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VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

# How Discernment Helps Us Choose Wisdom Over Noise

By Pamela Sharrock

Every day, we are surrounded by voices.

News headlines flash across our phones. Social media feeds offer a constant stream of opinions. Videos, podcasts, advertisements, influencers, commentators, and even well-meaning friends all compete for our attention. Never before in history have people had access to so much information so quickly.

Yet despite having more information than any generation before us, many people seem more confused, anxious, divided, and uncertain than ever.

Why? Because information and wisdom are not the same thing. We live in a world where everyone has a platform and every voice demands to be heard. Some voices inspire. Some educate. Some encourage. Others create fear, division, anger, and confusion. The challenge is not simply finding information. The challenge is learning to discern which voices deserve our attention and which ones should be filtered out.

Discernment is not about becoming suspicious of everything we hear. It is about developing the wisdom to recognize what is true, what is beneficial, and what aligns with God's principles. It requires us to slow down, think carefully, and resist the temptation to accept something simply because it is popular, repeated often, or shared by people we admire.

Many of us consume information throughout the day without ever asking a simple question:

*“How is this affecting me?”*

Is what I'm watching helping me grow in wisdom? Is it strengthening my faith? Is it encouraging me to become a better person? Or is it producing fear, anger, anxiety, bitterness, and confusion?

Not every voice that enters our ears deserves a place in our hearts.

Discernment also requires humility. None of us sees the whole picture. We all have biases, blind spots, and assumptions that shape how we interpret what we hear. Wisdom grows when we are willing to listen carefully, test what we receive, and remain teachable rather than reactionary.

Scripture reminds us in Philippians 4:8 to think about whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy. This does not mean we ignore difficult realities or pretend problems do not exist. Rather, it means we learn to evaluate what we are

taking in and measure it against truth. The Bible repeatedly encourages believers to exercise discernment. In Acts 17, the Bereans were commended because they examined what they heard rather than accepting it blindly. Their example reminds us that faith and thoughtful evaluation are not opposites. God invites us to seek understanding, ask questions, and pursue truth with sincerity.

Discernment is especially important because the voices we listen to do more than inform us—they shape us. Over time, the ideas we repeatedly consume influence our attitudes, priorities, relationships, and decisions. What we allow into our minds eventually finds its way into our actions. This is why wisdom requires more than occasional reflection; it requires ongoing awareness of the influences we welcome into our lives.

Choosing wisdom over noise is not always easy. It requires intentionality. It may mean limiting certain influences, stepping away from constant media consumption, or taking time to seek God's guidance before forming conclusions.

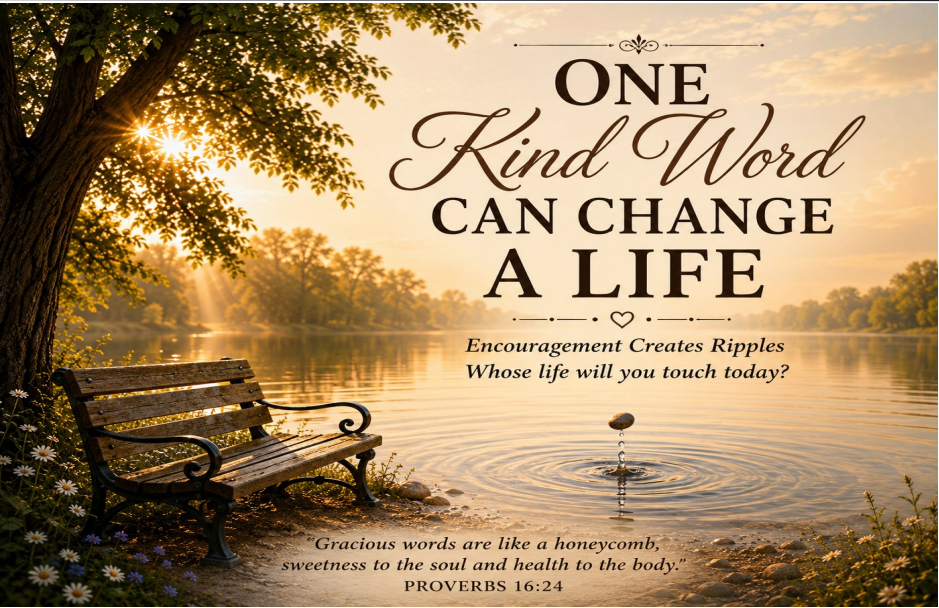
It may also mean creating space for quieter voices—the voice of Scripture, the counsel of mature believers, moments of prayer, and the gentle prompting of the Holy Spirit. These influences are often less dramatic than the loudest voices around us, yet they are frequently the ones that lead us toward lasting wisdom.

In a noisy world, discernment becomes one of the most valuable gifts we can develop. The goal is not to know everything. The goal is to know what is worth listening to.

*As **Roaring Wind** begins this new season, we are grateful to welcome you. Some of you have walked with us before and may remember the earlier days of this publication. Others may be discovering Roaring Wind for the very first time. Whether you have been with us from the beginning or are joining us today, we are honored that you are here.*

*Roaring Wind exists to point and encourage hearts toward the unchanging truth of God's Word through stories of faith, freedom, truth and hope. Our prayer is that each issue will strengthen believers, encourage the weary, inspire families, and remind every reader that they are deeply loved by God.*

*We invite you to journey with us each month as we seek truth in a noisy world, celebrate God's faithfulness, and share the hope that is found in knowing Jesus Christ.*



## THE RIPPLE EFFECT

**Have you ever stopped to think about the power of a single conversation?**

Not a famous speech. Not a bestselling book.  
Not a grand accomplishment.

**Just.... One Kind Word?**

A simple “I’m praying for you. You did a great job. I believe in you. I’m glad you are here”.

These words may seem small to the person speaking them, but to someone carrying a heavy burden, they can become a turning point. Perhaps the encouragement you offer today gives someone the strength to keep going tomorrow.

*“Not every voice that enters our ears, deserves a place in our hearts.”*

About

ROARING WIND

Serving together to encourage hearts, strengthen faith, and point people to Jesus Christ.

**Roaring Wind was born from a shared desire to encourage people with the hope found in Jesus Christ.**

Through stories of faith, thoughtful articles, inspiring artwork, and practical encouragement, we pray that each issue will remind readers of God's love, strengthen believers, and gently point others toward the Gospel.

OUR STORY

Roaring Wind began with two people who shared a passion for proclaiming the name of Jesus through creativity, encouragement, and truth. What started as a simple vision has grown into a ministry dedicated to using God-given gifts to inspire others and glorify Him.

Why do we call ourselves **Roaring Wind**? In Scripture, **Wind** is often associated with the moving of God. Sometimes it comes as a gentle whisper. Sometimes it comes as a mighty rushing wind. Though the wind itself is invisible, its power is unmistakable—you may not see it, but you can certainly see what it accomplishes.

Our world is filled with countless voices competing for our attention. Our mission is not to add more noise, but to proclaim God's truth with courage, conviction, and love.

As long as God provides the opportunity, we will continue using every gift He has entrusted to us to proclaim His truth, encourage His people, and share the everlasting hope found in His Son.

May every page remind you that God is still moving.

CO-FOUNDERS

Herschel Wilder, Jr.

Publisher  
Community Relations

Pamela Sharrock

Creative Director  
Communications



HERSCHEL WILDER, JR.

Herschel has a heart for people and an unwavering desire to share the love of Jesus Christ. Throughout his life, he has believed that even the simplest conversation can become an opportunity to encourage someone, offer hope, and point them toward the Gospel. That same passion inspired his vision for **Roaring Wind**. What began as a desire to create a Christ centered publication has grown into a ministry dedicated to sharing biblical truth, encouraging believers, and reaching hearts through stories of faith, hope, and God's faithfulness.



PAMELA SHARROCK

**Pam** has a lifelong passion for using creativity to encourage others and glorify God. Combining her background in graphic design, publishing, and communications with a heart for ministry, she enjoys bringing together words, artwork, and visual design to share the hope found in Jesus Christ. Pamela serves as the publication's Creative Director and oversees its design, digital presence, and editorial vision. Her desire is that every issue will strengthen believers, encourage families, and point hearts toward the unchanging truth of God's Word.

OUR MISSION

Roaring Wind exists to encourage hearts, strengthen faith, and share the hope of Jesus Christ through:

Biblical truth

Stories that inspire

Community connection

Creative encouragement

Resources that equip

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! | Psalm 150:6

MEET THE TEAM

Roaring Wind is more than a publication—it is a ministry made possible by faithful men and women who desire to use their God given gifts to encourage others and point hearts to Jesus Christ. We are grateful for every writer, artist, photographer, editor, volunteer, and prayer partner who serves alongside us.

JENNIFER FOXWORTHY



**Jennifer** is a retired U.S. Navy veteran, award-winning author, motivational speaker, and founder of Inspirationally Speaking, LLC and Unstoppable You Ministries, Inc. Through her powerful testimony and years of leadership. Drawing from her own life experiences, Jennifer writes with authenticity on topics including faith, healing, resilience, self-worth, and personal growth. Her passion is helping others find the courage to move forward—one step at a time.

ALICE & RUSS SHARROCK



**Alice** is an award-winning wildlife artist whose paintings celebrate the beauty and wonder of God's Creation. 2026 marks 50 years of painting the wilderness, American West and Native Americans, and most of all, dogs of all breeds. Her sporting dogs have delighted hunters and collectors around the world. She has faithfully served the Lord alongside her husband, Russ Sharrock, as he ministered in the US, India and Haiti. Alice hopes to encourage others, through her paintings, writing, and everyday life—to see the Creator reflected in His magnificent Creation—and find Him through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Russ** has followed God's call into ministry since 1996, serving as a pastor, Bible teacher, missionary, and writer. Together with his wife, Alice, he spent ten years ministering in India and two years in Haiti, sharing the hope of Jesus Christ. He is also the author of *The Man with No Legs*, a moving account of his own journey and the faithfulness of God that carried him through. Written with the loving support and encouragement of his wife Alice, the book is a testimony that God can bring hope and purpose through life's greatest trials.



MICHAEL WELLS

**Michael** has a gift for encouraging others through thoughtful, faith-filled writing. Since retiring from Federal Service in 2006, he has devoted many mornings to writing reflections that comfort, inspire, and point readers to the hope found in Christ. Living in the peaceful foothills of Pennsylvania, Michael draws inspiration from God's creation and the quiet moments of everyday life. He is the author of three inspirational books: *Morning Coffee with Words for the Day*, *Morning Coffee - A Second Cup*, *Morning Coffee — Spirit and Steam* and *Café Wells Journal*. Through his *Morning Coffee Moments* column, he invites readers to pause, reflect, and begin each day with renewed faith and encouragement.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

We welcome article submissions, testimonies, ministry updates, and stories that encourage others in their walk with Christ.

- Submissions are due by the 15th of the prior month.
- Please send in Word format (or plain text).
- Include your name, email, and a short bio.
- We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length, and style while preserving your voice.

Please send your articles to: [roaringwindeditor@gmail.com](mailto:roaringwindeditor@gmail.com)

EDITORIAL POLICY

Roaring Wind seeks to glorify Jesus Christ by sharing biblically truthful, uplifting, and relevant content.

- All content is reviewed for biblical alignment.
- The views expressed by writers are their own.
- Submissions do not guarantee publication.
- Roaring Wind reserves the right to edit all content.
- We do not publish material that is divisive, misleading, or contrary to Scripture.



## ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Faith &amp; Inspiration by Russ Sharrock

*“And it came about, whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the LORD would speak with Moses. When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent. Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend.” Exodus 33:9–11a*

There is something sacred about abiding in God's presence. Moses experienced this in a unique way — God met him, spoke with him, and drew near in a visible cloud of glory. While we may not see a pillar of cloud today, the same God invites us to dwell with Him, listen to Him, and carry His presence into every part of our lives.

But how do we actually abide in God's presence? The New Testament uses the Greek word *menō*, meaning to remain, stay, dwell, or continue. Abiding is not a moment; it is a posture of the heart — a continual staying with God.

## How God's Presence Shapes Us

When we spend time with God, His character begins to shape

ours. His presence softens our attitudes, guides our thoughts, and influences how we respond to people and situations. Slowly, quietly, we are transformed. And as we are transformed, we carry His presence with us wherever we go.

Above everything else — even above serving God — we need to be with God. It is easy to become busy doing things for Him while neglecting time with Him. But it is in His presence that we hear His voice, receive His wisdom, and find the strength to serve. The outflow of ministry always begins with the inflow of His presence.

## Why We Resist His Presence

God longs for fellowship with us, yet we often hold back. Sometimes we feel unworthy or ashamed. Sometimes we feel too busy. Sometimes we simply allow lesser things to crowd out the most important thing.

But God invites us to lay aside every excuse. He wants us to come — not perfectly, but honestly. He desires our presence more than our performance.

## Learning to Abide Daily

I sense God calling me to abide more deeply in His presence, and I know how easily I let other things intrude. Perhaps you feel the same. So let's choose together to make space for Him — not just occasionally, but daily.

It takes more than a couple of hours a week to become a Christ shaped person who impacts the world. It takes sustained time in His presence. It takes dwelling, remaining, menō — staying with God long enough for His peace, His voice, and His character to shape our lives.

*“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.” Psalm 91:1*

*May we be people who dwell, who remain, who abide  
and who carry His presence wherever we go.*

## A Quiet Reflection

Sometimes I wonder if abiding begins with something as simple as slowing down.

For me, it often happens along a wooded path.  
The wind whispers through the trees.  
Birds greet the morning with songs they were  
created to sing. Sunlight dances through the branches,  
warming the forest floor.

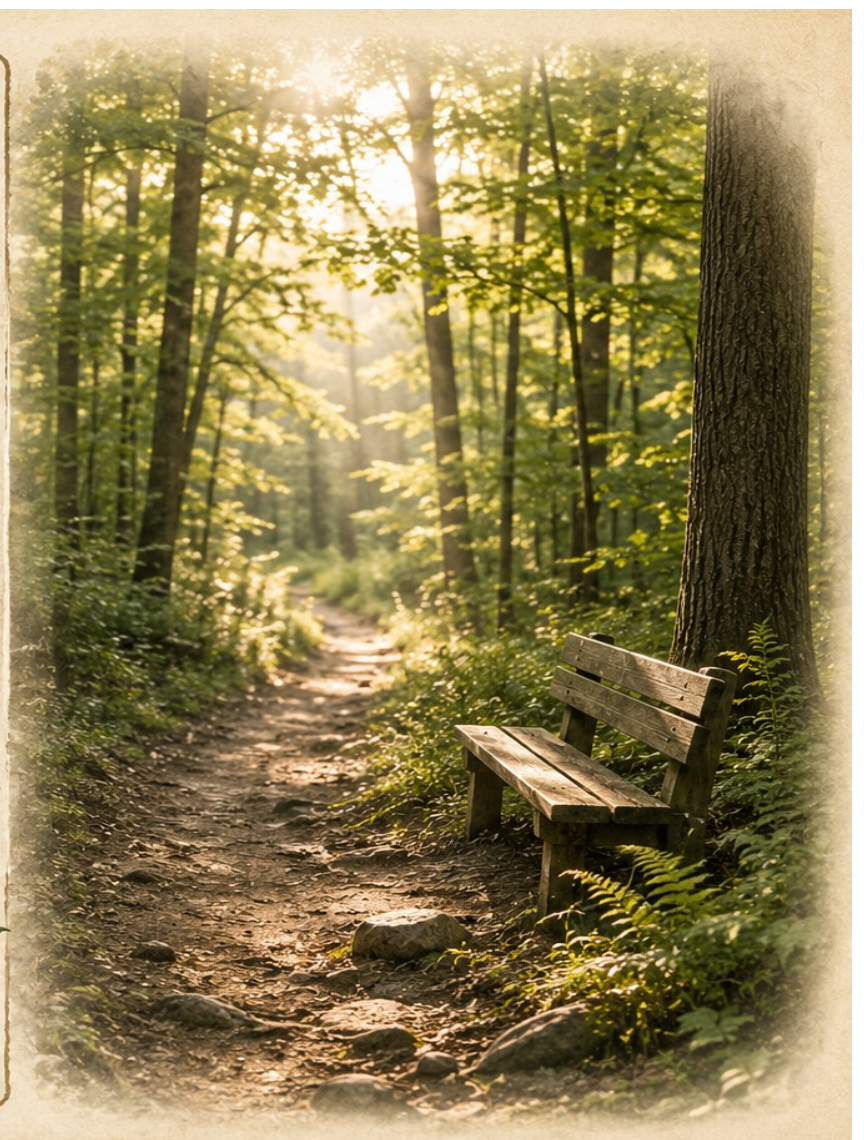
For a little while, the hurried thoughts become quiet. I stop trying to fill every moment with words...

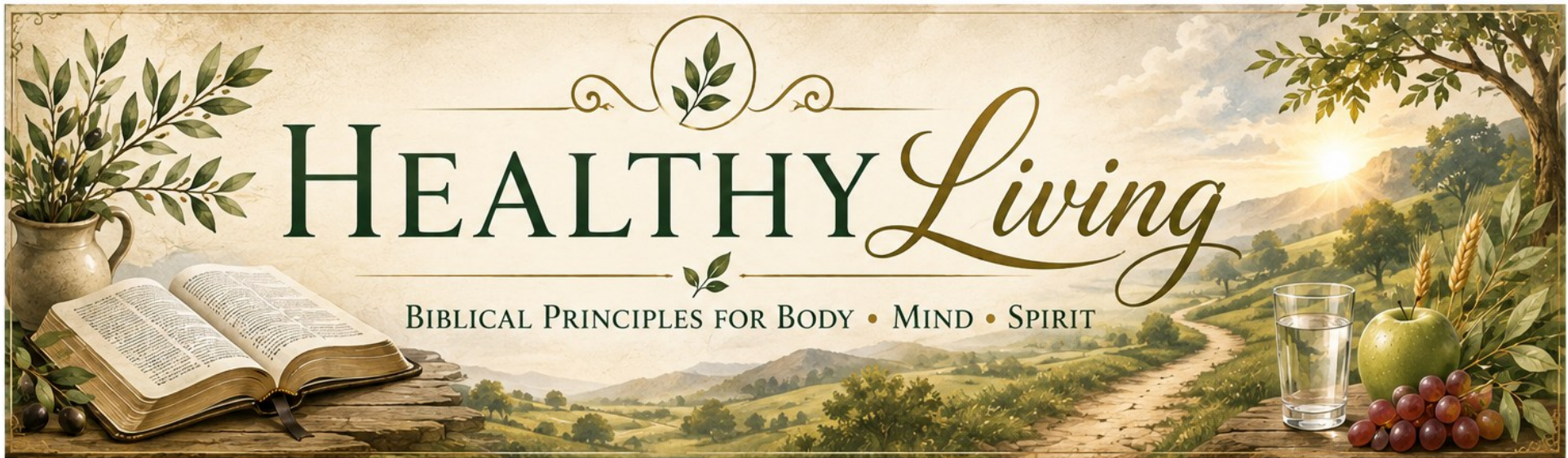
...and simply listen.

In those peaceful moments, I am reminded that God has been there all along. Not because I found Him in the forest... but because I finally became still enough to notice His presence.

Perhaps abiding is less about searching for God...  
and more about learning to remain with  
the One who has never left.

*Perhaps abiding is simply learning to notice  
the One who has been walking beside us all along.*





Article by Jennifer C. Foxworthy

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, and the ribbon colors are purple and teal. I can imagine this topic makes people uncomfortable. However, we do a disservice to those who struggle with mental health issues by turning a blind eye and pretending thoughts of self-harm don't exist. I want to encourage people to start a conversation about suicide prevention. Every life is precious in God's sight. Through our actions of kindness and compassion, we can make a difference in helping someone choose life and find hope.

**Isaiah 40:31:** "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Here are some statistics that may shed light on why we need to take a proactive approach to awareness, connection and support. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide was the 10th leading cause of death in the United States in 2024, accounting for 48,824 deaths. Suicide affects people of all ages. In 2023, it was the second leading cause of death among people ages 10–14, 15–24 and 25–44. Suicide rates among males are also significantly higher than among females.

Let's dive deeper into why someone may reach a point where suicide feels like an answer to overwhelming pain. There is rarely a single cause. Many factors can contribute to suicide risk, including depression and other mental illnesses, financial or job problems, relationship difficulties, grief and loss, serious health concerns, substance use, trauma, hopelessness and social isolation. People can walk around with a smile while hurting deeply inside. They may be hoping someone will say a kind word or simply ask how they are truly doing.

For me personally, I became weary of trying to prove that I belonged. Most of my life, I was trying to blend in where I clearly stood out. At some point, fatigue can become overwhelming. Although I had an amazing group of friends who cared about me, my irrational thoughts took over. I didn't want to be a burden by explaining my problems.

Many times, the people we should check in on more often are the ones who appear strong and seem to have it all together.

A few years ago, at my Unstoppable You Conference in York, Pennsylvania, I gave a presentation titled "No Capes!" I encour-

aged the audience to stop believing the lie that we must constantly have a superhero mentality. It's this dangerous mindset that can leave us tripping and tangled up in the very cape we thought we needed to wear.

But there is good news! We don't have to be strong all the time. Through our weakness can come an incredible testimony of how God's strength pulled us through.

**2 Corinthians 12:9:** "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness... Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (KJV)

One of the most vulnerable—and strongest—things a person can do is ask for help.

### Helpful Strategies and Resources

The **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Anyone experiencing emotional distress or needing someone to talk with can call or **text 988**, or chat online with a trained counselor. The service is free and confidential.

**Self-care** is an important part of maintaining our overall well-being. Healthy self-care practices can help us develop positive ways of coping with stress and difficult circumstances.

**Therapy or counseling** can also be beneficial. Talking with someone who is objective and trained to listen may help us begin addressing the underlying issues we are facing.

**Support groups** can provide another valuable source of connection. Although each person has a unique experience, hearing from others can remind us that we are not alone and can help expand our network of support.

Through awareness, connection and support, we can make a difference and help one another find the support we need.

### JUST DON'T GIVE UP!

*One of the biggest lies the enemy can whisper in a person's ear is that they are alone and nobody cares.*

Remember **John 3:16:** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (NIV)

### Did You Know?

On average, someone dies by suicide in the United States about every 11 minutes. People who have experienced violence or trauma can face increased suicide risk, while connection to family, friends and community can be an important protective factor.



UYM will step in to provide support. We offer trauma-informed assistance along with community awareness and local healing resources.

[jennifer@unstoppableyouministriesinc.org](mailto:jennifer@unstoppableyouministriesinc.org)

[1 \(833\) 330-STOP](tel:1833330STOP)





10 GOD JUDGES ME BY WHAT'S IN MY HEART, AND NOT BY WHAT'S ON MY MIND

"It is with the heart one believes to right standing with God," Paul writes.

Our struggle is not so much with the heart as it is with the mind. Many times, our heart is steadfast while our mind wavers. Our minds are quick to condemn us and, if we allow them, talk us out of what our heart believes.

Sometimes the best way to be at peace with what you believe in your heart is to ignore much of what is running through your mind.

9 GOD CHOSE TO LOVE ME FIRST— AND LOVES ME BEST

Before we ever knew God, He loved us. Even in the midst of our personal struggles, He still loves us.

Others may have walked away, but the love of God is here to stay. It is a love that won't let go, regardless of our level of devotion.

Like the prodigal son or daughter, when we finally come to our senses, we discover the Father is still there—waiting for our return and ready to receive us once more.

8 GOD SEES ME AS PRECIOUS—SOMEONE WORTH DYING FOR

When we are given a quiet moment to think about ourselves, the word *precious* doesn't always come to mind. But it does to God.

There is an old saying, "Can't nobody do ya like Jesus." Only He sees beyond what we—and others—think or feel about us.

We are unique in all His creation. So precious, in fact, that He chose to place Himself within us, but at tremendous cost. His death brought forth life, and His Spirit is still available to all whom He sees as precious.

7 GOD LIVES IN ME NOW, AND I WITH HIM LATER

Those who have not experienced the entrance of God into their lives cannot understand the unmistakable change that takes place within.

Some may challenge our mental stability, but those of us who have walked in this new life know better.

What we enjoy now is only a taste of things to come—a guarantee of a future life with God. Paul wrote that we are to consider ourselves citizens of Heaven even now, seated with Christ Jesus in heavenly places.

I'm thankful that with God there is a now and a later.

6 GOD DRAWS ME NEAR WHEN OTHERS HAVE WALKED AWAY

For the believer, God is our constant in life. His affection for us and His commitment to us do not change.

Others, regardless of their sincerity, can fail us. They can misunderstand us or, through no fault of our own, even abuse us. But, we can be assured that God will never leave the room, closing the door behind Him.

When others seem to have fled your side, He comes alongside you. He is your covering when you feel exposed, your support when you are weak, and the compassionate listener to your broken heart. He is the One who draws you near and heals your soul when others have walked away.

5 GOD SPEAKS TRUTH TO MY MIND WHEN I LISTEN WITH MY HEART

Many voices cloud my mind. With so many choices to make, where do I find answers?

Truth is not found in the whirlwind of thought, but in the whisper of the heart.

It is not natural, but supernatural—placed within from without. Available to all, but sought by few.

Words written millennia ago are given life to the reader by His presence—the One who whispers truth to the heart when called upon.

4 GOD BRINGS HIDDEN THINGS TO LIGHT SO I CAN REMOVE THEM FROM MY LIFE

It is for our good that God desires to remove the bad from us.

We are often our own worst enemy. We make compromises on our promises with God. We revise our agreements with Him more often than the apps on our phones update.

Solomon noted that it was the little foxes that spoil the vine. Often, it is the hidden sins that steal the peace and joy we could have.

It is good to lay down that which holds you down. God knows better than we do what hurts us, and He lovingly brings those things to our attention so we can deal with them.

3 GOD FORGIVES AND FORGETS WHEN I CONFESS AND REPENT

For our benefit, God forgives and chooses to forget when we confess and repent.

Unlike those around us who sometimes forgive but can never quite forget our words or deeds, God does.

Remembering our old sins can weigh heavily upon us. We may even feel shame as we approach God. But imagine saying: "Lord, do You remember when...?" And God simply answering: "No."

*How thankful we can be that, as we live in His presence, we don't have to remain imprisoned by our past.*

2 GOD IS MY SANITY IN A WORLD THAT'S GONE CRAZY

Every generation seems to have its own chaos. Ours is no different, except that today it is amplified by a 24/7 verbal and visual assault. We have allowed ourselves to be drawn into everyone's personal tragedies, and at times it overwhelms our senses. Our lives can begin to feel adrift in the continual madness displayed before our eyes.

But in the midst of it all, there is God. He brings sanity.

*Not only do we find our place in Him, but our peace.*

Only He can whisper the words that calm our spirit and renew our faith.  
Only with God can we truly be in our right mind.

1 GOD IS MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR ALL I WILL EVER NEED

It is the essence of our faith in God that whatever situation I find myself in, whatever need may arise, I will be given what I need to handle it and be provided for.

There is no obstacle too great and no trial too difficult that I cannot overcome with God's help.

He says in His Word, "Call on Me and I will answer you."

He is not Google or Siri, but He holds the knowledge of the universe.

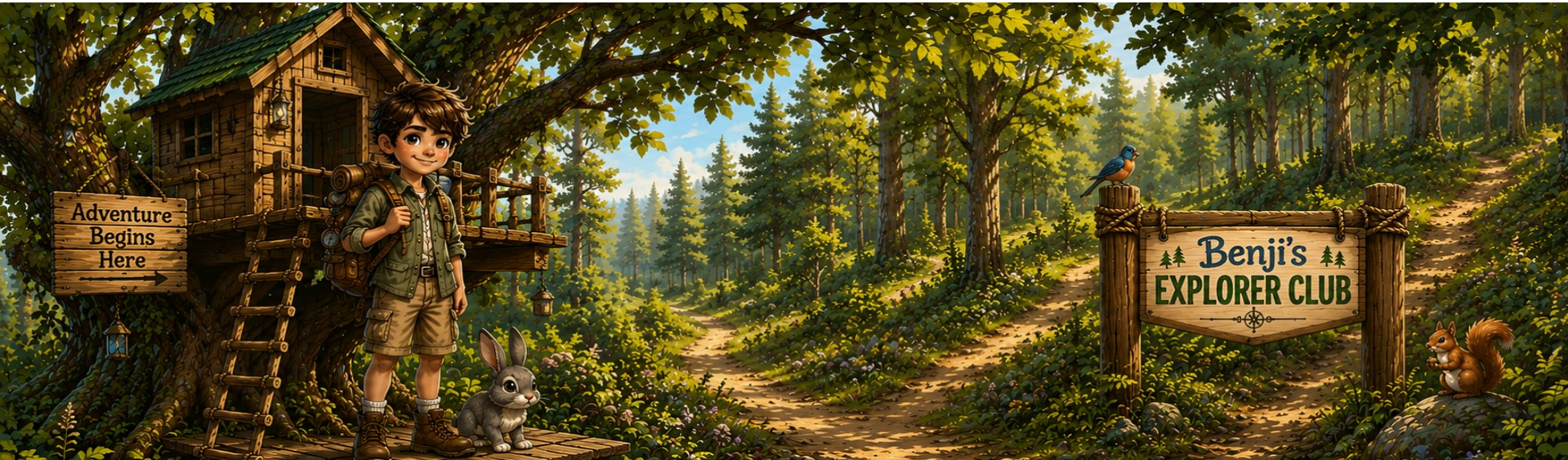
He is not the head of surgery at Johns Hopkins, but He is the healer of your soul.

He is all you or I will ever need.

He is not the latest government program, but He is your Provider.

He is wisdom.  
He is healing.  
He is provision.

And that's something to be thankful for.



**Welcome to Benji’s Explorer Club!**  
Meet Benji and his little companions, Nova and Gilly

Benji is a curious young explorer who loves discovering the amazing world God created. With his backpack ready and Nova nearby, every walk through the woods can become an adventure—and every adventure can reveal something new about God’s creation.

Each month, Benji, Nova and Gilly will invite young explorers to come along as they discover wildlife, solve mysteries, search for hidden treasures, learn fascinating facts, and uncover little wonders that might otherwise go unnoticed.

*The adventure doesn’t stop on the pages of Roaring Wind*  
**There’s More Waiting Online!**

Benji’s Explorer Club will offer **FREE** printable activities for children and families to enjoy together.

Choose what your little explorer will enjoy:

- Full-color Exploration Adventures
- Coloring-page versions
- Look & Find Challenges
- Benji’s Field Notes & nature facts
- Printable activities and puzzles
- Faith-filled discoveries from God’s Word

*Print one—or print them all. The adventure is yours!*

**A Sneak Peek at Our First Adventure...**  
**THE MONARCH’S SECRET**

*“Something amazing is happening in God’s autumn world”*  
Benji and Nova are about to discover that one of the smallest creatures can make one of the most incredible journeys.

*Coming in October*  
**MISSION #001**



**What You'll Find at Benji's Explorer Club**  
Stories & Monthly Adventures • Full-Color Printable Exploration Scenes

Coloring-Page Versions • Look & Find Challenges •  
Field Notes & Nature Facts • Faith-Filled Activities • **FREE** Printables

**Choose what your child will enjoy. Print it. Explore together**