...They were at their wits' end. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress. — Psalm 107:27-28

he Bible is filled with stories of people at their wits' end who cried out to the Lord! He then heard and answered by delivering them. The Hebrew children enslaved in Egypt, their entrapment at the Red Sea by the Egyptian army, the three Hebrew men in the fiery furnace, Daniel in the lions' den, Mary and Martha at the tomb of Lazarus, and so many others too numerous to mention describe that desperate times can be stepping stones of experiencing God's miraculous intervention on our behalf.

One story that is not as well known is that of the prophet Jeremiah who spoke God's words to the defiant Judean king, Zedekiah. The king was enraged and had Jeremiah cruelly beaten and thrown into a dungeon for speaking the truth. The Bible says he was there for a long time.1 He was later released, but it wasn't long before some other men became infuriated by Jeremiah's boldness to speak God's words to the people. These wicked men dumped him into a cistern of wet mud that he sank down into.2 A pit! There was no way out for Jeremiah who described his agonizing experience in Lamentations 3:53-57: They tried to end my life in a pit and threw stones at me; the waters closed over my head, and I thought I was about to be cut off. I called on your name, O Lord, from the depths of the pit. You heard my plea: "Do not close your ears to my cry for relief." You came near when I called you, and you said, "Do not fear."

From up in Heaven, God heard Jeremiah's cry of desperation from down in the pit! He came near and answered! Ebed-Melech,³ an African, who was an important government official, heard what had been done to Jeremiah. God moved

him to boldly go before the king and intercede on Jeremiah's behalf. As a result, the king responded to Ebed-Melech's plea by sending him along with thirty of the king's men to pull Jeremiah out of the pit! The Bible describes details of the incredible deliverance! Ebed-Melech lowered down rags and cloths to put under Jeremiah's arms, so when he was pulled up out of the sucking mud the ropes wouldn't burn him. Jeremiah was not just pulled out of the pit, he was gently pulled to safety, then tended to and cared for in the courtyard of the quard.⁴

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Christ Community Church in Montreat, NC, was the church where I was raised, baptized, gave my first testimony, and was married! My mother and father, as well as Rachel-Ruth and Steven, were also married in this incredibly meaningful place. Rachel-Ruth and I were each given a morning session to speak at their women's conference, challenging the ladies to receive and pass truth to those who follow. After lunch, I included my youngest granddaughter in a Q & A as a living example of three generations of faith.

re you at your wits' end? Are you in the "pit" with no way out? Then take this thrilling story to heart as encouragement! Keep praying! God's Word to Jeremiah and to us is: *Pray but do not fear!* No matter how desperate your situation is, God will hear your cry! And He will send help! One key to receiving a miracle is that He wants you and me to trust in Him completely! To put the full weight of our faith down on Him. In fact, that could be the reason He has allowed you to be at your wits' end with no one else to turn to, but God!

It may be that you are not at your wits' end, but someone you are concerned for is. Then could you be like Ebed-Melech? Go before the King of kings on their behalf! God may use you to respond to someone else's prayers as He sends you, along with His Angelic Royal Guard, to pull your loved ones out of a pit!

Your prayers matter! For yourself and for others. Your prayers of desperate faith in God, and God alone, bring the power of Heaven down to hopeless situations. He is the God of the impossible! He can make a way when there is no way!! When you have God, you are never





RR: Coach Sylvia Hatchell is one of our dearest friends!! She was the head women's basketball coach at the University of North Carolina for 33 years, won a national championship, and is in the Naismith Hall of Fame. Eleven years ago she asked if I would teach a Bible study she started for some of her staff, UNC faculty and friends, which I did. When COVID hit, we had to go online, and the study grew so much that we have kept it online. Coach Hatchell asked my mom, my youngest daughter, Riggin, and I to join her for the UNC-NC State men's basketball game. The last time I was at a UNC game, two years ago, I had a SCAD heart attack...I left the game and called 911. So thankful God allowed me to come back and have a wonderful time. God is faithful!

without hope! Even in a world that has gone mad, God is still on the throne. He still responds to prayers of desperation with all the power and might of Heaven! No one or nothing is out of His grasp! So... pray with all your heart! Don't stay in your pit of despair, hopelessness, desperation, and ruin! God will make a way, and He uses our prayers to catapult His deliverance. Pray! Trust! And wait with expectancy for the God of the impossible to move!!!

For His Glory,

June & Dan. Dan

Anne Christiansen was our bold and courageous Just Give Me Jesus revival chair in Oslo, Norway in 2007. She was told by national church leaders not to book the Spektrum Arena because she would be humiliated when few people came. But she forged ahead by faith, and the arena was filled! She is gorgeous, articulate, and passionate about reaching the next generation for Jesus. We had a wonderful visit when she and her husband Stephan recently visited AnGeL Ministries. Please visit Anne Christiansen's website at https://JesusRevolution.com.

¹ Jeremiah 37:16

² Jeremiah 38:6

³ Jeremiah 38:7

⁴ Jeremiah 38:11-13

Bible Study: When at Your Wits' End

When pressures or problems or pain envelop our lives, we tend to trust God...plus our doctor or our lawyer or our counselor or our banker or our leaders or our own effort or our_____(fill in the blank). Yet God seems to demonstrate His power and glory to those who trust in Him alone. Which is why He often allows us to reach the end of our human resources or run the limit of conventional wisdom before He steps in and does the impossible. The miraculous. So when you are at your wits' end...

Trust God

- *Read Psalm 107. How many desperate situations are described? How was each one resolved? What was the final outcome of each? What were the people exhorted to do at the conclusion each time?
- *How do the following verses encourage you to trust God? Write out descriptive phrases from: 2 Samuel 7:28; Psalm 56:3-4; Psalm 20:7; Psalm 18:1-19; Psalm 31:14-16; Isaiah 26:3-4; Deuteronomy 4:7; Psalm 62:5-8; Isaiah 59:1.

Trust God Alone

- *What blessings are reserved for those who trust in God alone? 1 Chronicles 5:20; Psalm 28:6-7; Isaiah 25:8-9; Romans 15:13.
- *How do the following examples encourage you to trust God completely? Hebrews 11:11-12, 11:17-19; Exodus 14:10-22; 1 Samuel 17:1-11, 32-50; Daniel 6:1-23.
- *What is the greatest example of complete trust in God? Luke 23:46. What was the result? Ephesians 1:19-23.
- *Can you remember a time when you cried out in desperation to God, and He answered? Write out a brief description.

For Women's History Month, Study Gateway asked me to share who my most influential female mentor was. I was blessed to answer that outside of my family, it was Miss A. Wetherell Johnson, founder of Bible Study Fellowship.





RR: In March I went to San Antonio to speak at a Youth for Christ Fundraising Gala! My grandfather was Youth for Christ's first evangelist way back at the beginning of his ministry!

*When you are desperate, do you think you need to help God out? What miracle could you be missing because you are not trusting Him alone?

When you are at your wits' end, cry out to God... then trust Him to hear and answer!

Intercession

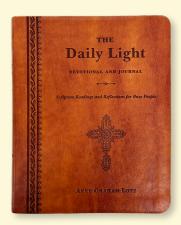
PRAISE

- *For the wonderful response to our free Easter offer of *Just Give Me Jesus* videos.
- *For the incoming testimonies of those whose lives are being changed through our videos, emails, devotionals, books and Bible studies.
- *For the incredibly warm and loving comradery that is experienced by the hundreds of women who join Rachel-Ruth online for her weekly Bible study.

PRAYER

- *For God to encourage the women in Rachel-Ruth's Bible study as they transition into a summer schedule.
- *For a breakthrough in the delay of our new podcast with Anne and Rachel-Ruth.
- *For God to expand the reach and impact of AnGeL Ministries during these critical last days.

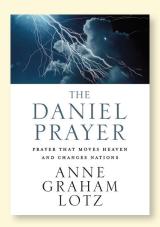
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The Daily Light Journal

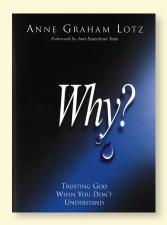
Since she was a young girl, Anne has read Daily Light, the lifechanging devotional of Scripture compilations given to her by her mother, Ruth Bell Graham. Anne decided to write out her thoughts on the *Daily Light* to sharpen her attentiveness to the voice of God. This journal is the result.

Our prayer is that this journal would guard you against the barrenness of busyness. Give God ten minutes daily to thoughtfully meditate on the Scripture and apply it to your life. May God deepen your personal relationship with Him as you enjoy this journal.



The Daniel Prayer

Many people today find that their prayers don't "work." And like a broken cell phone, prayer gets thrown out as unnecessary "clutter" most people's lives. Anne has found that while prayer does work, sometimes the "prayers" don't. So she turned to the prophet Daniel for help. This book, based on Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9, will help you pray effectively for your nation, for your family, and for yourself.



Why?

In this volume, Anne shares her heart and God's teachings on the universal problem of suffering, using the familiar story of Lazarus. This small book presents a simple, powerful message that is sure to bring comfort and new meaning to all who are suffering themselves or know others who need a special touch from God. It will help you understand and deal with suffering by leading you to the One Who knows your needs, shares your grief, sheds your tears and promises glory to come! Based on John 11. Foreword by Joni Eareckson Tada.

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