

The following are a few of the devotionals taken from the book, *Make My Life A Prayer To You: Glimpses of God from the Ministry and Personal Journals of Keith Green*.

This book contains 98 devotionals that Melody has compiled from Keith's concert messages, and over 100 pages of Keith's own journal entries.

In his public ministry Keith was known for his bold approach and "no compromise" message to "get right with God," and live wholeheartedly for Him. He himself pursued this life with passion and diligence.

But like all of us, Keith had his own struggles with his relationship with God—vividly revealed through his journals he began at age 15 and kept up until the week before the plane crash that took his life. Here we find a Christian, not unlike ourselves, who struggled to live the way God wanted. Keith had his success...and his failures—both of which are recorded here with honesty. But through all of his ups and downs, we see God at work moving a man toward his final destiny and ours—heaven.

If you'd like your own copy of *Make My Life A Prayer To You*, visit the resource mall at www.lastdaysministries.org.

Abba, Father

You have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

Romans 8:15 NASB

Do you remember how it was when you first met Jesus? Do you remember how you delighted to call God your "Daddy," your "Abba, Father"? You enjoyed the intimacy of a child with its papa. And now how is it? Is He still "Daddy" or has He become "Reverend Holy Heavenly Father"? Has the intimacy been replaced with a formalism that keeps Him at arm's length?

Every Christian, of course, grows out of infancy. We need to get quickly past the diaper stage and move on into maturity. But make sure that the maturity is born out of that childlike faith in our Daddy. Don't let religion rob you of relationship. Jesus didn't come to start a new religion. There were enough of them already. He came here to show us the Father and to demonstrate the depth of His love for sinners.

Before Christ, the veil in the temple separated man from God. Moses was one of the few people that had some kind of relationship with God. Appearing in God's presence gave Moses such radiance that he had to wear a sack over his head so nobody would see the glow.

But in Jesus, things changed. The curtain in the temple was torn from top to bottom. We have the access to our Father that no one else can have. We can come to God's throne as spotless, redeemed creatures with the perfection of Jesus inside us. In the flesh, we are

still sinful. But in Him, we have become the righteousness of God. Because of Jesus, we're as close to God as a person can get. And the relationship we enjoy is that of a child with a strong, loving father.

Grow in Christ, but never lose the childlike spirit that cries out boldly, "Abba, Father."

Compare Yourself to Jesus

We are not bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves; but when they measure themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are without understanding.

2 Corinthians 10:12 NASB

When I first became a Christian it was easy for me to just relax and entertain an audience. After all, I had been playing at cafes, nightclubs, and colleges for a long time. I just changed venues. I could play at a church and get them boogying just as easily as before. I know how to entertain. I know how to get people going. But after a while my goal became to get people changing. But before a life can change, a person has to see the need to change. Before you get a tooth filled, you have to admit to having a cavity. You won't get rid of the toothache by walking around saying, "Oh, it's nothing. Just a swollen gland. It's okay."

Before you turn a light on, you have to admit to darkness. Before you can get on fire for the Lord, you have to admit you're lukewarm. Before you're broken by God, you need to admit you're hard.

The problem is, most of us compare ourselves to other Christians. It's not hard to find another Christian who's as lukewarm as we are. It's like a seedling planted in a grove of miniature trees. Although it's tiny, it looks around at the other little trees and thinks, "Wow, I've gotta grow so I can be taller like the others." Just then a logging truck speeds by. The baby tree gasps, "Is that a tree?"

If we compare ourselves to other Christians, we'll be totally deceived. We'll always find someone we are doing better than – and we'll always find someone who's doing better than we are. But if we compare ourselves to Jesus, we'll never stop growing. Jesus is our ultimate role model.

God Will Water Us

The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail."

Isaiah 58:11

Some days our walk with God seems dry. We look around and wonder what our life is all about. That's when we need to think about our future with God. We need to

remember our destination is a place where there is no time, except eternity. We'll sit at the feet of Jesus and He will answer all our questions. Then we'll get up and go for lunch, munching on the latest crop from the Tree of Life.

Folks, God is so good. For us, this present world is the only hell we'll ever know. For unbelievers, this earth is the only heaven they'll ever know, because earth is heaven compared to hell, and it's hell compared to heaven. The thing is, we don't need to wait until we die to experience a taste of heaven. We have the Holy Spirit in us, sort of like a down payment on eternity. He gives us that foretaste of all that's ahead for us.

When you feel dry, remember He is now, and always will be, our Living Water. Drink freely, brothers. Splash around the joy, sisters. This is our heritage.

All sections ©2001 Melody Green. All rights reserved.