

VICTORY IS YOURS

100 DEVOTIONS FOR OVERCOMING LIFE'S CHALLENGES

JONATHAN EVANS

FOREWORD BY TONY EVANS

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FOREWORD

by Dr. Tony Evans

It fills my heart with immense joy and pride to write this foreword for my son Jonathan's new devotional book, *Victory Is Yours*. As his father and mentor, I have been blessed to witness firsthand his growth, dedication, and unwavering commitment to inspiring others in their battle for victory. Through the pages of this devotional, he has captured the essence of the faith journey—sharing some of his own battles too—and provided a powerful resource for anyone seeking encouragement, biblical wisdom, and spiritual empowerment.

From the moment Jonathan embraced his calling to ministry, it became evident that God had bestowed on him a unique gift for connecting and communicating with people from all walks of life. Jonathan's empathy and passion for others shines through each thoughtfully crafted reading, speaking directly to the heart, addressing the deep concerns and fears that trouble believers, while also alerting us to many of the forces attempting to sabotage our faith. As Jonathan effectively illuminates the trials and the challenges we all face, he assures us of the

important truth that victory is not only attainable but *already* attained through Jesus Christ. In a world filled with uncertainties and battles of every kind, this means victory is more than a distant dream; it is a present reality for those who are on the Lord's side.

I am confident that *Victory Is Yours* will reach far and wide, igniting a flame of hope and courage in your heart. You'll be urged to press on and guided to walk boldly in the path God has set before you. Jonathan's authenticity, unwavering faith, and commitment to walking in God's truth have been an inspiration to me and to all who have the privilege of knowing him personally. I pray that in the midst of *your* battles, the words you're about to read will be a guiding light and a source of inspiration and strength for you too.

May this devotional help each of us to remember that our heavenly Father longs to see us claim the victory Christ has already won on our behalf. And to my beloved son, congratulations on the publication of this compelling work. May God continue to use you mightily as a vessel of His grace and an instrument of His love.

INTRODUCTION:

BREAKTHROUGH!

I know of a guy who encountered an unexpected challenge while renovating an old home. After putting in several hours to remove the layers of plaster on one particularly stubborn wall, he was surprised to find a thick stone wall behind it. Wanting to adhere to his limited budget, he worked and worked at this obstacle over several days with the tools he had. It was taking a lot longer than he'd hoped, and he grew frustrated.

A few days later, he came back to the task with some heavy-duty professional tools he'd rented. In just a matter of minutes—*breakthrough!* But not because of the equipment. It turns out he had stopped just one thin layer from success. If only he had known how close he was to breaking through the wall, he would've kept going, determined and confident.

Spiritually, you never know how close you are to breaking through to the victory Jesus has already won for you. But if, in your fatigue, you're willing to have faith and carry out what God is calling you to do, He has the breakthrough ready.

That's the kind of encouragement we need. The encouragement to keep fighting for the win God promised and delivered on long ago. And it's what I've sought to give you through this

devotional. We'll explore many of the challenges life in this world presents to us as men and women of faith. Everything from opposition and enemy attacks to times of waiting or loss, the struggles of our flesh, storms of doubt, and the difficulties of dealing with others.

Thanks to God, we never have to push through on our own strength. The Lord loves to show up strong for His sons and daughters. He loves to power our faith with reminders of His truth, His sufficiency, His faithfulness, His forgiveness, and His affection. As our Champion, He has already *saved* us. Now He stands ready to lead the way through our battles and *supply* us with what we need to persevere and follow Him all the way to victory.

Before God delivered him, the apostle Paul said in Philip-
pians 1:18-19 that he *knew* God would deliver him. Our victory is about knowing. It's about what's absolute and true. It's about what God says through His Spirit and His Word, not what your battle is saying to you.

The truth is, in Him you're a conqueror, an overcomer. He's pronounced you the victor. You have His fighting Spirit within you. So no matter what you might be up against right now, that battle in your life is His to fight. And because of Him, the victory is yours.

You're almost there, believer. You may not think so yet, but your breakthrough is near. Read on, and don't give up!

A GOOD OUTLOOK

*The LORD's acts of mercy indeed do not end, for
His compassions do not fail. They are new
every morning; great is Your faithfulness.*

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

My wife and I have five kids ranging in age from preschool to high school, and on some mornings in our household, one or more of our children will wake up grumpy from the get-go. In those times, I have to remind them, “This is the day the LORD has made” (Psalm 118:24 NLT).

When you opened your eyes this morning, what was *your* outlook? Make no mistake, controlling your outlook is a sure way to make victory yours in both the everyday *and* in life's battles.

Lamentations 3:23 reminds us of how frequently God renews His mercies toward us: Every. Single. Morning. He makes them fresh each day. And He doesn't just dole them out one at a time. The plural nouns back this up: His “acts” of mercy are endless; His “compassions” never cease. The question we each have to answer is, *Am I living as if all of that applies to me right now, in the situation I'm feeling overwhelmed by?* Just as importantly, *Am I actively looking for His multiplied mercies?*

I know from my own life that if my countenance is down in the morning, it doesn't take much for my day to go down too. By the time we're at work or have dropped off the kids at school, we're complaining about every little thing. By lunchtime, we're sure the whole world is against us. By dinnertime, we're convinced that life won't ever go our way. And by bedtime, we're telling ourselves that even God isn't in our corner.

Let's stay out of that downward spiral and instead pray along with the psalmist for a fresh outlook: "Examine me, LORD... Refine my mind and my heart. For Your goodness is before my eyes" (Psalm 26:2-3).

Think About It: Keep a running list of God's goodness in your life so you can easily see all you may be overlooking in bad times.