



I ♥ U Just the Way U R



People in the movies often seem to have it all—looks and money and fame. What else could they need? But remember, it's just a movie. In real life those people have problems and troubles just like *you* do—and more! Still, you might think that if you had even a *fraction* of what they have, if you had even *half* the looks of some of these stars, you'd have it made and be much happier.

But whether you look like a movie star or not, there's much more to you than that. Do you know how gorgeous a yielded soul looks in the spirit? When the hosts of Heaven see you serving Me with all your heart, in whatever way that may be, they look on you with total awe. Believe Me, *you* are the star. And you look great! Wow!

Other people see how beautiful you are, too, because your relationship with Me and your yieldedness give you a special glow. Even if you don't feel like you're anything that special in the spirit, you've got My love shining through you, and that makes you a sight to behold.

The movies sure can exaggerate and make things look great and glamorous. But the truth is that most people are just struggling to survive, and are far from happy. Let *Meshine* through you, and believe Me, you'll be a lot better off than those poor folks who may seem to have it all in the flesh, but who are empty inside. I *love* the way you look and the way you are, and so will others. I really mean that!

NO MATTER HOW STEEP



Persevering and not giving up as you reach for goals in life can be like climbing mountains. Some mountain climbers are willing to do almost anything, risk anything, and give up *everything* just to reach their goal of making it to the top of a mountain. It takes real commitment to climb mountains—lots of preparation and training. It can take weeks, even months, just to get ready to start climbing.

Mountain climbers have to determine in their hearts that they're going to reach their goal no matter what happens. They have to endure freezing temperatures and unexpected hazards; they have to forsake all the comforts of their homes. They get bumps and scratches and bruises. Many people even lose their lives.

They endure a lot, because they want to make it to the top of the mountain. They want to reach their goal, no matter how hard it gets. That's the kind of commitment *you'll* need in order to reach many of your goals in life. Things will often get tough along the way, but you can't let that stop you. If you determine in your heart that you're going to reach your goal, then you've got to keep persevering until you make it.

Once you get to the top of the mountain, once you reach your goal, you'll experience a thrill like no other, and you'll want to keep moving forward. You'll want to keep on climbing new mountains, reaching new goals, and experiencing the thrills of exploring new territories.

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU *FEEL* LIKE YOU'RE A GOOD WITNESSER OR NOT. I KNOW THAT YOU OFTEN FEEL LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY, AND THAT YOU DON'T HAVE THE ANSWERS TO EVERYONE'S QUESTIONS. SOMETIMES YOU'RE A LITTLE SHY WHEN IT COMES TO TALKING TO NEW PEOPLE, AND YOU WISH YOU COULD BE AS BOLD AS A LION, AND THAT YOU COULD HAVE MORE CHARISMA, SPUNK, AND KNOWLEDGE, SO THAT YOU COULD BE A TOP WITNESSER.



IT'S OKAY—REALLY! ALL YOU HAVE TO BE IS A VESSEL IN MY HANDS. REMEMBER THE STORY OF PETER AND JOHN? THEY WERE IGNORANT AND UNEDUCATED—JUST POOR FISHERMEN—AND EVERYONE KNEW IT. BUT THAT DIDN'T MATTER. WHEN THEY GOT UP TO WITNESS AND PREACH, EVERYONE MARVELED AT THEIR BOLDNESS. EVERYONE *KNEW* THAT THEY WERE MY DISCIPLES AND THAT THEY HAD KNOWN *ME*, EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE UNEDUCATED IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD.

I CAN GIVE YOU THAT BOLDNESS, TOO. I CAN GIVE YOU THE POWER TO SPEAK MY WORD AND TO BE A WITNESS FOR ME. SOMETIMES I'LL CALL YOU TO SPEAK TO BIG CROWDS, AND OTHER TIMES I'LL ASK YOU TO WITNESS TO ONE LONELY LOST SHEEP. BUT EITHER WAY, I'LL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU TO GIVE YOU THE WORDS TO SPEAK AND THE ANSWERS TO THEIR QUESTIONS. I JUST NEED YOU TO BE WILLING TO GO OUT AND SHARE MY TRUTH AND MY LOVE WITH THE WORLD, AND I'LL DO THE REST. PEOPLE WILL MARVEL AND THINK IT'S AWESOME; THEY'LL KNOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN WITH ME.



[Grandpa:] Whenever a test or a battle comes your way, the first decision you're going to have to make is: Are you going to accept this as being from the Lord, and something that He has allowed to happen to you because He knows that it's going to be good for you? Or are you going to take it as just a big accident, a mistake, something that shouldn't have happened, or maybe even a judgement of some kind?

Some people really blow it by forming a habit of taking things the wrong way. They automatically jump to the conclusion that because there's a problem, something must be terribly wrong or someone must have made a big mistake. But others have made a habit of always

looking for the silver lining in everything that comes their way, and to find the positive and the good, the lessons and the victories.

If you do your best to become like that, then the Lord can use whatever happens in your life to work for good, as well as to teach you lessons and make you a better, happier person, and a more useful vessel. Those who can honestly accept that everything is going to work together for the good—everything—really cling to that belief no matter what happens.

So, what's your decision? What conclusion are you going to jump to? Did God make a mistake? Or is this just a test and all a part of God's plan because He knows it's going to be good for you? The choice is yours.



You managed pretty well to drag yourself out of your nice, warm, cozy bed, but you can still barely keep your eyes open. Now, after the usual post-slumber activities, devotions is next on your agenda.

It seems like a tough call, doesn't it? You really do want to discover those Word jewels that people talk about, and dive into the refreshing streams of "strange truths," but sometimes the Word just doesn't seem to grab you. What's the solution?



More than almost anything in the universe, I want My Words to grab you! So, let's try something new. During your next devotions, why not imagine that things have moved just a little bit further along toward the End, and that because of everything that's happening in the world around you, there's a very big possibility that you'll never ever have another chance to read that particular GN or hear the Letter that is being read.

Then the next morning, you can imagine that your Home has had to hide all your Word books in a secret location in order to keep them from being confiscated and burned. Just imagine what it would be like if you were only able to keep the one GN that you're reading that morning, and that it could very well be the only Word you'll have the opportunity to read for weeks or maybe even months to come.



During another devotions, get a notebook and try writing down the most important points to remember from what is being read—the ones that speak to you the most. Or try your hand ahead of time at putting together some interesting quotes on a topic that you feel you really need to study, and share them with the others in your Word group. When

you share the Word from your heart, it really helps you to get more out of it.



There is no end of ideas that I can give you to help make your Word time more interesting and meaningful. If you really want the Word to be exciting, it will be. If you want to get thrilled by the Spirit, it'll happen. It's a lot like that quote about living each day as if it were your last. Try it, and you'll get more out of it.

I'm Happy When You're Happy

I love to see you have fun and enjoy yourself. I love to see you cut loose and live life to the full,

laughing, smiling, and enjoying everything I've given you. Life wasn't meant to be dull and dry and boring. I created everything for your *pleasure*: food, music, games and sports, dancing and singing. In fact, I created the whole world for you to enjoy! It makes Me happy when I see that you're happy.

I like being with you, too, and I'm thankful when you let Me be a part of what you're doing. You'll find out, if you haven't already, that I'm far from boring. I like to join in on the fun, and go along with you wherever you go. I like to be with you *all* the time—while you're working, and while you're playing.

There's a time to work, and a time to play; both are needed. When you're working, work as if everything depended on working; but when you relax, you can feel free to have fun like everything depended on having fun. If you include Me in on what you're doing—by asking Me to lead you and protect you, and to help you to do everything in the spirit of love—I'll make sure you really enjoy yourself!





LOCK IT UP AND

People sometimes do unkind and unloving things. But I can completely wipe away the pain and the hurt that you feel. I can take the sadness, bitterness, and anger, and all those bad feelings away. I can lock them up in a closet and help you to throw away the key.

You might think that's not fair—that someone did something bad to you, and now you're just supposed to forget it? Well, I know you can't exactly forget it, but you can lock it up where it won't spill over into your heart and your mind, making you so miserable.

I want to make it all better; I want to lock it up. But *you'll* have to be the one to throw away the key. *You'll* have to be the one to decide that you want to move on, and that you want to get happy again. You'll have to trust Me to take care of anyone that blew it; you'll have to trust Me to work in their lives and teach them what they need to know. Can you do that? Okay, then, let's move on. Let's go forward!

Things will change for you, and life will get better.

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THROW AWAY THE KEY



YOU'RE NEVER ALONE




Sometimes you may wonder, “Does anybody notice me? Does anybody even realize I’m alive?” I understand why you would think that way, because sometimes it can look like there’s no one around who really knows what’s happening with you.

But if you could only see everything that’s going on in the spirit world, you’d feel a lot differently. I love you and really care about what happens to you, so I make sure that there’s someone with you in the spirit all the time—all day and all night, every moment and every second—watching everything that takes place around you. You’re not only being noticed, your every action is being watched, and even recorded! But it’s not like someone is just spying on you or something, because they’re not just watchers. I have specially selected them

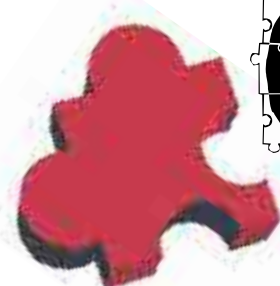
to be totally tuned in to your thoughts, your trials, your lessons, and your needs.

They’re your guardians and your protectors who have been chosen with care to watch over your health and your growth, as well as your spiritual growth and training; they help you to learn the lessons that you need to learn.

You’re surrounded—completely surrounded—by those helpers who are caring for you in the spirit, watching you, helping you, and praying for you. They’re even whispering to you and talking to you, and reaching out to you, sometimes even *begging* you to listen, to pray, and to do the right thing. Believe it or not, you’re so totally surrounded, that sometimes it even gets a little crowded! So don’t ever feel that you’re alone or that nobody notices you. You’re never alone!

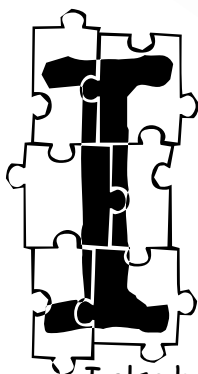


Future



Gotcha

Puzzled?



was a teenager, too, once. Do you ever think about that? I had growing pains; I was interested in girls; and I had friends. I had a lot of questions when I was young, too, although I already knew that My Father had a special destiny for Me to fulfill.

I also have a special destiny just for *you*, but sometimes it might be kind of hard for you to imagine what it is I could possibly have planned for you. I know that you sometimes feel worthless or awkward or untalented—even weird. I felt those kinds of things too, and I know just what it's like.

But I learned that you've just got to have patience—like when you're putting together the pieces to a puzzle. If you're patient, the picture will begin to take shape—piece by piece, little by little, until finally you're able to see the whole picture.

That's what I'm doing with you. I'm putting together the pieces to your puzzle. And don't worry, I know exactly where every piece belongs, and I'm not going to let any of them get lost. I designed this puzzle *Myself*, especially for *you*. And someday you're going to understand exactly what I had in mind all along.

I know that having friends makes you feel really special. When you have even one friend—someone who really cares about you—you feel like you're on top of the world. Sometimes, it can be so important to you that you may feel like you're willing to do almost anything to have friends. But you don't have to try to act really cool and be just like everybody else in order to fit in and to have *real* friends.

The best way to win friends is to be a good friend to those around you. Show people that you really care about them. Take an interest in them, and make an effort to find out what things they like, and what things bother them. Sympathize with them when they're sad, and

laugh with them when they're happy.

If you want *real* friends, *true* friends, don't put on a big front; let them see the real you deep inside. Share your feelings with them from your heart, and don't be afraid to ask them to pray for you when you need it. Lift each other up.

Be loyal, too—loyal in the way that if someone is saying bad things about your friends when they're not around, you won't just go along with the crowd and laugh it off, but you'll bring out their good points and stick up for them. That's *real* friendship.

Love others and they'll love you. Be kind to others and they'll be kind to you. I know it sounds basic, but it works!

Real Friends



The Ultimate Weapon—Use it!

There are all kinds of things that happen in life to test you and to see if you really have what it takes. But I've got good news for you—you've *got* what it takes! You *have* it, as long as you hold on tight to all the new weapons that I've been giving you, and learn how to use them against the Enemy. Hang on to them, and don't let the Devil stop you from using them.

If you were out fighting a war on a battlefield, and one of the enemy came along and tried to take your weapon away from you and stop you from using it, would you just give in to him? Of course not! You'd hang on to your weapon and resist him with it with all your might.

In your case, you've been given the most powerful weapon of all—the weapon of loving Me and praising Me and hearing My Words, but the Enemy, the Devil, is trying to stop you from using it. So you've got to hold on to your weapon, and not let anything take it from you.

Take that weapon of yours and let him have it with everything you've got. Hit him hard and blow him apart with the weapon of My Word! It's no earthly weapon. It's more powerful than anything there has ever been—and I've given it to *you*! It's the ultimate weapon. So use it!



JEREMY

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT

It'll be much easier for you to go through life if you can accept the fact that you're not going to be perfect, and you learn how to handle the times when you don't measure up to your own expectations. I know you want to do your best, and to be a better person. So when you make mistakes, you get discouraged and under condemnation.

But remember, I don't condemn you. When you feel condemnation and discouragement, that isn't Me—it's the Enemy. I'm not the One Who is expecting you to be perfect. I just expect you to do the best you can. You don't have to be perfect to be greatly used of Me. As a matter of fact, the great men and women that I use the most are weak and imperfect vessels who depend completely on Me.

You might feel like you have such a long way to go that you're afraid to even start. But those who are willing to step out on the water are the ones who make it. Be like Peter. Just step out and prove Me, and see if I won't hold your hand and help you to do the impossible. I won't let you sink beneath the waves; I'll bless your faith to keep going and to keep fighting.





My warrior of the faith, there is a great battle raging in the spirit right now. Time is short, and the End is very near. This is why the battles have intensified. There is much that needs to be learned, but so short a time to learn it in. This is why exercising the new weapons is so needed—to not only be comfortable with them, but to be highly trained. So, in My love, I have to put you through times of intense training, to bring you out as the officer that I need you to be.

In worldly armies, there is a big difference between boot camp and officer training. Boot camp only lasts for a few months, but as an officer, you have to go through several years of training. Then, if you wish to join the special forces, you have to go through even more training. This is what I have called you to do: to join My elite forces.

Special Forces

Training

The Torch

You're My light on Earth. You carry the torch of My love, and it brings light and warmth to all you meet. Some will run and hide from the light because they fear it, but others will run to it for life and strength.

You're the last generation, the ones who will make the final stand! You are the final generation of soldiers in this mighty battle of the End. You are the frontline soldiers for the days that are to come.

The Enemy has done much to try to deceive you and tear you away from your calling, but you're standing strong. This is a miraculous working of My Spirit, for the Enemy of your souls is mighty—his power is greater than it has ever been. But with Me, you will stand strong.

The torch you carry brings strength and power. It brings mighty protection and anointing for your task. Reach out! Let the energy I give thrust you forward into My service. Let it drive you to pick up the torch of My strength; and then let Me run this race through you—to reach this last generation upon whom the ends of the Earth are come. Do you realize what a special calling that is? I have given it to *you*, the children of the children of David. Let it burn! Let no man quench that fire. Scorch the Enemy and let the power of My love burn hot within you!