

Lists
TO
Live
BY

Ellen Elliott



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Lists to Live By

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FOR LOVE OF LISTS



I love making lists!

My love for list making began when I was young. I have memories of creating lists of clothing my Barbie desperately needed. I was not above ranking my stuffed animals from best to worst. And, let me tell you, my Christmas wish lists were *epic*. I'd pull out the Sears toy catalog, and before long, my list had color-coordinated, itemized footnotes and diagrams.

As adulthood brought new responsibilities and obligations, my list-making habit matured. Gone were the pink Barbie wardrobe lists, only to be replaced with notebooks full of grocery, errand, and baby-name lists. Lists helped take all the ideas and tasks percolating in my head and pin them down on a sheet of paper, all crisp and organized. A good list can do wonders. It can take a mind of fragmented thoughts and turn them into an ordered plan of action or a cohesive idea. A list can add focus to your day and open your mind to exciting new possibilities.

So I got to thinking: What if we took the same energy and imagination we spend on our weekly errand list and applied it to our relationship with our heavenly Father? Practicing and refining our faith every day keeps our walk with God fresh and vital. We can pour into that relationship in a myriad of ways, including studying the Bible, praying, and journaling. Let's add list making to the mix!

I hope you find joy and inspiration in *Lists to Live By*. I challenge you to stretch your imagination! Use this book in a way that best suits your lifestyle. Write in it methodically from the beginning or pick a random page every day. Work through it by yourself or in a weekly group setting. It's up to you! My prayer for you is that *Lists to Live By* can be a creative blessing in your life as you explore list after list.

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Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6

Lists things you often worry about...and should consider bringing to God.



BRINGING THE LIST TO LIFE

Write your worries on slips of paper, give them to God, and place them in a prayer box. If you start worrying about these things again, remember that you already gave them to God!

