

# COME AND SEE

PROVIDED BY THRIVE LADIES MINISTRY  
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, KANNAPOLIS, NC

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## My 'Do Over'

BY JEANIE FISHER  
(WRITTEN IN 2017)

Go ahead, Google it. But, I will save you the time. A 'do over' is an opportunity to try, or perform, something a second time. Notice, if you will, nothing is mentioned about a mistake to be corrected. My thoughts were if you had to do it over, it must not have been done right the first time. Needless to say, I was wrong.

Let me fill you in on those not familiar with my story. I was happily married for 48 years. For twenty three of those years, my husband, Bud, was disabled with an aggressive, progressive heart disease. As the years passed, he became weaker and weaker and more dependent on me.

Our life, as we knew it, came to a standstill. We could no longer be

active in church, or anything else, for that matter. I retired early to stay home with him, with no complaints on my part. Since I was 60 years old with thirty years in the school system, retiring was not a hard choice at all! I had six wonderful years of staying right by Bud's side until the Lord took him home. Being his caregiver was one of my greatest blessings.

Now for the beginning of my 'do over'. After years of being confined I was now free to do whatever I wanted, whenever I wanted to do it. Yes, it took (and is still taking) time to adjust to this new normal and I felt I had to make up for so much lost time. For so long, even though I knew I was in God's will to be a 24/7 caregiver, I was unable to be active in

what had once been a major part of my life. As I began my 'do over', I prayed and prayed for God to show me what He wanted me to do.

As I grieved, I clung to God's promises, believing Psalm 30:5 that joy could come in the morning.

Psalm 34:4 also showed me I could either have fear or faith. I chose faith and God never failed me.

In 2015, I was offered the role of overseeing the church's Food Pantry and that ministry has changed my life. Serving those in need in our community and working with a wonderful team of volunteers has been amazing! God has tremendously blessed me and I am so thankful for the opportunity to help others and work for the Lord.

**My 'Do Over' (cont'd)**

God has also recently opened additional doors of service and now my children and grandchildren joke about having to make an appointment to see me!

My life has taken such a new direction. The more involved I am, the happier I become and like the apostle Paul, "I have not yet attained, but press toward the mark"

(Philippians 3:12-14). It seems the more I serve, the sweeter my walk with the Lord grows.

Not all 'do overs' are because of a death. You may have experienced a different type of crisis that has left you wondering what is next for your life. The Lord is waiting to give you a new purpose but also wants you to

obey the command of Matthew 7:7 to "seek and you will find".

Take some time to evaluate your heart and seriously consider your direction. Where are you in your walk with the Lord? What issues or extra areas need His attention? And, most of all don't be afraid to ask the really big question: Is it time for a 'do over' in my life?



who am I?

Do you know who each of these significant biblical women are?  
Text your answers to 704-680-2613 to claim your prize!  
Be sure to include your name!

- 1) I was a seller of purple in the city of Thyatira. The Lord opened my heart.
- 2) I was a very old widow and prophetess who was waiting for the birth of Jesus.
- 3) I went before the king and risked my life to protect the Jewish people.
- 4) My price is "far above rubies".
- 5) I hid two spies at my house.
- 6) I am the only female judge mentioned in the Bible.
- 7) I am Timothy's mother.



## SIGHT

BY CC HUNT

I tried to work my way to Heaven. I did not understand,  
The way was paved long ago, in a distant land.  
Never knowing if I'd done enough,  
I did all sorts of religious stuff.  
I wondered if my debt would balance out,  
Sometimes my salvation I would doubt.  
Then one glorious day, when the sun shone bright,  
I prayed and God gave me wonderful sight.  
For the first time I saw why my Savior bled for me,  
The sacrifice was paid for all, for all eternity.  
My filthy rags of righteousness were to God just a fake,  
For heaps of filthy rags, do not white robes make.  
I looked up to Heaven, as I felt joy teardrops fall,  
I whispered to Jesus Christ, "I see! YOU'VE done it all!"



## HE'S THERE

BY MELANIE ELLIOTT

From the depths of the sea to the mountain tops  
He's there...He's there...  
From the lowest valley to the highest star  
He's there...He's there...

For He formed the seas in the palm of His hand  
The mighty mountains He made to stand  
The lowest valley He made to lie  
The stars He placed up in the sky  
He's there...He's there...

From the bright new morning to the cold dark night  
He's there...He's there...  
From the soft white snow to the howling wind  
He's there...He's there...

For He formed the seas in the palm of His hand  
The mighty mountains He made to stand  
The lowest valley He made to lie  
The stars He placed up in the sky  
He's there...He's there...

From the baby's first breath to life's close in death  
He's there...He's there...  
From the gates of Heaven to His holy throne  
He's there...He's there...

For He formed the seas in the palm of His hand  
The mighty mountains He made to stand  
The lowest valley He made to lie  
The stars He placed up in the sky  
He's there...He's there...



FROM THE PASTOR'S WIFE...

## LITTLE MESSES

BY LAURA JANE HUNTER

On a typical Saturday morning, a few years ago, I was cleaning up around the house. Eventually, I made my way upstairs and began vacuuming the kids' bedrooms. As I moved things around, I became very upset. I discovered paint stains, marker stains, and slime stuck so tight to the carpet, I had no idea how I would ever get it up. I asked myself, "How could these children make such a mess? How could they disrespect our home that much?"

Then, as I was preparing the speech I was going to give the kids, I was gently reminded that we do the same thing to our Heavenly Father. We make messes!

I know I've made plenty of messes in my life. But the wonderful thing about our Lord is that instead of

focusing on the mess, like I did, He cleans them up! He helps us move on so that we won't make that same mess again.

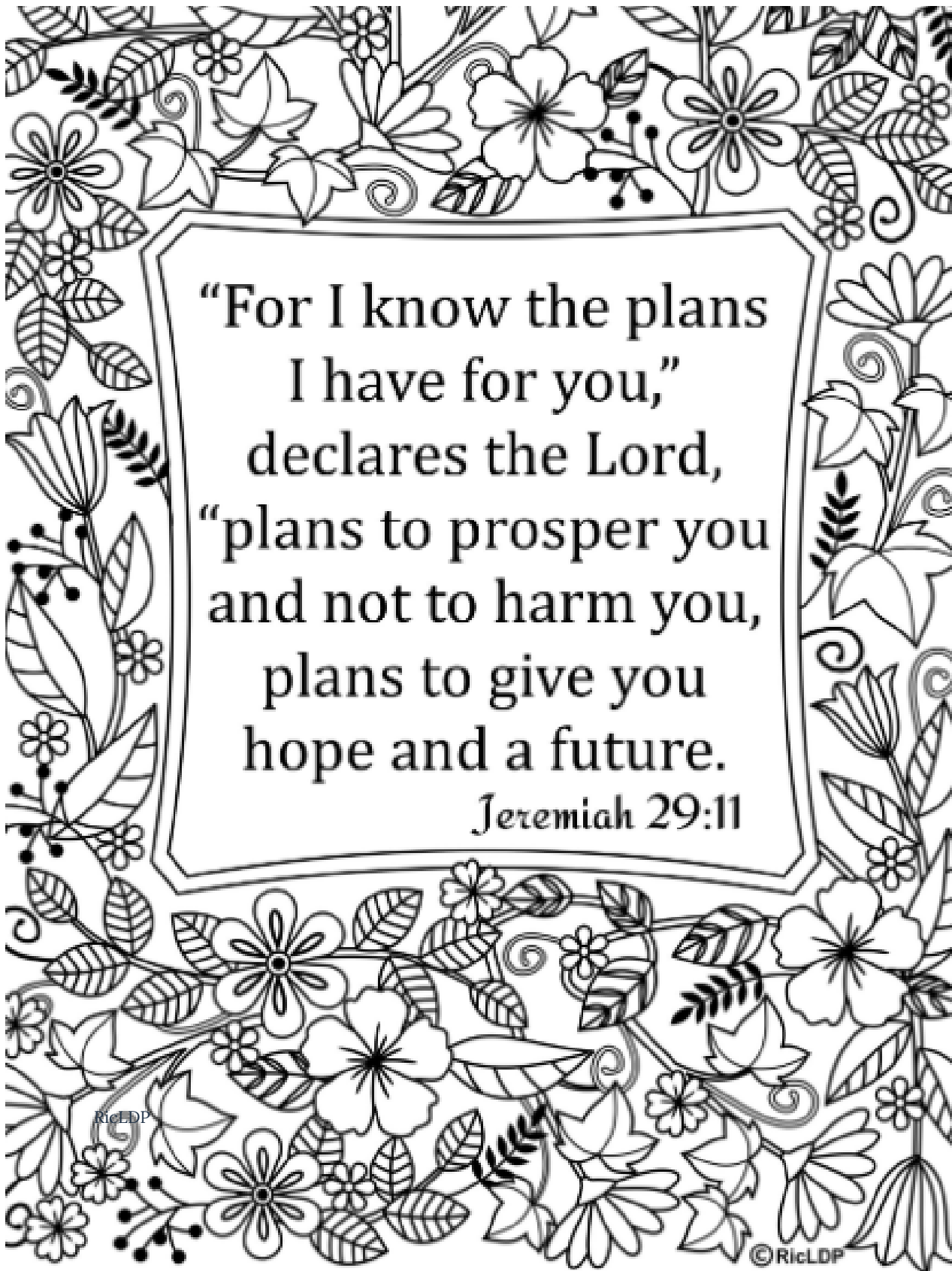
"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

The Bible also says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

So instead of being so quick to get upset with them, I pray I love them as God loves us. I pray I am patient with them. I pray I help them and guide them to be what He is pleased with. And I will remind myself to soak up all of these moments because I'm sure I will miss those stains one day.

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“For I know the plans  
I have for you,”  
declares the Lord,  
“plans to prosper you  
and not to harm you,  
plans to give you  
hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

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# Notes and Journaling

- Are you in need of a "do over?"
- **READ:** Philippians 3:12-14; Matthew 7:7
- **WRITE or DRAW** your thoughts:

Notes:

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## SUMMER RECIPES

### SUMMER CORN SALAD

### STRAWBERRY SUMMER SALAD

### WATERMELON SALSA

#### SUMMER CORN SALAD

6 ears of corn, husked & cleaned  
3 large tomatoes diced  
1 large onion diced  
1/4 cup chopped basil  
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil  
2 tablespoons white vinegar  
salt and pepper as desired

#### Step 1

Boil corn until tender. Drain, cool, and cut corn off of the cob with a sharp knife

#### Step 2

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Chill until ready to serve.

[allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com)

#### STRAWBERRY SUMMER SALAD

1 tablespoon red wine vinegar  
1/2 shallot diced  
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
4 cups mixed greens  
2 baby cucumbers sliced  
2 cups hulled strawberries  
1 pinch sea salt

#### Step 1

Stir red wine vinegar and shallot together in a bowl. Add salt and pepper as desired. Add in olive oil while mixing to create a dressing.

#### Step 2

Toss mixed greens and cucumbers in a large bowl. Pour dressing over this mixture. Add strawberries and toss lightly. Season with sea salt as desired.

[allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com)

#### WATERMELON SALSA

1/2 seedless watermelon diced  
red bell pepper seeded and diced  
yellow bell pepper seeded and diced  
jalapeno seeded and diced  
1/2 red onion diced  
cilantro chopped  
1 lime juiced  
salt and pepper to taste

#### Step 1

Add fruit and vegetables in a large mixing bowl

#### Step 2

Add lime juice and cilantro and toss

[julieblanner.com](http://julieblanner.com)



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- AUGUST 6 - AWAKEN 10AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**
- OCTOBER 1 - AWAKEN 10AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**
- NOVEMBER 12 - FESTIVAL OF TABLES**

**'SHE READS' BOOK CLUB**

MEETING ON ALTERNATE SATURDAYS @ 10:00 AM  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:  
REBECCA SCOTT-FIELDEN 704-680-2613

**GRIEF SHARE**

*"IT HURTS WHEN WE LOSE SOMEONE. FIND HELP AT GRIEF SHARE."*  
THURSDAY EVENINGS - 6PM  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:  
LISA SCEARCE 704-640-4381

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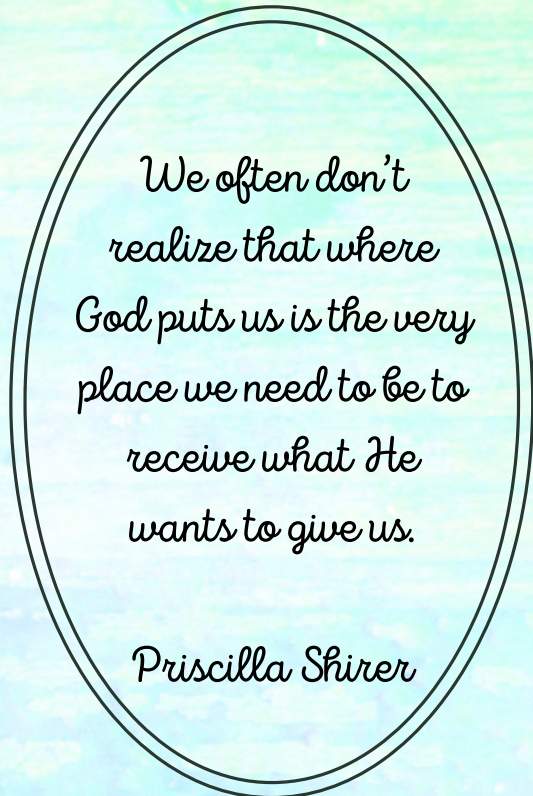
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