang a song I found deeply unsettling because it asked the question, “Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?” Every time we sang it, I’d make a gagging sound only loud enough for those sitting beside me to hear. I had no desire to be washed in anything other than warm, clean bath water. I didn’t even want to see this blood we talked about so often, much less be washed in it.

However, no amount of queasiness changes the fact that blood is central to our faith and was central to God’s work of redemption from the beginning. Blood is the source of life for every living thing, and as we’ll see today, Jesus’s blood is the source of spiritual life for all who believe in Him. Hebrews 9:22 says, “According to the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”

Before the birth of Jesus, God had a covenant (known as the old covenant or Mosaic law) with His people that was made up of more than six hundred laws, including the Ten Commandments. Yesterday we considered how everyone sins, and because of sin, it was impossible for anyone to obey all those rules at once. So, as payment for sins, God specified that people had to take a spotless animal to the temple for the priest to slaughter and burn on the altar of the Lord. The offering’s blood would count as payment for their sin, and then their relationship with God would be restored. This was an exhausting, smelly, temporary, and repetitive way to deal with sin. But it wouldn’t always be that way.

#### **READ THE FOLLOWING FROM JEREMIAH 31:31-34,**

*<sup>31</sup>“Look, the days are coming”—this is the LORD’s declaration—“when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>This one will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt—my covenant that they broke even though I am their master”—the LORD’s declaration. <sup>33</sup>“Instead, this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days”—the LORD’s declaration. “I will put my teaching within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer will one teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know me, from the least to the greatest of them”—this is the LORD’s declaration. “For I will forgive their iniquity and never again remember their sin.”*



#### **The Law**

*The Law is considered the Bible books of Genesis to Deuteronomy, with the bulk of instruction from God given in Leviticus and Deuteronomy.*



## JEREMIAH: THE BOOK AND THE PROPHET

*The book and prophet Jeremiah hold at least two great distinctions among all the Old Testament prophets (those who delivered messages from God). 1) This is the longest Prophetic book in the Bible (1,364 verses). 2) Jeremiah's life is more fully described than any of the other fifteen writing prophets. Into the tumultuous times of the last half of the seventh century and the first quarter of the sixth century BC, came this prophet bearing a word from God for the stubborn people of Judah. The book's contents span roughly from 640 to 580 BC.<sup>7</sup>*

Jeremiah was a prophet who spoke to people on God's behalf about six hundred years before Jesus came, so he and the people around him lived under the old covenant, the law of Moses you can read about in Exodus.<sup>8</sup> Yet, he looked forward to a day when God would make a new covenant with His people.

**From these verses in Jeremiah 31, what do you learn about how this new covenant would be different from the old covenant?**

The old covenant was a never-ending cycle of failure and forgiveness because perfect obedience to God's laws was impossible for sinful humans. Our rebellion against God's ways set us in opposition to Him and separated us from Him. Thankfully, it didn't keep Him from loving us and providing a new way for us to be reconciled to Him. The new covenant Jeremiah described looked forward to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Because Jesus is the Son of God, one Person of the Holy Trinity, He was able to be the perfect, sinless human we could never be.



### **Trinity**

*The "theological term used to define God as an undivided unity expressed in the threefold nature of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit."<sup>9</sup>*

**READ ROMANS 5:6** below and underline the words that describe what was true about you. Circle what Jesus did for you.

*For while we were still helpless, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly.*

What a gift!

Turn to the book of Hebrews, toward the back of your Bible, and find Hebrews 9. **READ HEBREWS 9:11-15 AND HEBREWS 9:24-28.** How many times do the words *one/once* appear in these verses from Hebrews 9?



### **High Priest**

*The priest was in charge of the temple worship. Among his duties was overseeing the Day of Atonement, the one day a year when the high priest entered the holy of holies to atone for the sins of the nation (Leviticus 16).*

Hebrews is a beautiful book that compares the old covenant to the new (the relationship God has with His people through Jesus), helping the reader understand how Jesus fulfilled every element of the old covenant, setting up something gloriously better. Hebrews 9 presents Jesus as the Great High Priest, who has ended the need for a temple priest to advocate to God on our behalf. Instead, Jesus is the greatest and highest Priest of all, bridging the divide between God and us. Through His one-time death on the cross, Jesus gave the ultimate and final payment God required to restore humanity's relationship with Him. His sacrifice was applied to us, and through His blood, we now have direct access to God. No more priests, no more blood, no more six hundred laws. Just a relationship with Jesus.

Now **READ HEBREWS 10:1-18.** How would you summarize the purpose of the law?

Why was it necessary for Jesus to die?

The temple sacrifices would never be enough. There was always a need for more because there was always more sin in people's lives that needed forgiving. Yet, Jesus, the sinless sacrifice, died "once for all time" (Hebrews 10:10). He never sinned, but He took our place, dying the death we deserved.

Only God could reconcile us to Himself because we were stuck in our sin. Jesus bore the weight of it, experiencing death. Then, He rose again victorious over sin and death, ensuring there will be a day when both are no more. Jesus crossed the divide between God and man so that we would be reconciled to God. This happens when we put our trust in Christ. We die to sin and live unto Him!

If you are a follower of Jesus, then you are a child of God and a new creation. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Come to find out, I do want to be "washed in the blood of the Lamb" after all.

**As you consider the great humility and sacrifice of Jesus, ask yourself: To what lengths did God go to reconcile you to Himself?**

**How does that encourage you to take on the same humility and obedience that Jesus exhibited?**

*Spend time in prayer thanking God for the phenomenal gift of Jesus who paid for your sin on the cross. Confess any sin that you have not repented of and ask for forgiveness and strength to walk in obedience, just as Jesus did.*

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CHRIST DIED FOR  
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*Romans 5:6*



# WE ARE ALIVE IN CHRIST

Life with Christ is the beautiful promise of the Christian faith, but what does it really mean? In a world full of confusing beliefs and loud voices, it's important to understand and embrace your full identity in Christ. In this five-session Bible study, you'll walk through the basic, fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith, beginning with the change that has taken place in your heart and life. You'll learn how the gospel affects who you are, your relationships with others, the choices you make today, and where you place your hope for tomorrow. You'll also consider the meaning and importance of Christian practices like baptism, prayer, worship, the Lord's Supper, missions, and more. And through it all, you'll be encouraged to experience the freedom, joy, and hope of a life lived with Jesus.

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