

STUDY GUIDE

# FAITH FOR THE SUPERNATURAL

*Living by God's Promise and Power*



NATALIE  NICHOLS

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FOR THE  
SUPERNATURAL

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## **“FAITH FOR THE SUPERNATURAL”**

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# FAITH FOR THE SUPERNATURAL

*Living by God's Promise and Power*

Throughout the Bible, scripture repeatedly demonstrates that God moves upon the earth in response to the faith of His people. Yet the days in which we live, the devil and our human nature are constantly battling against our faith—threatening to erode our confidence in God's promises and the actions that bid His eternal truths to become reality in our lives.

In this three-part series, Natalie Nichols gives you powerful scriptural insights to help you develop unwavering, effective, Biblical faith. Natalie has experienced firsthand the results of persevering faith. From her parents' stand on God's promises for their children to Natalie's stand on His promises for her own life and ministry, her life is a testament to God's faithfulness to His Word.

This study guide will take you through key points from these powerful messages in a manner that will inspire you to walk by greater depths of faith and give you the tools to do so.

## ( Message 1 )

# Consider the Loaves

## *Unwavering Faith in Hard Times*

“...and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered. For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened” (Mark 6:51-52 KJV).

Have you entered a season of life where your circumstances have become dark and stormy? Perhaps you have just exited a peaceful, flourishing place in life full of evidence of God’s presence and miracle working power. But now it seems as if you are in the middle of nowhere, a barren place— above all, a place without any obvious manifestations of God’s presence or intervention. Beloved, considering these five things will strengthen your faith.

### **In Times of Hardship Consider:**

#### **1. God’s History With You**

Mark 6:45—“*Immediately* Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.”

The children of Israel failed to consider God’s history with them, instead judging His ability to provide by the appearance of their present circumstances.

“They spoke against God, saying, ‘Can God spread a table in the desert? When he struck the rock, water gushed out, and streams flowed abundantly. But can he also give us food? Can he supply meat for his people?’ When the LORD heard them, he was very angry...for they did not believe in God or trust in his deliverance” (Psalm 78:19-22)

#### **2. God’s Sovereign Rule**

Mark 6:45—“Jesus *made* his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.”

God is the supreme ruler of the universe—“The LORD has established his throne in the heaven, and his kingdom rules over all” (Psalm 103:19). He is sovereign over all of the circumstances of our lives, even the adverse ones.

Jesus could have easily calmed waves from the shore. And He could have done it earlier. But He chose to send the disciples out on the water knowing they were destined for a storm.

“Consider what God has done: Who can straighten what he has made crooked. When times are good be happy; but when times are bad, consider God has made the one as well as the other” (Ecclesiastes 7:13-14).

God allows difficult circumstances to enter our lives for our good and His glory. They accomplish His good purpose for our lives and allow us to reach our full potential. Most importantly, they cause us to know Him more fully—because His presence and His Word become indispensable necessities to us.

### **3. God’s Activity On Your Behalf**

Mark 6:46—”After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.”

#### **He is praying for you:**

Jesus is interceding for you, praying for you that your faith will not fail. He is intervening in ways you cannot see. (Hebrews 7:25; Luke 22:32)

#### **He sees you:**

Mark 6:47-48—“When evening came the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. He *saw* the disciples straining at the oars...”

Late at night, in the middle of a stormy lake, you cannot see where you came from or where you are going. It seems there is no end in sight. Is this how you feel right now? God perceives your situation! The Greek word for “see” means “to perceive, to know, to understand.” God knows your need and has plans to meet it.

## **He is on His way**

John 6:17—“By now it was dark and Jesus had not *yet* joined them.”

### **4. God’s Unexpected Presentation**

Mark 6:48-50—“About the fourth watch of the night he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, but they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified.”

When the disciples saw Jesus, they were scared, troubled, inwardly disturbed. Their calmness of mind was completely taken away. Could it be that God is walking into the scene of your life through the very things that are causing you to be so distressed?

In the middle of his excruciating suffering, *before* God restored his fortunes, Job declared that his eyes had *seen* God, that he had experienced God in unprecedented ways! Through dazzling light and raging fire, God gave Moses a glimpse of His glory—a glimpse of who He is. Biblical scholars say God’s presence must have been so overwhelming to Moses that he felt as if it were going to consume him. If we encountered a man trying to wrestle us to the ground, we would label him an enemy, would we not? This is what happened to Jacob, and yet he referred to that place as the place where he saw God face to face and yet his life was spared. The circumstances through which God reveals Himself to us hardly ever appear on the surface to be God.

### **5. Jesus’ Miracle of the Loaves**

Mark 6:51-52—“For they failed to consider or understand [the teaching and meaning of the miracle of] the loaves; [in fact] their hearts had grown callous [had become dull and had lost the power of understanding]” (AMP).

What are a few of the meanings of the miracle of the loaves?

#### **Jesus is compassionate.**

He was concerned with more than just healing. He was also concerned that the people had enough food to eat. The disciples had no problem accepting the wonders Jesus performed for the multi-

tudes, but they couldn't believe that Christ would do the same for them. They could conceive His compassion for the masses, but not for them personally. When they were away in the windy waters by themselves, they became worried about their own needs.

Is this you? Do you believe in miracles, just not a miracle for the storm in which you find yourself? You may say, "Yes, Lord, I believe in every miracle I've read about in scripture." That's great, but God's response is this: "Do you believe I can work a miracle *for you*? Do you believe that I will?"

**Jesus works through progressive miracles as well as instant ones.**

Progressive miracles are hardly discernible to the human eye. They aren't accompanied by quaking, lightning and thunderous sounds. There is no sudden visible change. They start quietly.

**We are not to live according to the sight world.**

To test the disciples, Jesus had asked them earlier, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" Philip gave an assessment based upon the natural realm: 'Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite?' (John 6:5,7).

By contrast, Jesus simply took the loaves, gave thanks in advance for what was to come and began acting as if the miracle had already occurred—he began distributing the bread and fish. Faith is so acting on the Word and will of God that God has to perform a miracle to keep it.

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( Message 2 )

## **Don't Flake Out! Get Rid of the Fake Out** *Move Beyond Powerless Substitutes to Effective, Biblical Faith*

The enemy's number one target is your faith! "What must we do to work the works of God?" Jesus is asked in John 6:28. "The work of God is this:" He answered, "to believe in the one he has sent."—*to believe!*

Jesus moved God's will from Heaven to earth by His faith. Faith is the key that moves God from Heaven to earth. It is the only principle by which God works. Every time we see God move from heaven to earth, it is because He found someone who believed.

The way to victory in our Christian life is through faith:

- More than through prayer—Victory does not come through the amount of praying a person does. We can pray until we are blue in the face, but unaccompanied by real, Biblical faith, our prayers will accomplish nothing.
- More than through works—Success does not come by the amount of work we do for God. If you do not have faith, you will fail no matter how hard you work for God. Only faith makes it possible for God to operate in our lives. Unless God operates in him, man operates in vain. Even Jesus said, "Of myself I can do nothing."

Wherever faith wavers, God's hands are tied. When Jesus visited his own home town, He was unable to do mighty works there because of the people's unbelief. "Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief." (Mark 6:5-6 NKJV).

The majority of Christians today who profess bold faith really have no idea what real, Biblical faith is, much less how to exercise it in their lives. I say "real" because many of us think we are walking by faith,

when in reality we are walking by a spiritually suffocating substitute. Sadly, we have come to substitute many things in our lives for faith—buying the enemy’s deception and fooling ourselves into thinking that we are operating in “faith”, when in fact, we are living a lie according to God’s standard.

### **The Four Stages of Faith:**

- 1. Persuasion by Revelation**
- 2. Embracing by Action**
- 3. Confession by Declaration**
- 4. Conflict or Fight of Faith**

#### **1. Persuasion by Revelation**

The process of faith begins with a need. This need is merely an invitation to God’s supply—a supply found in His Word. It is imperative that we learn how to take our Bible and get alone with God until we hear Him speak a word that reveals His heart and mind about our need.

Through His Word, God often reveals the solution to our need long before it comes to pass, revealing the end from the beginning.

“I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please...What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do” (Isaiah 46:10-11).

We have to find out God’s heart and mind about our situation. The process of faith cannot begin until we know this. Are you meeting with God about the things that concern you? Or are you spending more time worrying about your need than you are in God’s presence finding out His will about it?

Manley Beasley’s life-story is a testament to the process of faith. His teachings shaped my family’s and my understanding of the life of faith. The concepts in messages two and three of this series were influenced by his messages and writings. In *Alive By His Life*, Manley articulates like no other the prerequisite of knowing God’s revealed will:

“Genuine faith is based upon revealed truth that has been true in the heart of God since before the foundation of the world. We can only believe God for things that are already real in the

spiritual realm. Faith can never go beyond the revelation of truth to the heart...God will do only one thing; He will act according to what He originates...Our faith must rest upon God's perfect will revealed to us in our hearts, through His Word."<sup>1</sup>

When God gives us spiritual eyes and ears to see and hear His revelation, we receive the report. Scripture is teeming with accounts of men and women who received the report.

Abraham—"Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of *seeing* my day; he saw it and was glad" (John 8:56, emphasis added) See also Genesis 22.

Moses' parents—"By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they *saw* he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict." (Hebrews 11:23, emphasis added).

Moses—"[Motivated] by faith he left Egypt behind him, being unawed and undismayed by the wrath of the king; for he never flinched but held staunchly to his purpose and endured steadfastly as one who *gazed* on Him Who is invisible" (Hebrews 11:27, emphasis added).

When we are truly persuaded, we firmly feel that we must take God at His Word, no matter what. Sometimes we struggle before reaching this point, but the struggle ends in determination to stake everything upon God's promise.

When the Holy Spirit breathes upon scripture and quickens a passage for our situation, we must make a choice to believe. Thus, we must have three things present in our life in order to enter into real, Biblical faith:

- A need
- A Biblical promise quickened by God on which to stand
- We must make a choice to believe

## **2. Embracing by Action**

Scripture speaks of the fact that we believe God with our "heart." Full hearted faith means that we believe with our mind, emotions and will. Full hearted faith will have these three elements:

- Intellectual—To have an intelligent basis for our faith; to

believe God *can* fulfill His promise.

- Emotional—To *want* God to fulfill His promise and to want Him to for the right reasons.
- Volitional—To make a choice to believe. Our God-given will has the ability to make a choice. When our will acts, our whole body reacts.

The volitional element is the one most frequently omitted from our lives. We believe God can (Intellectual) and we want Him to, (Emotional) but we rarely, if ever, make the choice to believe and to act accordingly (Volitional).

Only when we are stepping out on God's revealed truth to such a degree that He has to perform a miracle to keep His Word are we actively trusting God and placing ourselves at his disposal. Are you so acting on His promises right now that God has to perform a miracle to keep them? To do so, you will have to forsake everything you sense in the natural realm.

“God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us” (Ephesians 3:20 THE MESSAGE).

When God has given us a word, He does not automatically impose its fulfillment. He waits to work through us as we exercise faith. Failure to act on the Word calls God a liar and makes it impossible for Jesus to do miracles among us.

### **Powerless Substitutes for Faith**

#### **∞ Hope**

When God speaks and declares a promise, it is accomplished in Heaven. To act in faith is to act as if it is so in the here and now. We are to act as if it is so, when it is not so, in order for it to become so.

Believing is having; it is possession. Hope says, “I believe God can. I believe God will. I will have it *sometime*.” Faith says, “I believe God has. It is done. I have it *now*.” BIG difference! Hope does not possess. Faith does! Faith ends in the glad confession, “It is mine. I have it.” According to John 6:47, he who believes *has*, he possesses: “I tell the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.”

Hope does not move God. Pleading for sympathy does not move God. Just as God saved us by grace through faith—not through hope, or mental assent, or human effort, or fear of hell, or pleading upon God’s sympathies, but by faith alone—God continues to work in a Believer’s life by the same mechanism of faith.

☞ **Mental Assent:**

So often, we mentally assent to the reality of the Word, but we do not act on it. Mental assent admires the Word, confesses that it is true and very desirable, but it does not possess. Mental assent is a satanically inspired substitute for faith. It looks and sounds so much like faith that we cannot tell the difference.

**3. Confession by Declaration**

The expression of our faith will always take the form of our confession. We must say the same thing with our mouths that God says in His Word.

We talk to ourselves at a rate of 1300 words per minute. How many of those words are in agreement with God? How many call those things that are not as though they were (Romans 4:17)?

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## ( Message 3 )

# By Way of Mouth

## *The Path to the Promise*

“It is written: ‘I believed; therefore I have spoken.’ With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak” (2 Corinthians 4:13).

### **Continuing with the Four Stages of Faith:**

- 1. Persuasion by Revelation**
- 2. Embracing by Action**
- 3. Confession by Declaration**
- 4. Conflict or Fight of Faith**

### **1. Persuasion by Revelation (Review)**

We cannot begin any of the activity of faith without knowing God’s heart and mind about a situation.

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind (declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth must be what is already bound in heaven: and whatever you loose (declare lawful) on earth must be what is already loosed in heaven” (Matthew 16:19 AMP).

We have to find out what God is doing in our lives and enter into that. “Abraham entered into what God was doing for him, and *that* was the turning point” (Romans 4:3 THE MESSAGE)

### **3. Confession by Declaration (Review and Continuation)**

Why is it so important to have this report from God? Because God does everything according to His nature. He is bringing the new creation into being in the same manner that He did the old.

Everything that has ever come into existence began in the Father’s heart and mind. God the Father is the person of the Godhead who devised the plan for the old creation as well as the plan and administration for the new creation.

God the Son is the embodiment of the Father's thought and being. This is why He is called the "Word" (see John 1:1). Just as my words express to you my thoughts, Jesus, the Word, came to earth an expression of the invisible Godhead.

The Father devised the plan for creation. Jesus, the Son, discovered God's will for creation and spoke it into being. The Holy Spirit was the executor of the Father's will and the Son's word. In the process of creation there is thought, word and action—The Father's will, the Son's word and the Spirit's way.

**Faith is simply our ability to join this process of creation.**

"We discover and receive the truth from the Father's mind. We speak the word of authority with our mouths and continue steadfastly our confession in the face of contradicting circumstances, while the Holy Spirit brings into visible being what was true all along in the invisible spiritual world."<sup>2</sup>

When we were born again, we were joined to the Godhead, made joint-heirs with Christ and given full rights as a co-son with Jesus. "Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs of Christ" (Romans 8:17).

We were not made into a co-Father or co-Holy Spirit, but co-sons. It was Jesus'—the Son's— job to speak the Father's thought. This is consistent not only with creation, but with His life on earth. Jesus was continually checking in with heaven to find out the Father's will, then speaking it and doing it. These acts of faith are what moved God's will from Heaven to earth.

God has entrusted to us the same responsibility as that of His Son—that of speaking the Father's thoughts. Our prime responsibility and job as believers is to move Heaven to earth. Only what originates in the Father's heart and mind can I as a co-son speak into existence with authority.

Getting the report is not the end, but the beginning of faith. Because we know what God wants us to believe Him for, we must not take the attitude of "it will happen anyway." We must continue into the volitional element of faith—confessing, standing, fighting through the conflict or fight of faith, until we see it become reality on this earth.

We speak as God does, calling our circumstances a lie in view of what God has said. We call those things that are not as though they were. God “gives life to the dead and speaks of the nonexistent things that [He has foretold and promised] as if they [already] existed” (Romans 4:17 AMP).

Is this presumption? No. It would be if it were not based upon the revealed word and will of God.

When we’ve reached this point of genuine faith, we stand on the Word of God and continually make declaration based upon that Word. This confession is so extreme, so radical, that it is either the confession of a fool or a receiver. We are in such a position that if God does not work a miracle to keep His Word, God’s Word is a lie and we are a fool.

This is the point where Satan will use everything in his arsenal to cause you to retreat from your strong position of faith.

Persistence is key! We have a tendency to try this for a while, and when we do not see quick results, we stop speaking the Word to our problems and begin once again speaking our feelings.

**Our mouth can give expression either to the flesh or to the spirit—to God-inspired faith, or negative, ill-placed faith.**

Calling those things that are not can work negatively too. What we speak we are calling for. Our words are seeds that definitely yield a harvest.

“A man’s self shall be filled with the fruit of his mouth; and with the consequence of his words he must be satisfied [whether good or evil]. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life]” (Proverbs 18:20-21 AMP).

I urge you to keep a confession list. This is not Christian hocus pocus. Not Jesus voodoo. It is Bible!! This will help you develop a habit of speaking and thinking in agreement with God’s Word and will. It will help you become aware of your thought and speaking patterns, highlighting what needs to change and creating the framework that enables it.

I would like to share part of my list with you (see pages 20-23). I urge



you to take one phrase (or more) a day and look up each of the scripture references. This will not only help you understand the scriptural basis for the confession, but it will also remind you of the power and authority of the truth you are speaking.

Consider this as a starter list. I strongly encourage you to do your homework and create your own list, one customized for your situation. Include the promises God has given you, the things He is convicting you to change and the scriptural truths you want Him to make real in your life. I have provided room at the end for you to begin your own list of declarations. Please utilize!

#### **4. Conflict or Fight of Faith**

After we choose to believe, then comes the fight or conflict of faith. There is an initial act of faith, but after this we must continue with the ongoing activity of faith. We continue until the promise is fulfilled, persevering in the activity of faith until God's promise becomes a reality. We must be determined to continue; willing to go to our grave, if necessary, believing and confessing. Like George Mueller and the salvation of his friends, if we die, we die affirming the fact that the answer is ours.

#### **Enemies of Faith**

##### **☞ Hope**

Hope says "I will have it sometime." Faith says, "I have it now." Faith ends in the glad confession, "It is mine. I have it." Hope is contingent, uncertain. As long as a person mistakes hope for faith, they will never receive the things that come by actively believing God.

##### **☞ Reason**

Faith is not reasonable to man's senses. Reason is not according to faith. Reasoning and rationalization hinder faith. Living by faith is a supernatural life, incapable of being reasoned.

##### **☞ Feelings**

Our feelings are not legitimate evidences of a faith life. When God chooses to deal with us in the area of our senses, feelings are not an enemy. But remember, Satan can give you feelings. What you may feel may not be what God is telling you. Our faith walk is governed by what we hear from God and by a choice of our will to obey—not by what we feel.

### ☞ **Sacrifice**

There is a difference between sacrifice and faith. Many believers hold the view that a life of faith is simply a life of sacrifice. Doing without and toiling on is not faith. 2 Corinthians 9:8-11 promises that we will have enough to abound in every good work. We are being made rich in every way, it says, so that we may be generous on every occasion.

### ☞ **Ignorance**

You cannot believe what you do not know from the scriptures. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Ignorance cannot be overcome unless we continually meditate on the Word (Joshua 1:8).

### ☞ **Works**

Works can be enemies of faith when they are not products of faith. The flesh profits nothing (John 6:63). Whatever is not of faith is sin (Romans 14:23). Any part of our work, worship, or walk that is not of faith is sin.

### ☞ **Bargaining and Sympathy**

We do not approach God as though we are bargaining with Him, or trying to play upon His sympathy. Faith is the key that moves God out of heaven to earth.

### ☞ **Confession**

Confession that does not agree with what God says in His Word is an enemy of faith. “Do two walk together except they make an appointment and have agreed?” (Amos 3:3) To walk with God concerning His plan for our lives, our words must agree with His. We must say the same with our mouths that He says in His Word.

### ☞ **Mental Assent**

Christians by the droves flood into our churches each week and file away Biblical truths in their minds. Yet most leave only to live another week completely devoid of “real,” Biblical faith. Sadly, even many of our pastors have the same approach to faith—that scriptural knowledge equals actively believing God. Instead of being leaders in this area of faith, leading their congregation according to a word that God has given them regarding the future of the church, many pastors lead by a philosophy of “just do the best you can.” By their example, they are teaching the congregation to do the same in their Christian walk. This

stands in complete contradiction to a life of faith. God does not intend for us to plod along, just “doing the best we can”, without ever discovering His will and actively believing Him for it through embracing actions and declarations.

Regardless of whether we are leaders in a church, a business, a ministry or our family, people are following us, are they not? Being a leader implies that we are moving in a forward direction and that people are following us. Thus we are leading them to a place, a location. That location *must* be God’s report, God’s promised end that He declared from the beginning. That’s what God wants for all of us. To get a word from Him about the future of our children. To get a word from Him about the future of our church. To get a word from Him about the future of our ministry. To get a word from Him about the future of our business...And to act on that word.

Head knowledge is a dangerous enemy of faith because of how easily the devil can use it to lull us into thinking that we are actively believing God. In God’s economy, merely knowing His word intellectually does not equal faith. We may even go so far as to get alone with God and receive a personal word from Him regarding our need—but even that, absent corresponding actions, is mental assent, not faith.

### ∞ **Laziness and Complacency!**

“From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it” (Matthew 11:12). We must rouse ourself up from our lazy spiritual beds and become aggressive—aggressive in our time alone with God and His Word, aggressive in hearing the Holy Spirit, aggressive in our confessions, aggressive in our actions and aggressive in fighting the fight of faith!

When we respond in faith, God *will* fulfill His promise!

“God is not a man that he should lie, Nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?” (Numbers 23:19).

“For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment” (Luke 1:37).



# God's Word

AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

*The word of God is alive and powerful. —Hebrews 4:12*

## SPEAKING AS GOD DOES

**“God...calls those things that are not as though they were.”  
Romans 4:17**

**“We have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, ‘I have believed, and therefore have I spoken.’ We too believe and therefore we speak.”  
2 Corinthians 4:13**

<sup>20</sup>**A man’s...self shall be filled with the fruit of his mouth; and with the consequence of his words he must be satisfied [whether good or evil].**

<sup>21</sup>**Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life].**

**Proverbs 18:20-21**

“I am overcome by (filled with) the Holy Spirit for service and expression of Jesus’ life.” (*Lu. 11:13; Eph. 5:18; Ga. 5:16, 5:25, Ro 8:9.*)

“I have surrendered all rights to my life. My flesh is crucified. I can do nothing for God, but he can do anything through me. I yield all that I am to all He wants of my life. (*Ga. 2:20, 5:24; Ro. 7:18, 6:6, 11, 13; Jn 14:4, 6:63.*)

“Jesus Christ is Lord and Ruler of my life.” (*Ro 10:9.*)

“I am dead to every selfish act and attitude of my fleshly nature.” (*Ga. 5:24.*)

“I am dead to everything that might alienate my affection from God.” (*Mt. 22:37; Ga.5:24*)

“I am as unresponsive as God would have me be to my: job, lists, goals, desires, future, relationships, perfectionism, wardrobe, friends, television, food, books, meals, pocketbook, abilities, responsibilities, reputation, possessions, fears,

worries, guilts, accomplishments, failures, temperaments, habits, schedule, likes and dislikes, conduct and character, every act and attitude and all material possessions.” (*John 6:63; Ro. 6:6, 11, 13; 7:18; 8:13; Ga. 2:20; Ga. 5:24; 2 Cor. 5:15.*)<sup>3</sup>

“The Living Word, Jesus Christ, and the written Word, the Bible, are an indispensable necessity for me every moment of every day. I crave and require them. I awaken and bestir myself to take and keep hold of them.” (*Ps. 105:3-4 AMP; Ps. 107:9; 84:2; 142:6; 42:2; Isaiah 64:7 AMP.*)

“I am aggressive in taking God’s kingdom. I have put off laziness and mediocrity.” (*Mt. 11:12 AMP.*)

“I give you the first of my life—the first of my day, my week, my year and my increase.” (*Ps. 143:8; 63:1; 119:147; Prov. 3:9; Ex. 13:12-13.*)

“I love and live on the Word more than ever before. I am memorizing more scripture each day. I love, believe and live by them. My personal understanding of the Word is increasing.” (*Josh. 1:8; Psalm 148:2; Psalm 119:11, 15, 20, 27, 34, 47-48, 54, 72, 77, 93, 97, 102-104, 125, 127, 130, 144, 148, 169.*)

“I am a doer of the word, not a hearer only. I am obedient to ALL of God’s commands, not just the ones I like or find easy.” (*Jas. 1:22; I Sa. 15:22; Psalm 119:34, 44, 60, 100, 129, 167.*)

“I have died and been raised with Christ and am now seated in heavenly places.” (*Eph. 2:5,6 KJV*)

“I am dead to sin and alive unto righteousness.” (*Rom. 6:11 KJV.*)

“I know God’s voice, and I always obey what He tells me.” (*John 10:3-5, 14-16, 27; 14:15.*)

“I am a believer—not a doubter.” (*Mark 5:36; John 6:28; Ro. 1:17*)

“God is instructing me and teaching me in the way chosen for me.” (*Psalm 25:12; 32:8*)

“I have control over my mouth, even what I say silently.” (*Ps 141:3 - “Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.” (Prov. 10:19; 12:18, 23; 13:3; 21:23; 17:27; 11:12; 2 Ti. 1:7; Ja. 3:3-12.)*

“As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. Therefore, all of my thoughts agree with God’s Word. I do not allow the devil to use my spirit as a dumping ground by meditating on the negative things that he offers me.” (*Prov. 23:7 KJV.*)<sup>4</sup>

“The law of kindness is on my tongue. I open my tongue in skillfull and godly wisdom.” (*Prov. 31:26 AMP.*)

“In Jesus, I have been enriched in every way—in all my speaking and knowledge.” (*I Co. 1:5.*)

“I ( \_\_\_\_\_ *insert here what God has called you to do* \_\_\_\_\_ ) as an expert by the grace God has given me.” (*I Cor. 3:10.*)

“I spend the time with God that is necessary each day. I spend it how He wants me to. I do not miss Christ because of attempting to serve Christ.” (*Luke 10:38-42.*)

“I study the Word of God and I pray.” (*2 Tim 2:15; Luke 18:1.*)

“I never grow tired or weary when I study the Word, pray, pursue God or minister. I have God’s creative work in me. As I do what He is doing through me, I am fed, refreshed and energized.” (*Is. 40:28, 31; John 4:34; 5:19; 14:10; 15:5; 2 Thess. 3:13; )*

“I do all my work excellently and with great wisdom, making the most of all my time and of every opportunity.” (*Eccl.9:10; Prov. 22:29; Eph. 5:15-16.*)

“I am not passive about anything, but deal with all things in my life immediately.” (*Prov. 27:23; Eph 5:15-16.*)<sup>5</sup>

“I take every thought captive unto the obedience of Jesus Christ, demolishing every argument and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God.” (*2 Cor. 10:5.*)

“I catch the devil in ALL of his deceitful lies. I cast them down and choose rather to believe the Word of God.” (*John 8:44; 2 Cor. 2:11; 10:5.*)<sup>6</sup>

“I do not give the devil a foothold in my life. I resist the devil, and he has to flee from me.” (*Eph. 4:27; James 4:7.*)<sup>7</sup>

“No weapon that is formed against me shall prosper, but every tongue that rises against me in judgment, I shall prove false.” (*Isa. 54:17.*)

“God has put substance in me equal to the tasks to which He has called me. Every demand upon my life is a demand upon His Spirit within me.” (*Eph. 2:10; 2 Co. 12:9-10; Jn 15:5; Jn 6:63; Jn 5:17,19.*)

“God gives me favor everywhere I go.” (*Prov. 16:15; Zech. 10:1; Jas. 4:2*) (*Psalm 5:12; 30:5; 44:3 NKJ; 102:13.*)

“The fruit of my life is the fruit of the Spirit.” (*Ga 5:22.*)

“I am slow to speak, quick to hear, and slow to anger.” (*James 1:19.*)

“I am honest. I do not lie.” (*Prov. 12:22; 6:16-17; 17:20.*)

“I am humble, not proud, and God exalts me.” (*Ps 5:5; 147:6; Prov. 6:16-17; 16:18; 16:5 Amplified; Ja 4:6; Mt 11:29; 1 Pet. 5:6.*)

“I am patient.” (*Prov. 14:29; 15:18; 29:22.*)

“All of my motives are pure.” (*Prov. 17:3; 20:27; 21:2.*)

“The works of my life are eternal and will stand the test of fire.” (*1 Co. 3:12-14.*)

“I take good care of my body. I eat right, I look good, I feel good, and I weigh what God wants me to weigh.” (*1 Cor. 9:27; 1 Tim. 1:7; 4:8 TLB.*)<sup>8</sup>

“I do not lack any spiritual gift or result of God’s grace.” (*1 Co. 1:7.*)

“I love to give! It is more blessed to give than to receive. I have plenty to give at all times. God is making all grace abound to me so that in all things at all times, having all that I need, I am abounding in every good work. He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food is supplying and increasing my store of seed and enlarging the harvest of my righteousness. I have been made rich in every way so that I can be generous on every occasion. My generosity is resulting in thanksgiving to God.” (*Acts 20:35; 2 Cor. 9:6-12.*)

“I am prosperous and successful in all areas of my life - spiritual, financial, mental and social.” (*Gen. 39:3; Josh. 1:8; 3 John 2.*)

“I am prosperous, based upon the prerequisites of prosperity given in God’s Word:”

- *Joshua 1:8* (Not letting God’s Word depart from my mouth, meditating on it continually, careful to do all that it says.)
- *Proverbs* - Wisdom (3:16; 19:8), Honor God with Firstfruits (3:9-10; & *Mal. 3:10*) Diligence (19:4), Giving (11:24-25), Working the land (12:11), Working hard (14:23; 28:19), Giving to the Poor, (28:27) Diligently planning and steadily plodding (21:5.)

“I do what I say I will do, and I get where I am going on time.” (*Luke 16:10; 2 Pe. 3:14 KJV.*)

“God cares for me. I cast every care and all of my anxiety upon Him and He sustains me.” (*Ps. 55:22; 1 Pe. 5:7.*)







**Natalie Nichols** came to rely on the Word of God to sustain her in the midst of devastating illness – and now through *Shades of Grace*, she shares a life-changing message of God's comfort for life's trials.

## **Consider the Loaves**

### ***Unwavering Faith in Hard Times***

How do you react in seasons of hardship? Do you become fearful, anxious... even angry at God? Jesus' disciples faced the same challenge. Their faith wavered—their hearts were hardened in the storm—because they did not consider Jesus' miracle of the loaves. In this inspiring message, discover how you can experience unwavering faith—and be liberated to enjoy the riches of Christ in hard times!

## **Don't Flake Out! Get Rid of the Fake Out**

### ***Move Beyond Powerless Substitutes to Effective, Biblical Faith***

Do you believe that God can fulfill His promises for your life, you just wonder if He actually will? Beloved, you are on the verge of flaking out on your faith! You have come to accept a spiritually suffocating substitute for faith, slowly adopting a standard that seems like faith, but one that is really a fake out - sure to cause you to flake out! And fast!!! In John 6:28, Jesus said that the work God desires of us "is this: to believe..." Discover how to move beyond powerless substitutes—and walk in effective, Biblical faith!

## **By Way of Mouth**

### ***The Path to the Promise***

God's Word contains powerful promises—plans and declarations He wants to fulfill in your life. But there is a route to their fulfillment that must be traveled in order for this to occur. The apostle Paul declared, "I believed; therefore I have spoken" (2 Corinthians 4:13). Discover the role God has ordained for your words in the fulfillment of His promises. Learn what enemies of faith lay disguised in your daily life—and live in victory and see God's promise come to pass!

## **From Tragedy to Triumph - Bonus DVD**

Watch Natalie's extraordinary story as she and her parents, Neal and Sandra Nichols, share how faith and God's promises transformed their lives. See powerful evidence of God's faithfulness to His Word—and bolster your expectancy and faith for the supernatural today!



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