

DIVINE
MOMENTS
for
STUDENTS
*Everyday Inspiration
from God's Word*



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Divine Moments for Students: Everyday Inspiration from God's Word

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Managing editors: Ronald A. Beers and Amy E. Mason

Contributing writers: V. Gilbert Beers, Rebecca J. Beers, Brian R. Coffey, Jonathan Farrar, Jeffrey Frasier, Jonathan Gray, Shawn A. Harrison, Sandy Hull, Rhonda K. O'Brien, Douglas J. Rumford, Linda Taylor

Designed by Julie Chen

Edited by Michal Needham

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Introduction

The goal of *Divine Moments for Students* is to help you experience a breakthrough with God, to show you how and where God is at work in your life to get your attention each day. If the Bible is really a blueprint for living, then God, through his Word, should be able to respond to any question you have for him. And he does! As you read the questions and Scripture in this book, it is amazing to see how God's answers to your daily needs are so clear and help you see with "spiritual eyes" how he is trying to break through to you. Sometimes God seems so big and mysterious that you may wonder whether he would truly bother with you. But he loves you personally and is trying to get your attention every day. This little book can help you notice the divine moments when he is trying to show you how much he cares. You can read straight through the book, or you can use it topically when you are looking for God's help in a certain area of life or if you just need more clarity about what God might say about something that is important to you. We pray this little book will be meaningful to you and help you experience many divine moments with God.

—*The editors*

Abilities

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can I make the most of my abilities?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:5

My life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus.

ACTS 20:24

I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

JOHN 17:4

What gives you the right to make such a judgment? What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift?

1 CORINTHIANS 4:7



God gives all people special abilities and spiritual gifts that he intends them to develop and use. Do you know what yours are? One of the most important tasks in life is to identify your unique abilities and gifts. Then you have three choices: First, you could ignore them. This will leave you unfulfilled and disconnected from God's plan for you. Second, you could use them to advance your own goals because you are naturally gifted in certain areas. Third, you could put them to their

intended use and maximize God's purpose for you. As you read and obey God's Word, you will begin to understand your special abilities and spiritual gifts. Taking a spiritual-gifts assessment would also help. Once you know what they are, using your unique abilities and gifts to serve God will give you deep satisfaction and help you discover your distinct role among God's people.



DIVINE PROMISE

TO THOSE WHO USE WELL WHAT THEY ARE GIVEN, EVEN MORE WILL BE GIVEN, AND THEY WILL HAVE AN ABUNDANCE. *Matthew 25:29*

Absolutes

MY QUESTIONS *for* GOD

Are there absolutes in life? How can I know what they are?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

People may be right in their own eyes, but the LORD examines their heart. PROVERBS 21:2

In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes. JUDGES 21:25

Your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you. JAMES 4:11



Imagine you've just bought a new cell phone or computer. If you ignore the instructions for using it, it will still work. But you'll miss out on so many of the great things it was meant to do; you'll miss out on so much of what you could have enjoyed. Now let's say that instead of ignoring the instructions, you go against them—you purposely do the opposite of what the manual tells you to do. Suddenly you've got a bigger problem. Your phone or computer will only frustrate you because nothing is working right. There's a certain way to get these gadgets to work, and the instruction book tells you how. It's the same with life. The Bible is God's instruction manual for living. When you follow his instructions, life just works better. That's because God, as the creator of life, has programmed certain absolutes into the world—principles that apply to all people in all times and all places. Ignore God's instructions, and you'll miss out on so much of what God intends for you to enjoy in life. Go against his instructions, and life isn't going to work at all. You will be hurt, frustrated, and disappointed. That's why it is so important to read the Bible and discover what always works and what never works. Then life will be so much smoother, more enjoyable, and more fulfilling.



DIVINE PROMISE

ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD AND IS USEFUL TO TEACH US WHAT IS TRUE AND TO MAKE US REALIZE WHAT IS WRONG IN OUR LIVES. IT CORRECTS US WHEN WE ARE WRONG AND TEACHES US TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT.

2 Timothy 3:16

Acceptance

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

Can God help me accept other people?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

Accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

ROMANS 15:7



Accepting others is the key to good relationships. Without it, you would likely lead a life of rejection and loneliness. But accepting others and feeling accepted by them allows you to develop friendships. God accepts you no matter what—despite the times you’ve hurt him, ignored him, or rejected him. Only when you understand God’s unconditional love will you be drawn into a relationship with him. God calls you to accept others in the same way that he does because he knows how important it is to have deep friendships and how much influence you can have in the lives of others. Just as God accepted you for who you are and then challenged you to grow and change, so you must accept others for who they are before you try to influence them. Acceptance isn’t about befriending the best or most godly people. Acceptance is about letting God break through your fears, inhibitions, and stereotypes in order to bring out the best in the people around you. God also calls you to accept those the world deems unacceptable—the poor, the homeless, the handicapped, the elderly, prisoners, and addicts.



DIVINE PROMISE

THOSE THE FATHER HAS GIVEN ME WILL COME
TO ME, AND I WILL NEVER REJECT THEM.

John 6:37

Accomplishments

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can I know if my accomplishments are pleasing God?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

MATTHEW 3:16-17

This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."

ROMANS 1:17

You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.

JOHN 15:16

We are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

EPHESIANS 2:10



Many people assume that accomplishing great things is the way to become spiritually great. They are driven to earn respect from others, to impress others, to gain the applause and approval of others. If you are striving for these things, it can easily transfer over to your relationship with God—you may think you have to earn his love and forgiveness too. But you are accepted because of God's grace, not because of what you accomplish. God accepted you from the start, before you had accomplished anything. It's true that you have been created, called, and equipped to accomplish certain things for God. But your accomplishments are always to be understood as the result of God's grace in you, not your own efforts. The greatest accomplishment is allowing God to carry out his plans through you. This means letting go of your need to be accepted because of your performance. God-pleasing accomplishments will highlight God's power at work in you.



DIVINE PROMISE

WITH GOD'S HELP WE WILL DO
MIGHTY THINGS. *Psalm 60:12*

Accountability

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can accountability deepen my relationship with God?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

“Can anyone hide from me in a secret place? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?” says the LORD.

JEREMIAH 23:24

You must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. . . . Do what is right and good in the LORD’s sight, so all will go well with you.

DEUTERONOMY 6:6-9, 18



Accountability is literally giving an account of yourself—where you’ve been, what you’ve been doing, what your motives were. The one who is holding you accountable has the freedom to ask for this account from you. The purpose of accountability is not to keep you from having fun but to help you enjoy life even more by preventing you from impulsively doing something that will hurt yourself or someone else. With the right person holding you accountable, you will make better decisions that will positively impact your future. You may not always like to be held accountable; you may think it puts too many restrictions on you. It forces you to open up the dark corners of your life that you’d prefer to keep hidden. But accountability will keep you honest, happy, and on the right path. It’s not always

comfortable, but it's necessary. Ultimately, accountability means answering to God. If you're really going to take it seriously, you have to begin with God as your primary accountability partner. He knows all the secrets of your heart anyway, so why try to hide anything from him? Be honest with God, and tell him about your struggles. Follow his principles for living as found in the Bible. Then you'll be less likely to do something you will later regret. You will better understand what you are doing and why you are doing it when you understand for whom you are doing it.



DIVINE PROMISE

YOU WILL ALWAYS HARVEST WHAT YOU PLANT.

Galatians 6:7

Addiction

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can God break the power of addiction in my life?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:12

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by

changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

ROMANS 12:2

You belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory . . . because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.

1 JOHN 4:4

The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

GALATIANS 5:22-23



Who in their right mind would volunteer to become a slave, chained forever to a life of bondage? That's exactly what addiction is: self-imposed slavery. It's selling yourself into a lifetime of bondage to a habit or substance. While we often think of addiction as a problem related to drugs or alcohol, there are other addictions that are just as destructive. You can become addicted to laziness, watching television, playing computer games, eating unhealthy food—the list goes on and on. You can even become addicted to good things, like exercising too much or eating too much health food. We all have our addictions, whether they are simply bad habits or serious dependencies. Sin is the worst addiction. Like other addictive habits or substances, sin often appears alluring and attractive and promises short-term pleasure. You can easily justify giving in just this once, thinking you have things under control. But soon you

realize that your “one time” has turned into a habit you can’t stop. It now controls you. As with other addictions, sin often results when you lose self-control. Ironically, the only way to recover your self-control is to let God control you. His control is always for your benefit and for your spiritual growth. God can break the power of any addiction you are struggling with when you give him control of your life. It is imperative that you admit your addiction and acknowledge its destructiveness. God often works through other people to help you. It is almost impossible to overcome addiction by yourself; you need the consistent support of people who love you enough to tell you the truth and hold you accountable. But you must also hold yourself accountable to God’s way of living, as written in the Bible. This will keep you close to God, and he will work in your life to change your heart and desires. Surrender to the Holy Spirit, and God will replace addictive impulses with life-affirming desires. While it is important to seek the help of others, it is only with God’s help that you will ultimately have the power to overcome addiction.



DIVINE PROMISE

YOU ARE NOT CONTROLLED BY YOUR SINFUL
NATURE. YOU ARE CONTROLLED BY THE SPIRIT
IF YOU HAVE THE SPIRIT OF GOD LIVING
IN YOU. *Romans 8:9*

Advice

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

I'm bombarded with opinions. How do I know whether I'm getting the right advice?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

The LORD says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you."

PSALM 32:8

If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

JAMES 1:5

Then Jehoshaphat added, "But first let's find out what the LORD says."

1 KINGS 22:5

*W*hat should I do? This is a commonly asked question. In an age of conflicting claims and confusing information, many people are searching for wise counsel. Maybe that's why counselors are in such great demand and advice columnists are in every newspaper. But there's a critical difference between well-meaning advice and wise counsel. God's wisdom is best because he is all-knowing. Seek knowledge and understanding from the One who knows everything that will happen today and tomorrow and every day to come. Then you will have the wisdom to weigh and interpret advice from others.

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. COLOSSIANS 3:16

The word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. HEBREWS 4:12

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 2 TIMOTHY 3:16



*B*e careful if a friend or adviser always seems to be telling you what you want to hear. It may be a sign that he or she is more interested in gaining your favor than building your faith. The Word of God is described as sharp because it cuts all the way down to your motives. Good advisers won't always tell you what you want to hear because sometimes they will need to use God's Word to convict you of sin. Divine moments often come unexpectedly through convicting yet timely words of advice!



DIVINE PROMISE

YOU GUIDE ME WITH YOUR COUNSEL, LEADING
ME TO A GLORIOUS DESTINY. *Psalms 73:24*

Anger

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

Why do I get so angry sometimes?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected. GENESIS 4:4-5

“You have made me look like a fool!” Balaam shouted. NUMBERS 22:29

“Didn’t I tell you?” the king of Israel exclaimed to Jehoshaphat. “He never prophesies anything but trouble for me. . . . Put this man in prison, and feed him nothing but bread and water!” 1 KINGS 22:18, 27

“Get out of the sanctuary, for you have sinned.”
. . . Uzziah, who was holding an incense burner, became furious. 2 CHRONICLES 26:18-19

When Haman saw that Mordecai would not bow down or show him respect, he was filled with rage. ESTHER 3:5



Anger is often a reaction to your pride being hurt. When you are confronted, rejected, ignored, or don’t get your way, anger acts as a defense mechanism to protect your ego. It is common to feel angry when someone confronts you about your own sinful actions because you don’t want others to know that you’ve

done something wrong. When anger begins to well up inside you, stop and ask yourself, *Who is really offended in this situation? Is this about God's honor or my pride? Am I acting out of humility or revenge?* Confession, forgiveness, and reconciliation will melt your anger away.



DIVINE PROMISE

A GENTLE ANSWER DEFLECTS ANGER, BUT
HARSH WORDS MAKE TEMPER FLARE.

Proverbs 15:1

Anticipation

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can I learn to anticipate the great things God has planned for me?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

When the Lamb broke the seventh seal on the scroll, there was silence throughout heaven for about half an hour.

REVELATION 8:1

Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy

ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while.

1 PETER 1:3-6

You guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny.

PSALM 73:24



Think of what heaven will sound like—reverberating with joyful shouts and songs of ceaseless praise. Now imagine heaven becoming perfectly quiet, as it does when the seventh seal is opened in Revelation. You've probably experienced, in a moment of tension or fear, how just a few seconds of silence can seem to last a lifetime—heaven is quiet for half an hour! Only something very important could cause this silence. What is it? The awe of anticipation. Like the hush in a theater when the houselights are dimmed and the curtain starts to rise, millions of heaven's residents become silent when they realize something momentous is about to happen. Our lives are noisy too—but, sadly, they resound more often with ringing phones and droning televisions than with the praise and worship of God. Do you ever pause and wonder what momentous things God might be preparing to do next in your life? How many divine moments of awe-inspiring anticipation do you miss by never being still before God? Discipline yourself to build a few moments of silent anticipation into each day, making time to pray and open yourself up to what God wants to do in and through you. It is in these moments with God that he will reveal just enough of his plan to make you ready for his great purposes in your life. Come before him with reverent awe

and anticipation for the glorious future that lies ahead of you.



DIVINE PROMISE

“I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,” SAYS THE LORD. “THEY ARE PLANS FOR GOOD AND NOT FOR DISASTER, TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE.” *Jeremiah 29:11*

Apathy

MY QUESTIONS *for* GOD

How am I supposed to get excited about God? What if I just don't care?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth!

REVELATION 3:15-16

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good.

ROMANS 12:9

Anyone who isn't with me opposes me, and anyone who isn't working with me is actually working against me.

MATTHEW 12:30

Watch out! Don't let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life. Don't let that day catch you unaware.

LUKE 21:34



In the book of Revelation, apathy is compared to lukewarm water. Cold water quenches thirst and refreshes a parched mouth. Hot water is used for cooking and sanitizing. But lukewarm water has little value. Apathy is much the same. When apathy settles in, passion and purpose are gone. Apathy is like a parasite that feeds on your motivation and devours your talents and gifts. One of Satan's greatest lies is that following God and doing his work are nothing to be excited about. That couldn't be farther from the truth! It is only through following God and getting involved in serving him that your life will have meaning, energy, and purpose. In fact, the supernatural Spirit of God is a driving force within you, lighting a passion for service in your heart and encouraging purpose rather than boredom. God's Word describes the antidote to apathy: purposeful work, a thankful heart, and serving others. These three things can help you fight off feelings of apathy, renew your focus on God's purpose for your life, and anticipate with excitement the blessings God has in store for you.



DIVINE PROMISE

GOD IS NOT UNJUST. HE WILL NOT FORGET
HOW HARD YOU HAVE WORKED FOR HIM AND
HOW YOU HAVE SHOWN YOUR LOVE TO HIM

BY CARING FOR OTHER BELIEVERS, AS YOU STILL DO. OUR GREAT DESIRE IS THAT YOU WILL KEEP ON LOVING OTHERS AS LONG AS LIFE LASTS, IN ORDER TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT WHAT YOU HOPE FOR WILL COME TRUE. THEN YOU WILL NOT BECOME SPIRITUALLY DULL AND INDIFFERENT. *Hebrews 6:10-12*

Apology

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

Is it really that important to apologize when I've done something wrong?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

The high and lofty one who lives in eternity, the Holy One, says this: "I live in the high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I restore the crushed spirit of the humble and revive the courage of those with repentant hearts." *ISAIAH 57:15*

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. *JAMES 5:16*

His son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son." But his father said to the servants, "Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. . . . for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found." *LUKE 15:21-24*



Saying “I’m sorry” for something you have done wrong is one of the most difficult things to do. You have to admit your fault, face it head-on, and then humble yourself enough to confess it to someone else. A sincere apology is the first step in changing your behavior and committing to do the right thing from now on. Refusing to apologize when you know you’re wrong is a sign of pride, which can have devastating effects on your life and relationships. But being willing to apologize demonstrates humility and opens the door to healing and blessing. If you need a breakthrough in your relationship with a friend, a classmate, or God himself, the practice of apologizing when you are wrong will help you reach a new level of trust and respect. Lasting change can only take place in a humble heart. When you can admit your faults and ask for forgiveness, you will experience a divine moment in which God begins to heal your heart and relationships. Is it time for you to apologize to God or someone else?



DIVINE PROMISE

PEOPLE WHO CONCEAL THEIR SINS WILL NOT PROSPER, BUT IF THEY CONFESS AND TURN FROM THEM, THEY WILL RECEIVE MERCY. BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR TO DO WRONG, BUT THE STUBBORN ARE HEADED FOR SERIOUS TROUBLE. *Proverbs 28:13-14*

Appearance

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can I see beyond appearances?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last.

PROVERBS 31:30

Don't be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God.

1 PETER 3:3-4

If you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.

JAMES 1:23-24



Appearance does matter—just make sure you're looking at the right things. Your body, face, and clothes reflect only your outward shell, which is in a constant process of aging and decay. Your soul and character reflect your inner being, which is ageless and eternal and shows who you really are. There's nothing wrong with paying attention to your physical appearance, but not to the neglect of your spiritual appearance. Walking with God causes you to reflect his beauty. Let God's perfect character be reflected from within you, and let your true appearance shine.



DIVINE PROMISE

PEOPLE JUDGE BY OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT
THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART. *1 Samuel 16:7*

Approval

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

I work so hard to please others. What do I have to do to gain God's approval?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

When I tried to keep the law, it condemned me.

GALATIANS 2:19

There is only one God, and he makes people right with himself only by faith, whether they are Jews or Gentiles.

ROMANS 3:30

Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:39



What causes us to approve of some people and not others? Too often it comes down to appearance or performance. You don't like the way someone looks, or you don't like something they've done. Or perhaps the shoe's on the other foot, and you find it hard to win the approval of someone else. In one sense, it's entirely appropriate for your boss or your teachers to disapprove

of your work if you are not meeting their standards of performance. It's also entirely appropriate for God to disapprove of your behavior if you are enjoying a lifestyle that is contrary to his commandments. But there's another kind of approval that everyone needs, and it should never be based on performance. It is the unconditional love we all long for. In a good family you find love and acceptance no matter how you look or what you do. This is a picture of what it's like to be in God's family. As a child of God, created in his image, God loves and accepts you not for what you do but for who you are. The fact that God created you gives you great worth. He loves you and approves of you because you are his, no matter what you think about him or what others think about you. The knowledge that nothing you can do will cause God to love you any less should motivate you to do all you can to please him.



DIVINE PROMISE

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT A MATTER OF WHAT WE EAT OR DRINK, BUT OF LIVING A LIFE OF GOODNESS AND PEACE AND JOY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. IF YOU SERVE CHRIST WITH THIS ATTITUDE, YOU WILL PLEASE GOD, AND OTHERS WILL APPROVE OF YOU, TOO. *Romans 14:17-18*

Arts

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

How can I experience God through the arts?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

Beautiful words stir my heart. I will recite a lovely poem about the king, for my tongue is like the pen of a skillful poet.

PSALM 45:1

He cared for them with a true heart and led them with skillful hands.

PSALM 78:72

Send me a master craftsman who can work with gold, silver, bronze, and iron, as well as with purple, scarlet, and blue cloth. He must be a skilled engraver who can work with the craftsmen of Judah and Jerusalem who were selected by my father, David.

2 CHRONICLES 2:7

And now, son of man, take a large clay brick and set it down in front of you. Then draw a map of the city of Jerusalem on it. Show the city under siege. . . . This will be a warning to the people of Israel.

EZEKIEL 4:1-3

Sing a new song of praise to him; play skillfully on the harp, and sing with joy.

PSALM 33:3



Creativity is built into every human being. God made you creative so that you could express yourself in artistic ways—through worshiping, singing, loving, helping, playing music, crafting beautiful objects, or

thinking through problems. There is an expressive beauty in the arts that can create powerful emotions. But each expression of your creativity needs to be God-honoring because creativity is a characteristic of God. When presented appropriately, the arts can be powerful mediums for helping others experience God. For example, God inspired Jeremiah to draw a sketch of Jerusalem under siege in order to warn the people about God's displeasure over their sinful lifestyle and to move them to repentance. The arts can be misused, however, and thus they also have the potential to turn people away from God. You must stay away from either creating or enjoying art that tempts you toward sinful desires. With your specific creative talents, you have a responsibility to reflect God's creative image in appropriate ways. Have you ever been moved by the worshipful overtures of a song or the heavenly lighting captured in a beautiful painting? Perhaps the emotions you experience through the arts are divine moments in which your expressive and creative God is touching your heart in new ways.



DIVINE PROMISE

WE ARE GOD'S MASTERPIECE. HE HAS CREATED
US ANEW IN CHRIST JESUS, SO WE CAN DO
THE GOOD THINGS HE PLANNED FOR US
LONG AGO. *Ephesians 2:10*

Ashamed

MY QUESTION *for* GOD

Why do I sometimes feel ashamed about sharing my faith?

A MOMENT *with* GOD

If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns. MARK 8:38

*W*hen you are ridiculed for your faith, it is natural to feel embarrassed because it is natural to want to fit in with others. But if you remember that faith is a life-and-death matter, it can give you the strength to not only stand up for what you believe but to share the Good News with others. People may become curious about your faith when they see how seriously you take the promises of God. They may even come to realize their own need for him.

I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ.

ROMANS 1:16

*P*aul was not ashamed of the Good News because he knew that only the gospel holds the power to save souls for eternity. Those who know Jesus truly know the secret to living forever. Rather than embarrass you, this should empower you.

Never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord.

2 TIMOTHY 1:8



It is difficult to share your faith with others if you think you will be ridiculed for it. But the Bible doesn't say you need to go out on a street corner and shout it out. Instead, you should be prepared to explain to others why you live the way you do. Your loving actions toward them should compel them to wonder how you came to be this way. You have nothing to be ashamed of because you are merely showing them God's love.



DIVINE PROMISE

BE HAPPY WHEN YOU ARE INSULTED FOR BEING
A CHRISTIAN, FOR THEN THE GLORIOUS SPIRIT
OF GOD RESTS UPON YOU. *1 Peter 4:14*

Awesome

MY QUESTIONS *for* GOD

*Why is it important to recognize the awesomeness of God?
What happens in me when I see it?*

A MOMENT *with* GOD

Who is like you among the gods, O LORD—glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders?

EXODUS 15:11

Who can comprehend the power of your anger?
Your wrath is as awesome as the fear you deserve.

PSALM 90:11

Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe,
and they praised God, exclaiming, “We have seen
amazing things today!”

LUKE 5:26



God's awesome power is captivating, but fearing God is different from fearing other powerful things. You take cover from the power of a severe storm or run from the power of a crashing wave on the shore. Yet being in awe of God's power draws you toward him rather than away from him. The more you see God's awesomeness at work in your life and in the world around you, the more you will want to be near him and experience his empowering Spirit. Recognizing God's awesomeness puts you in the middle of his glory. Being in awe of God helps you experience his presence and unconditional love.



DIVINE PROMISE

I HAVE HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU, LORD.
I AM FILLED WITH AWE BY YOUR AMAZING
WORKS. IN THIS TIME OF OUR DEEP
NEED, HELP US AGAIN AS YOU DID IN
YEARS GONE BY. AND IN YOUR ANGER,
REMEMBER YOUR MERCY. *Habakkuk 3:2*

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