



THE ONE YEAR®
inspirational
Words of Jesus
for women

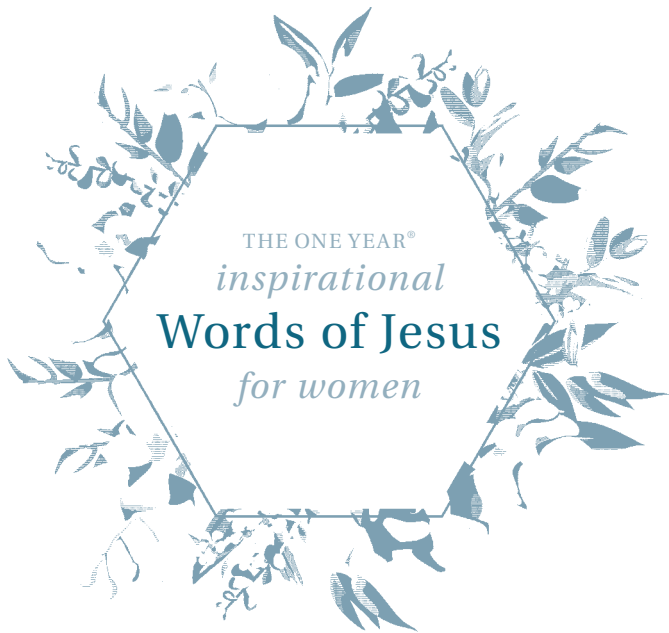


PRESENTED TO

FROM

ON

THE ONE YEAR[®]
INSPIRATIONAL WORDS OF JESUS
FOR WOMEN



THE ONE YEAR®
inspirational
Words of Jesus
for women

Robin Merrill



*The nonfiction imprint of
Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.*

Visit Tyndale online at www.tyndale.com.

Visit Tyndale Momentum online at www.tyndalemomentum.com.

TYNDALE, *Tyndale Momentum*, and Tyndale's quill logo are registered trademarks of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. The Tyndale Momentum logo is a trademark of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. Tyndale Momentum is the nonfiction imprint of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois.

The One Year Inspirational Words of Jesus for Women

Copyright © 2018 by Hudson Bible. All rights reserved.

Produced with the assistance of Hudson Bible (www.HudsonBible.com).

Project staff includes Christopher D. Hudson, Len Woods, and Mary Larsen.

Cover illustration of floral design copyright © bugega/iStockphoto. All rights reserved.

Designed by Eva M. Winters

Edited by Deborah King

Published in association with the literary agency of The Steve Laube Agency

Scripture quotations are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

For information about special discounts for bulk purchases, please contact Tyndale House Publishers at csresponse@tyndale.com, or call 1-800-323-9400.

ISBN 978-1-4964-2304-7

Printed in China

24	23	22	21	20	19	18
7	6	5	4	3	2	1



INTRODUCTION

WRITING THIS BOOK gave me a special opportunity to dig in to the words of Jesus. I thought I already knew them. I thought I knew what I wanted to say about them. But the more time I spent with them, the more they spoke to me—the more *Jesus* spoke to me through those red letters, and I realized that yes, I do know him, but oh, how I want to know him more.

It would be difficult to encounter the Jesus of the Bible and not change. In fact, when I revisit a verse I think I know well, I find it changing me *again*. Because the Word of God is alive and active. And love and light and life are packed into each of the words that Jesus spoke.

It would have been so exciting to be Nicodemus, to seek wisdom from Wisdom himself in the cool of the night. Or to be the Samaritan woman at the well, meeting the Messiah in the heat of noon. But we, too, get to encounter

Jesus, as often as we want, through his recorded words, and they are every bit as powerful now as they were when he spoke them aloud. Because the Bible is timeless. Jesus is timeless. His teachings, his promises, his grace—all still 100 percent valid today.

We have collected his most inspirational statements here for you. It is my prayer that, as you interact with these verses, they may change you and then change you again, that they may comfort you, encourage you, and inspire you—but most of all, that they may leave you wanting more of Jesus.

Robin Merrill



JANUARY 1

BECOMING HUMBLE

*God blesses those who are humble,
for they will inherit the whole earth.*

MATTHEW 5:5

HUMILITY is one of the marks of following Jesus. Jesus says we will inherit the earth if we show humility, a special kind of teachability—so it must be pretty important. But many of us begin our quest for humility by trying to control our behavior, which just doesn't work.

Humility is a condition of the heart. Our hearts change as we spend time gazing on the greatness of God. When we read his Word, we see our own sin in comparison with his righteousness. When we talk to him, we remember that he is wise and we are foolish. As our hearts change, our outward attitudes and behaviors follow. When we spend time with God, we can't help but become more humble.

True intimacy with God always brings humility.

BETH MOORE

— JANUARY 2 —

PURE HEARTS

*God blesses those whose hearts are
pure, for they will see God.*

MATTHEW 5:8

ONLY THOSE WITH pure hearts can see God. If we are harboring some ill will or hiding some sin or refusing to give some part of ourselves to God, we can look for him all we want, but we won't see him. As we come before God, we must rid our hearts of anything that might come between him and us.

It can feel excruciating and almost impossible to let go of our treasured sins sometimes. But when we do catch that glimpse of God, we'll realize that everything we've given up pales in comparison to seeing him.

*It is a pleasant thing to behold the light, but sore eyes
are not able to look upon it; the pure in heart shall
see God, but the defiled in conscience shall rather
choose to be buried under rocks and mountains
than to behold the presence of the Lamb.*

ANNE BRADSTREET

— — — — — JANUARY 3 — — — — —

LOVE YOUR ENEMY

*Love your enemies!
Pray for those who persecute you!*

MATTHEW 5:44

TO LOVE AN ENEMY seems an unfathomably tall order. Praying for someone who has harmed us—and may still have plans to harm us—would be impossible if it weren't for the power of Jesus.

Jesus would not give us an order without enabling us to follow it. But we must seek him for strength, wisdom, and courage to obey. As we pray for people who wish to harm us, he will reach into our hearts and change us. When we truly seek Jesus in prayer, love is the only possible result.

It is not on our forgiveness any more than on our goodness that the world's healing hinges, but on His. When He tells us to love our enemies, He gives, along with the command, the love itself.

CORRIE TEN BOOM

— — — — — JANUARY 4 — — — — —

PRIVATE PRAYER

When you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

MATTHEW 6:6

WOMEN LEAD BUSY LIVES. It may be tempting to think we pray enough in church or before meals. But while these public opportunities for prayer can be good, Jesus tells us that we need to also carve out some alone time with God.

Choose a place to meet with God regularly. It could be in a cozy chair at home, or it might be in your car just before you go in to work. It doesn't matter the location so much as the state of your heart. Create some time and space for your heart to be alone with God. Then he will reward you.

*Build yourself a cell in your heart
and retire there to pray.*

CATHERINE OF SIENA

— — — — — JANUARY 5 — — — — —

IT'S NOT MAGIC

When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again.

MATTHEW 6:7

SOMETIMES WE APPROACH prayer nervously because we think of it as a magic spell that we might mess up. But Jesus frees us from the lie that if we don't pray long enough or say the words just right, God may not answer.

When you pray, you are kneeling before the throne of God. So don't worry about following a certain formula for prayer. God is not a genie or a fairy who will answer the way we want if we say the words just right. He is our loving father, and he already knows our heart's needs and desires. Simply open yourself to him, and don't focus on "doing it right." If your heart is right, you can't do prayer wrong.

Prayer is the application of the heart to God, and the internal exercise of love.

JEANNE-MARIE GUYON

❦ JANUARY 6 ❦

A DAILY DISCIPLINE

Give us today the food we need.

MATTHEW 6:11

AS JESUS WAS TEACHING his disciples how to pray, he stressed our need for daily reliance on God. He did not say, “Give us the food we’ll need till next Sunday” or “Give us enough food to last until we think to pray again.” Jesus’ request for daily food showed the disciples (and all his followers) that prayer—and trusting God to provide for our everyday needs—should be a daily discipline.

We don’t have to wait till we’re in the foxhole to call out to God. We can pray to him all day long, every day, all year. In giving his life, Jesus made such direct, immediate access to God possible. We can take advantage of this access anytime.

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?

CORRIE TEN BOOM

— JANUARY 7 —

THE FATHER OF LIES

[The devil] has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

JOHN 8:44

THE PHARISEES DIDN'T believe in Jesus, because they trusted that their ancestry as children of Abraham was enough to save them. But this was a lie from Satan to keep them from God's truth. What lies have you believed? Jesus' words can encourage us with this truth: the lies that we're battling against every day come from the enemy.

We don't serve the father of lies. We serve the God of truth. We don't have to believe these lies when they're fired at us. We can reject them in the name of Jesus, in the name of his love.

We're going to have to let truth scream louder to our souls than the lies that have infected us.

BETH MOORE