

JESUS CALLING

365 DEVOTIONS FOR KIDS



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adapted by **TAMARA FORTNER**



Introduction

When your friends want to talk to you, they call you on the phone, send an e-mail, or type out a text message. But when your very best Friend—Jesus—wants to talk, He connects straight to your heart.

In this hurry-up world, though, too many people don't ever hear Jesus calling. I have found that you must first learn to: *"Be still, and know that I am God"* (Psalm 46:10).

Some Bible translations say, "Be still," while others say, "Relax" or "Let go." I like to put them all together this way: "Let go of your worries and relax in the quiet stillness of My Presence."

As a Christian, I have prayed, kept prayer journals, and spent quiet time with God for years. But I came to realize that I was doing all the "talking" when I wrote in my journal. I really wanted to hear what *God* had to say—not only in the Bible but also in my mind and heart. So I decided to listen to Him and write down whatever I thought He was saying to me. At first this felt a bit strange, but I did "hear" something from Him. The message was simple and short; it was biblical; and it helped me with things that were going on in my life.

Since then, I have practiced listening a lot. Usually I write His messages in a notebook, but sometimes I just spend time with Him for a while—and write nothing.



The devotions in this book are some of the messages I have received. I've written them as if Jesus is speaking right to you. So "I," "Me," "My," and "Mine" always mean Jesus, while "you" and "your" mean *you*, the reader.

The Bible is the only perfect Word of God, and there is a scripture written out for each devotion. If you want to dig a little deeper, there are more Scripture references for you to read on your own.

I hope that you will find a quiet place and read these messages slowly each day. You might even want to keep your own journal, to record your thoughts and any words Jesus whispers to your heart.

You have probably heard that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins. If you have never asked Him to be your Savior—forgiving all your sins—I encourage you to do that very soon.

Remember, Jesus is *Immanuel*—God with us. So He is God with *you*. I pray that you will feel His Presence and His Peace as you spend this time with Him.

Sarah Young



JANUARY

You will seek Me and find Me when you
search for Me with all your heart.

— Jeremiah 29:13 (NASB)

January 1



Get Ready for the Adventure!

“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

It’s a new year, and I have a great adventure planned for you. Come to Me with a heart that is willing to be changed. Don’t make the same mistakes you made last year. This year, try doing things *My* way.

I know that trying something new can be frightening. But I also know *you*, and I understand you completely. You can trust Me to wrap you up in My Love—a love that never ends.

Whether you are at home or at school, talking with your friends or doing homework, keep Me in your thoughts. Let Me guide you. I will take you on a journey that will change who you are and how you see the world and the people around you. Yes, I have great plans for you, and I will be with you every step of the way!

READ ON YOUR OWN

Romans 12:2



January 2

Choose Me

But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are getting worried and upset about too many things. Only one thing is important. Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will never be taken away from her.”

—Luke 10:41–42 (ICB)

You are so very busy. But I want you to stop for a minute. Put down the game, hang up the phone, turn off the computer. Spend some time with Me.

Even now your thoughts are racing ahead to today’s plans and problems. But put those thoughts and worries aside. Just think about Me and how much I love you. I know exactly what is going to happen in your life today. Don’t worry. I will give you everything you need to face your day.

Please don’t skimp on our time together. The computer and the telephone and the homework will still be there when our time is through. Choose Me first—and the blessings I give you will not be taken away.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 105:4; Luke 10:39-42

January 3



I Am Bigger Than the World

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace.
In this world you will have trouble. But take heart!
I have overcome the world.*

—John 16:33

Think about how wonderful it feels to dive into a cool pool of water on a hot summer's day. That is what My Peace is like. It will refresh you and strengthen you. And that peace can be yours at all times.

As you go through your day, you will face problems and troubles. But you *never* have to face them alone. I am *always* with you. I am the best Friend that you will ever have. I walk beside you, to give you comfort and strength. I also walk ahead of you, so that I am ready to help you face whatever is coming. And I am within you, giving you a secret ability to think and act without fear.

There will be problems and hard times, but don't let them get you down. I have already overcome all the problems of this world. In Me you can find Peace.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 31:19–20