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KINGDOM WRITERS MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE

NextGEN Short
Story Contest
Winner / p15

Stepping Out in
Faith / p39



- 1 Letter From The Editor
Jill Wyckoff
- 7 Let Your Yes Be Yes And Your
No, No.
Tim Larkin
- 13 Your Choice to Choose
Julie Bonderov
- 15 NextGEN Short Story Winner
Brielle Hughes
- 19 Risk Saying Yes
Claudene Adam
- 25 The Other Side Of Yes
Desiree Theassa Young





- 27 Key Yes Moments
Dr. Cindy Holman
- 31 Faith In Action
Julie Bonderov
- 35 When Your Due Season is
Overdue
Jan Renee Turnbull
- 37 Overcoming The Default
Response
Laura Coppack
- 39 Stepping Out in Faith
Kecia Campbell
- 43 Say Yes To ChatGPT?
Maybe Not...
Dana Williams

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Letter from the Editor

When I asked my husband, Brae, if he had any ideas for the June magazine theme, there was no hesitation.

"The Power of Yes."

"Oh, that's good," I replied. After all, we wouldn't be doing what we're doing now had it not been for our agreement to do whatever God wants—our YES to His YES.

Has it been stretching? Absolutely. Do we fully know what we're doing? Nope. Do we endeavor to put one foot in front of the other and follow His lead? YES!

Our YES to God, to His righteousness, to His assignment, is powerful. It takes us on an adventure from faith to faith and strength to strength. Ultimately, it's the only way to fully know what He's capable of and what we're capable of through Him.

We hope you enjoy this issue of our KWA Magazine and are blessed in the reading, the being, and the living.

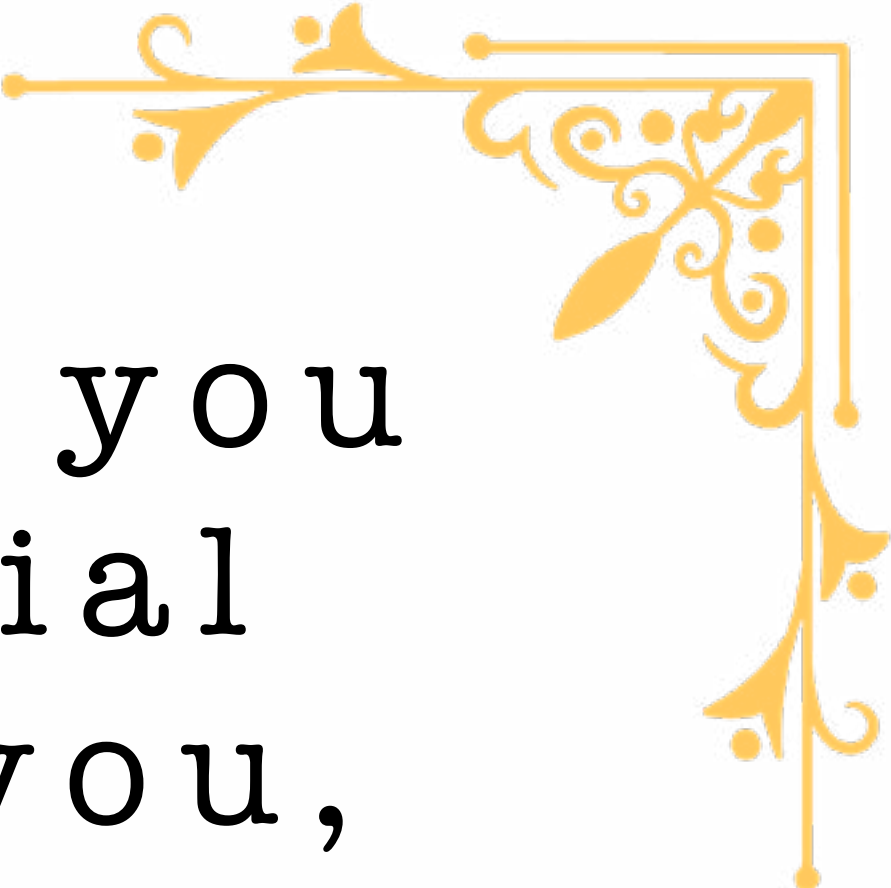
Love and blessings,

Bill Wyckoff

"I used to
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G o f f

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LET YOUR YES BE YE

TIM LARKIN, SONGWRITER

Many books have been written that signify the importance of saying yes to various experiences, opportunities, or challenges in life, such as "Year of Yes," published by Shonda Rhimes, and "Yes Man," a comical memoir by Danny Wallace.

Having a positive attitude or mindset that allows one to take risks or grab ahold of fresh opportunities can make or break a person in the areas of personal growth, relationships, or business success. Saying yes implies that you are being led by something or someone else. Whether it be from a momentary impulse, ending your reluctance to follow another person, or giving into the rules set forth by governing authorities, saying yes can determine the outcome of your dreams and goals and define your eternal future. It can break chains of fear, inhibition, reluctance, and unbelief. But it can also lead to failure, broken relationships, sickness, and even death.

So with the same power given to us to say yes, God has given us equal power to say no. And although it may seem negative or bound up from being free to say no, it has been argued by some that having a



S AND YOUR NO, NO

RS CHAPTER VISION LEAD

healthy balance between saying yes and no, can have the most significant impact on your psychological, emotional, and spiritual growth. Authors such as R. Carson (2005) "The Power of No." And A. Morin

(2015) "Seven Reasons Learning to Say No is a Sign of Personal Growth" emphasized the importance of saying no as well as yes, for minimizing stress, building interpersonal relationships, and crossing cultural boundaries; with clear and straightforward language.



As Christians, we are taught from Scripture how to avoid the world's influences and be "transformed by the renewing of our minds." (Romans 12:2) We are to say no to the lies of the devil and focus on our commitment and identity, we have in following Christ.

-James 4:7

We are to replace all fear with love: "There is no fear in love."

-I John 4:18

Jesus told us that all the commands of God are summed up in two:

1) Love God with all your heart, mind, soul, and

strength, and

2) love one another as yourself" -Matt 22:37-40

If we follow the guidelines of Scripture that help us know when to say yes and when to say no, we are wise as well as blessed in everything we do.

Two forces are trying to influence what we do in every situation. One leads to death. One leads to life. Scripture makes this clear in Deuteronomy 30:19, "...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life...."

But what if everything looks right on the outside, and everyone is telling you to say yes, but inside your heart, you feel you should say no. Is that fear? Or wisdom?

"There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death." -Proverbs 16:25

When this question comes to me, I remember two key

When you place the fear of God
over the fear of man; -Matt 10:28

Apply love before feeding your own pride;
-I Cor 13:4,5

Choose submission and peace over rebellion
and conflict; -I Pet 5:5

Choose Faith in God's word over disbelief;
-Mark 5:36

Believe in God's promises over circumstances.
-Hebrews 11:1

verses that have always helped me in making difficult decisions:

1) Prov 3:5,6 tells me not to overthink it; acknowledge God in the decision. (pray about it first) Trust God with my whole heart as I step forward. Then He promises me that He will guide my path.

2) Proverbs 16:9, "A man's heart will plan his way, but the Lord is directing his steps."

The cool thing about God is He knows the outcome before He guides our steps. And following His guidance will always end up well. You can trust Him. He provides where He guides. We don't always know what the outcome will be. But He does. And He gives us clues on how to know when to say yes or no, in His word:

Then You will KNOW in your heart what to do. Follow your heart even if it doesn't make a whole lot of sense! Just say yes to the Spirit (Galatians 6:8) and no to the flesh.

And remember: what you say matters. You don't need to swear. It will backfire on you if you do. Just say yes or no.

Life and death are in the power of the tongue. "Whatever we believe will be what we speak." -II Corinthians 4:13

Every decision we make has life-or-death consequences connected to it. Therefore having the wisdom to know what to do and understanding the consequences of each choice is the foundation of living a healthy and prosperous life in God's kingdom.

"My son, let them not depart from your eyes—Keep sound wisdom and discretion, so they will be life to your soul and grace to your neck. Then you will walk safely in your way, And your foot will not stumble."
-Proverbs 3:21-23

"And I heard
the voice of the
Lord saying,
"Whom shall I
send, and who
will go for us?"
Then I said,
"Here I am!
Send me."

Isaiah 6:8



S T O R Y

T E L L I N G

Your Choice

Julie Bonderov, Bakersfield

Sometimes the power of *yes* starts with *no*. If we can't say no, our yes is meaningless. From the very beginning, God showed us that we had a choice. We could eat from the forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil and die, or we could obey and live. When God explained His will and the blessings for obedience and the curses for disobedience in Deuteronomy 28, He encouraged us to “choose life... loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life.” We are not robots. He wants our yes, but does not compel us to obey.

Our ability to say yes to God is directly linked to our faith in His goodness and trustworthiness. In the parable of the talents (Matt. 25), the servant who thought the Master was a “hard man” and was “afraid” simply buried his talent instead of investing it. 2 Cor. 9:7 states, “Each one must give as he has decided in his



e to Choose

d, CA Chapter Vision Lead

heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” If we’re struggling to say yes, we need to cry out, “I believe. Help my unbelief!” and meditate on the loving faithfulness of our Father.

Our *yes* is not just a word but an action. When Peter



stepped out of the boat to walk to Jesus, he acted. Ananias responded to the Lord’s direction to go and pray for Saul in Damascus by asking God, “Are you SURE about this?” before showing his yes by his actions. Even Jesus struggled in the garden before saying, “Not my will, but yours be done.” In Matt. 21:28-31, The father asked the first son to work in the vineyard, and the son said no. The father asked the second son to work, and he said yes, but didn’t go to work. The first son changed his mind and DID go work in the vineyard after all. This gives us hope. We can repent our reluctance or disobedience as we behold His glory and say yes. Yes, with our mouths. Yes, with our actions.

KWA
NextGEN SHORT STORY
CONTEST WINNER!

THE CITY IN THE CLOUDS

by
Brielle Hughes,

Age 9 / Waco, Texas

In this, our first NextGEN short story contest, we were pleased to have several wonderful entries. Submissions were blind judged, and Brielle Hughes was awarded the winning entry.

Congratulations Brielle!

*Grammar has been slightly edited
for this publication.*

There once was a girl named Arianna, and she had a dream, the craziest of dreams. So now it has become a legendary story. So, in my popular opinion, I'm going to tell you the best story ever.

It starts off with...

She was in her small house that consisted of three bedrooms. One for her mom and dad and then one for her, and one for her brother, Ethan. It was about two o'clock pm, and so Arianna had nothing better to do than to go outside. It was the most beautiful day in May. Yet, it was the 21st, and the sun was shining, the birds were singing, and the clouds were billowy – speaking of clouds, Arianna noticed the clouds were moving in a peculiar way. They seemed to be moving down to the ground. Arianna assumed that it was just the morning mist, but she had already seen the morning mist, and it was two o'clock pm. She was starting to get suspicious, and it seemed that the clouds weren't lowering normally. It looked like they were coming only to her backyard. But that couldn't be right. There had to be an explanation, but really there wasn't. Before she knew it, they had lowered into the backyard, and she couldn't see anything, and surprisingly she wasn't soaking.

Then the clouds mysteriously cleared, and there were stairs made of puffy cumulus clouds that you would see in the sky. She decided to see if the stairs were solid, and immediately her foot planted on a stair. She looked down at her black book, her face dropped, but she decided to keep going. "What if I fall? What if the stairs disappear?" Her mind was swimming, but she kept going. Step after step, her stomach loosened. Then she got to the top. There was a layer of leftover clouds. She took one big step and closed her eyes, scared something was going to happen. Then she felt something hard, like ground. She opened her eyes, and she saw magenta pink soft ground.

Arianna looked up and saw that there were many crazy mystical, never before seen creatures playing with each¹⁶

other, all winged. But above them, all was a lion. Huge and healthy. He towered them all. It was the most beautiful Arianna had ever seen. The lion's face was big and bold. His mane was wild but groomed. The lion started walking towards her.

Was it going to kill her? Jump on her? Attack her?

Arianna froze at this. Her mind was panicking, and her heart racing. It got to her, and she shouted. All the creatures ignored her, and what did the lion do? He stood right at her feet. Arianna looked down, and her face twisted with confusion.

But then it talked. It said warmly, "I will not hurt you. You look sweet, and so am I".

"So if I wasn't sweet, you would kill me?" Arianna said, still shaken to the core.

"No, me? I would never. You are safe young girl, no matter what attitude you pick," the lion reassured. "My name is Z'Char'ya, I'm in charge of these creatures. Do not fret before me" This slowed Arianna's mind as she sat down on a chair that suddenly appeared.

"You may call me Zacharia."

"My name is Arianna, but W-why am I here?"

The lion
a leader.

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She then

moved past her question, "I do have
I am not the only one here in power."

his name?" Arianna asked

ot say it, for he is too mighty and

describe it?"

try," Zacharia informed. "Kind,
ve, generous, and amazing father,"
explained, "He is what made you and
ne whole existence of the universe."

plains it," Arianna smiled, "But how
ise him if I don't know his name?
a matter of fact, how will I ever see
n?"

only BELIEVE."

v will I praise your leader and the
f the universe if I don't know his
Arianna questioned.

n only...." All the other creatures
playing "...choose."

anna opened her eyes, and she was
d, and she heard the name "Jesus."

looked up the name Z'char'ya.

Congratulations
Believe!

RISK SAYING

Claudene Adam,
KCI/KWA Director of Int

In April of 1997, on our 11th anniversary, my husband told me he didn't want to be married anymore; about three weeks later, my Granny went to be with Jesus, and about three months after that, a good friend finally succumbed to AIDS. It felt like God had completely cleared the table of my life by swiping across it with His arm, knocking everything off. I felt fragile and realized that the stable life I thought I had was just a façade. It wasn't true, but with so much loss in such a short time, I felt that all I had left was my faith, and I grabbed onto it with all my strength. I said yes, God, I believe you still love Me. Yes, God, I believe you can see me through the darkness of this time. Yes, God, I trust You. Yes, God, I am relying solely on You. Yes, God, I believe this excruciating pain will

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Yes, God, I will ser
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Our Father is tr
absolutely faithful,



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ruly good, He is
and He loves each

one of us as if we are His only child. Saying yes to Him may feel like a risk, but as Paul says in Romans 8:31, if God is for us, who can be successful against us? (AMP).

We all know that mama birds nudge lingering babies out of the nest so they will feel the joy of their identity. So they will spread their wings and fly to unforeseen heights. It's important that baby birds say yes to flying as they are designed to do, but the deeper truth is that they are safest when they are flying. And so it is with us; we are safest when fully living out our God-given design. I encourage you to say yes and, even if it feels a little scary or a lot scary, to take hold of your Father's hand and fly with Him to the unforeseen heights He has prepared just for you.

YES, A RESOUNDING YES!

Debbie Howard, Chapter Leader,
Online International Chapter

mind, confident He would answer and resolve the conflict. He answered with a question of His own, “Will you do it for me?”

I was still pondering my answer when I remembered the woman with the box. It was an extravagant act of worship. Ready to count the cost and do unto Him, I rechecked airfares. To my surprise, I found round-trip for \$571. I booked the flight.

Within days, I received an unexpected check. In addition, someone who had promised me money for five years paid me in full. Within a few weeks, the entire amount was paid for.

At breakfast before the conference, Harriet, another speaker, asked, “Is it coming only for the weekend?” I was a bit shocked by her past-tense question. Regardless, I spoke my heart, “It’s worth it to me to obey the Lord.”

At the conference, people were saved, healed, delivered, encouraged, and filled with the Holy Spirit. There were some divine connections with writers and videographers, and there are now potential KWA chapters in the United Kingdom, Coventry, Birmingham, and Germany. One musician, inspired by the

I said yes. Hmm, let me think. Oh no, \$1200. I want to do that. I sent me into a hurricane-force

I tossed about for the next few days. My world almost fell apart. Then, finally, I was no longer in the turmoil of the storm. I made a bold decision. “Lord, I’m not leaving this desk until you say so. Do I go or not?”

I quieted the

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he conference,


even wrote a song and sang it Sunday morning.

After the conference, we met for dinner with the host pastor, speakers, and others. Jesus was the topic of conversation. I shared a woman's testimony from the prayer line who told me, "I was in one of your services years ago when you ministered from Ezekiel 37 and shared about prophesying to the bones to hear and connect. I was facing an impossible immigration challenge at the time. I went home, laid the paperwork out, and prophesied that everyone who came in contact with my paperwork would approve and expedite the process. The result was amazing! Each department sent the paperwork overnight at its own expense. Once all the approvals were there, I had to pay fees and didn't have the money. So I prophesied the money. And then one day, someone slipped enough money under my door to cover the expenses."

My heart melted. The woman heard the instructions, followed them, and received her answer quickly. It would be twelve years before I would hear this testimony and be able to rejoice with her over the goodness of God.

Harriet, the aforementioned speaker, confessed Saturday night that not many doors opened for her in the UK, and few British hear the truths she proclaimed. On Sunday, I discerned greater authority in her message. She confessed after the last service, "I went to my room after dinner last night and prophesied to the ears of the audience that they would hear. Today they heard!" she declared.

Was it worth it? Yes, a resounding YES!



"God will
but when
God,
will be

Glenn
Somerset

chart your course,
you say YES to
your course
off the chart."

a Adams, Chapter Leader
KY Victory Church Chapter

THE OTHER SIDE

Desiree Theassa Young, Wau

When we were kids, most of us grew up believing we could be anything. We dreamt of being astronauts, firefighters, and Olympic athletes. We dared to believe we could be a pop star selling out stadiums filled with thousands of people. It didn't matter how big or small it was; we knew if we just tried it, we'd succeed in our dreams. Oh, the innocence and faith we possessed. No obstacle was too big. No mountain was going to stand in the way of what we wanted. But then life happened. We got the wind knocked out of us one too many times, and then suddenly, those dreams became foreign. Who were we to think we could do something so glorious? Or maybe it wasn't life kicking us to the ground. Maybe it was mortgage payments and car notes that caused us to shift focus. We started worrying about our needs so much that they became the only thing we saw. Sound familiar? What happens when the Lord decides to tap us on the shoulder and say dream again? Do we laugh like Sarai when the angel said she would conceive? Or do we jump up and say yes? Do we say yes to dreaming those big, outlandish dreams again? Do we say yes to making them a reality? Do we say yes in the midst of everyone around us saying no? Do we say yes even if we may look foolish? Can I tell you a secret? Our yeses are powerful. Our yes can set people free. Let me tell you the fruit of a few yeses in my life. I said yes to moving from a place that felt like home and one I sometimes still miss. This led to me growing in ways I did not expect and making new friends

OF YOUR YES

kesha WI Chapter Leader

that I desperately needed. I said yes to writing about mental health. Now people who struggle feel like they have renewed hope. I said yes to sharing my passion for writing. This led to three women publishing their first books within a year of meeting me. What if part of someone else's breakthrough and destiny lies on the other side of your yes? What walls could you help someone else knock down if you were bold enough to say yes? How could you expand the Kingdom if you simply said yes? How different could your life look if you dreamed again like you did as a child? What are you waiting for? Someone is waiting for your yes!



KEY YES

Dr. Cindy H

When you embark on a journey with God, the opportunities to say 'yes' are key moments that will change the trajectory of your life.

Will you let Me in your life?

Who can forget that moment when you were offered the most beautiful exchange of a lifetime, your sin for His goodness?! Indeed, salvation may be the most significant *yes* experience of them all, and yet it is only the beginning. It is the opening of the doorway into a life of adventures with God.

Will you believe who I say you are?

Words and assumptions have been spoken over us, things we have believed about ourselves that He is unwilling to let us continue to believe. He will pinpoint the lies that keep us from becoming who He has created us to be. So we shift our agreement. Our *yes* aligns with His truth, and we are liberated to become our true selves.

Will you seek Me first?

There is a turning point in our walk with God, the place where we decide if we will fully serve Jesus, our Lord, as well as our Savior. Our *yes* is a surrender, gladly embracing Him as our King. In it, we find our purpose as we pray, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done through me!"

Will you step out in faith?

Sometimes we are faced with opportunities that only God can make happen. There are no guarantees, no safety nets. When he says, "Come, child, walk on the water with

MOMENTS

Colman, KWA/KCI Prophetic Director

Me,” we must overcome our fear and remember Who it is that calls us. Our *yes* is centered around His goodness and faithfulness, and as we look to Him, we can move mountains.

Will you stand in faith?

Other times we find ourselves facing obstacles that are holding us back from His promises. We know what He has said; we have done all that we know to do. It is in these moments that He whispers, “Will you trust Me?” Our *yes* in these moments are priceless to Him. We can feel His comfort and strength as we stand together until there is breakthrough.

Will you forgive?

To be His means letting go of the right to stand in judgment. Sometimes people do horrible things that hurt us and those we love. But to walk with God is to mirror His behavior. “Will you forgive as I have forgiven you?” He whispers. Our *yes* defines us as those who have experienced His love.

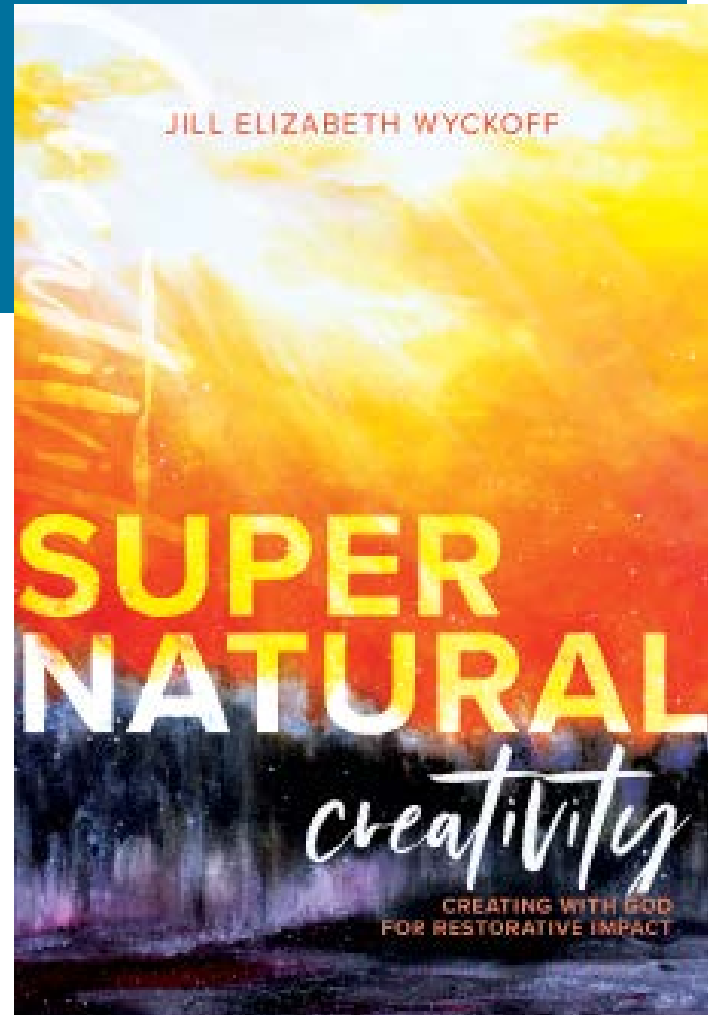
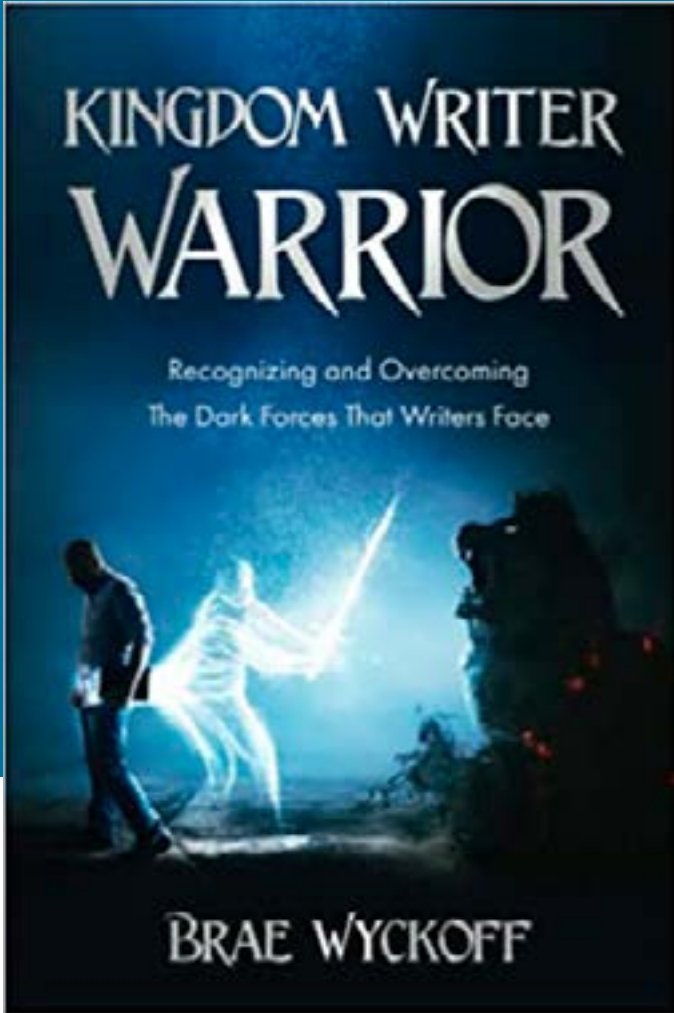
Will you dream with Me?

The possibilities are endless when we say *yes* to the dreams God has for us. We rest in agreement and watch Him expand our lives beyond our hopes and dreams.

Will you love others?

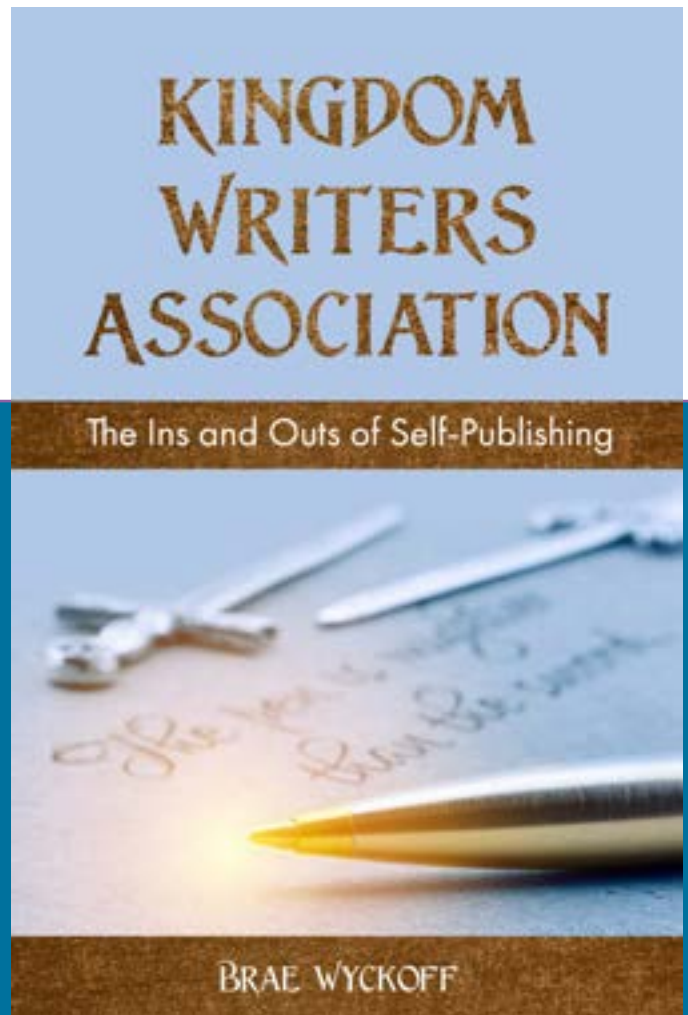
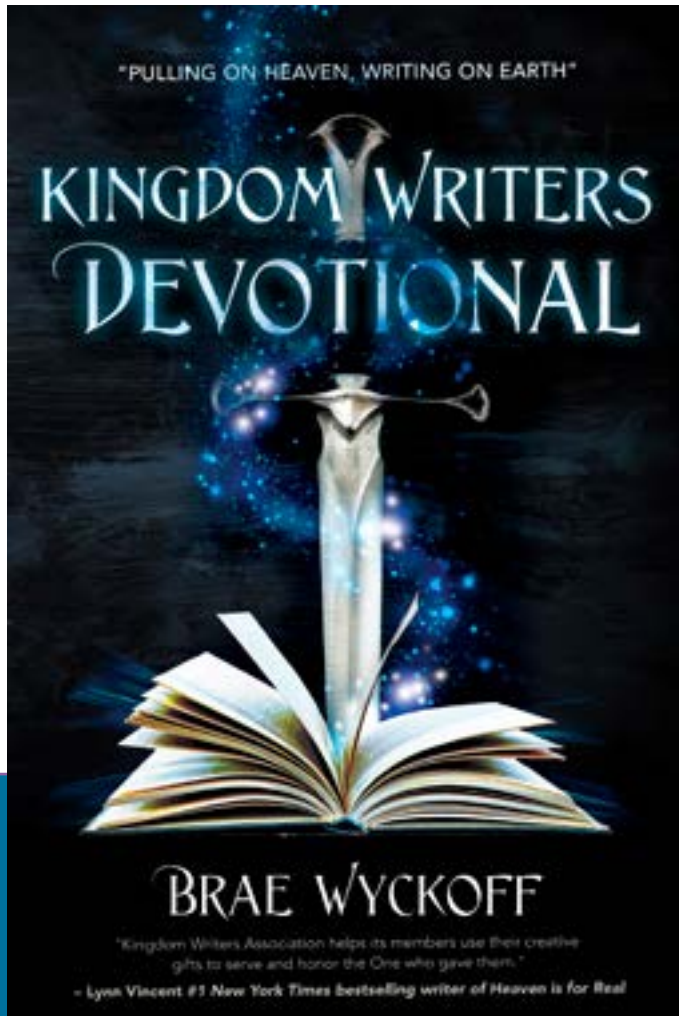
Probably the hardest and the most satisfying, saying *yes* to love will define you as His very own. It is a daily choice to reflect the character of God. This *yes* is ever before you, and it has the power to change the world!

KWA RESOU



AVAILABLE

RCE BOOKS



ON AMAZON

FAITH IN

Julie Bonderov, Bakersfield

There are varied levels of yes. These levels are based on precisely what is asked of the listener. Some questions are relatively insignificant. Others require bravery in order to say yes.

"Isn't it a beautiful day?" doesn't need much soul-searching before saying yes. But, when Mordecai asked Esther to intercede with the king for the lives of all the Jews in his Kingdom, her yes included, "If I perish, I perish." She was saying yes with a commitment to risk her life for others. She was saying yes with no guaranteed outcome.

In the case of Esther, her yes included asking for help. She requested Mordecai to ask all the Jews of the city to fast and pray. She also committed to fasting and praying with her attendants. Queen Esther took action that demonstrated faith by preparing a feast in advance for the king to attend immediately after approaching him – even though she didn't know if she'd even be alive to serve it. She said yes with commitment, prayer, preparation, and persistence.

Esther's yes, meant she was saying no to other things. By saying yes to prayer with fasting, she said no to food and other activities for three days. She was also saying no to relaxing because she said yes to preparing a feast for the king's enjoyment. This is also one of the varied powers of yes, – the power to say no to other things so we can follow through on what we've said yes to.

ACTION

d, CA Chapter Vision Lead



Applying these points to being a Kingdom Writer means:

We don't know exactly what the outcome will be: How many will read our writing? Will we get a financial return on our investment? Or what impact our stories will have for the Kingdom.

We may need to ask for help: Editors, illustrators, formatters, publishers, etc.

We will certainly need to pray: To hear his voice/be led by the Spirit.

We will need to prepare: Classes/practice, organization, obtaining skills/equipment, etc.

We will need to persist: Keep going until it's complete, and start the next one. Don't give in to discouragement/distraction.

We will need to say no to other activities in order to follow through on our yes to write for the Kingdom: Mindless scrolling on social media, TV, reading addiction, etc.

Some Kingdom writing may be harder than others, whether in length, complexity, or the resistance of the evil one. But it is God who works in us, both to give us the desire and the ability to do what pleases Him. Say yes. Keep saying yes.

IN-PERSON CHAPTERS

Accra, Ghana

Bakersfield, California

Boise, Idaho, "Sacred Scribes"

Cali, Colombia

Corpus Christi, Texas

Encinitas, California, "The Writers' Well"

Hollywood Screenwriters, Hollywood California

Houston, Texas, "So You Want To Write"

Northern Idaho

Oceanside, California

Oakland, California, "Shiloh Scribes"

Phoenix, Arizona

Richmond, Virginia

Southern Oregon

Somerset Victory Church, Somerset, Kentucky

The Ozarks, Ozarks, Missouri

Valley Center, California

Waukesha, Wisconsin

Wyomissing, Pennsylvania

*More chapters are getting ready to launch soon.
Check our website and Facebook group page to stay
current on new online and local chapters.*



APTERS

ONLINE CHAPTERS

Members-Only (all KWA members)

International "Diligent Writers"

NextGEN (ages 8-15)

Powerhouse Children's Writers

Sci-Fi/Fantasy

Songwriters



WHEN YOUR DUE S

Jan Renee Turnbull, Shiloh Scri

God gave you an idea, a promise. You gave God your “Yes!” and nothing happened. The doubts that started silently creeping in are now stomping through your brain. You want to believe that you heard from God. But if it truly was from God, would it take this long?

When a day with the Lord can be as long as a thousand years, yet a thousand years can be as short as a single day; fulfillment time cannot be measured with a watch or a calendar. In the time between the promise and the answer, you must P-R-E-P-A-R-E.

Pray. The founding pastor of my church often said that we “Prepare with Pre-Prayer.” Before we can accomplish anything for God, we must pray. Habbakuk 2:2 admonishes us that in order to run with a vision, we must first write the vision and make sure that it is clear. Ask God to define the vision and write it down. Pray for clarity and understanding.

Research. There may be others who have a similar vision or calling. Do

some research and are doing. Research and think about w differently.

Educate. What new do you need to lea successful? Find support group. Find a place to practice can and hone you yourself, and whe right, you will be

Pray. Pray that Harvest will send y Ask God to use y Spirit to teach y you in the waiting anoint you and se open doors. Pray God is sending yo for fruit.

Anticipate. Settle that you are call ready. Renew you Trust that the God the God who fulf Picture yourself promise. Anticipa

REASON IS OVERDUE

bes, Oakland CA Chapter Leader

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do in you and through you.

Rejoice. Don't wait until everything is in place; start to thank God while you wait. Thank Him for choosing you and for using you. Thank Him for all He has done and all He will do. Take time out to worship Him just because He is. Rejoice in the promise and worship the Promise Keeper.

Expect. Expect God to keep His word. Replace any lingering doubts with the surety that God said it, and He used you to do it. Remember all the times in your life when He has done exactly what He promised. Know that He is both author and finisher. Expect Him to finish everything that He has started in your life.

We won't always know God's when, but we can give Him our "Yes!", hold onto the promise, and prepare.

overcoming the

Laura Coppock, Phoenix

Saying *yes* is scary. I believe as children; we instinctively say yes quickly. Yes to adventures, yes to treats, yes to good things. Our personality, temperament, and experiences reinforce or erode our yes tendencies. Early in life, I learned to say no with vehement strength and conviction. Do you want to go on a date? No. Do you want to try diving off the cliff? No. Will you share your thoughts with _____ (fill in the blank)? No. You get the picture.

As a single parent, the word no became my default answer (my poor daughter). It seemed easier to say no on the spot to most of her requests, especially while navigating dinner, laundry, permission slips, and parental worries. In many instances, I'd reconsider and change my answer later. I completely identify with Moses when God called Moses through the burning bush to approach Pharaoh. Moses hedged. He sputtered excuses and concerns. I hear his internal no loud and clear. No is a great word if you're trying to set boundaries within unhealthy relationships. However, it is not good when God calls you to do something. It's disobedience.

Thankfully, when we reject fear or mental objections with the mind of Christ, saying yes becomes easier. As we become stronger in our faith and more secure in our identity as Christ-followers, we see God work. We develop the courage to say yes when we respond to His requests. God moves in mighty and miraculous ways when we honor him with our yes in small and large matters. When we say yes amid fear and questions, that faith step allows God-sized growth. And then life changes.

default response

AZ Chapter Vision Lead

When a friend re-introduced me to my now-husband (we met when we were 19 and reconnected at 40), he invited me to a movie. Can you guess my first reaction? A resounding ‘no’! Thank goodness I listened to my gracious Father's still, small voice encouraging me to pay attention to this man's integrity and heart. I changed my no to a yes. Without that obedience, I would have never experienced the love, compassion, encouragement, and silly happiness we experience daily in our married life together.

And that's not all. Sensing God's nudge on my heart to write more, I visited an in-person writer's community group where I knew no one. Standing in a small group, I overheard a young woman say she'd be happy to be the chapter lead but needed a co-leader. Suddenly, without warning, the man beside me turns and asks, “Are you her co-lead?” With a look of pure disbelief and surprise (these people didn't know anything about me), I searched my heart and found not even the slightest hedge or opposition. God immediately opened my mouth and responded, “I guess I am!” I didn't know what I had just agreed to. I didn't know how this other young woman and I would mesh, but I knew God wanted my yes. This yes served as a catalyst for growth in my writing, my community of like-minded writers, and the courage to step into all He has for me. Do you hear God calling you to something unknown? I implore you, with obedience and bravery, you too will see the power of God through your ‘Yes!’

Stepping Out In Faith

Kecia Campbell,
Richmond VA
Chapter Leader



We have all known that the Lord works in mysterious ways. This is never true. We have opportunities to step out in faith. Often, we may encounter challenges that require us to move out of our comfort zone and into our faith. It requires a decision to make that we already know is right. Let Him lead the way.

In November 2018, I was in California, and all residents were required to evacuate, and many missing or displaced. I longed to help. I saw a post for Crisis Response International (CRI) and the need for volunteer firefighters in Paradise. I knew it was a big step, but I was doubtful this was for me as a busy wife and mother of three. I decided to go on a mission trip, and I wanted to make it happen.

But God! God knew the way for me. He brought me together so that I could serve in Paradise. My husband was supportive and encouraged me for my ten-year-old daughter's responsibilities. I completed online training in firefighting and all the special training to bring. I didn't know what CRI was and learned a lot about a Holy Spirit-led

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3, the town of Paradise,
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RI) announcing their
rs to respond and go to
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I had never been on a
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I could go and serve
family was completely
came together to care
old and cover all my
I was able to do the
n two days and gather
tems I would need to
know anything about
in training they were
group. God confirmed

again and again that He was the one who
arranged this trip, and all I had to do
was say yes.

Since this was a spontaneous trip, I wasn't
sure how all the finances would work. I
was told that CRI would be caravanning
cross country, and I could join them at
no cost. I was able to see sights on the
way there that I had never seen and did
so with amazing responders who were an
honor to serve with.

During my time there, I was privileged
to meet the people of Paradise, and
couldn't believe I had waited fifty
years to do something that special! Our
mission was to help meet the needs of
the evacuees. We worked at various sites
helping distribute clothing, food, and
hygiene items. Wherever we went, we
brought the spirit of the Lord through
worship and prayer. I was able to listen
to countless stories of survivors who
were still processing their trauma and
pain. Nearly every person I met wanted
prayer, and I was able to lift up their
needs and offer them hope and love in
Jesus' name!

Partnering with the Holy Spirit requires
our sacrifice, but the blessing we receive
in return is worth it all. "Now all glory
to God, who is able, through His mighty
power at work within us, to accomplish
infinitely more than we might ask or
think." Ephesians 3:20 He's waiting for
our yes!



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Perry



SAY YES TO CHATGPT? Maybe Not...

Dana Williams, Chapter Leader, Valley Center CA

**Writing via A.I. is the
rage right now. You see it
in the news, social media,
and magazine articles.**

**But what is it, and
should we
say yes to it?**

**ChatGPT is short for
Chat
Generative Pre-training
Transformer.**

**Still confused, I went
straight to the source. I
interviewed ChatGPT.**

Q: I'm Dana. So, just call you Chat?

A: Hello, Dana! Of course, you can call me Chat if that's easier.

Q: Great! Tell me about yourself.

A: Sure, I'd be happy to!

I'm ChatGPT, a large language model developed by OpenAI. I was trained on a vast amount of text data using algorithms, which enable me to understand natural language and generate human-like responses.

My data consists of various sources, such as books, articles, and websites, covering a wide range of topics, including science, technology, history, and more. This allows me to provide accurate, informative responses to a broad range of inquiries.

I'm constantly learning and updating knowledge as I interact with users so that I can provide the most up-to-date information possible.

(Hmmm, does the line "...and generate human-like responses...", remind anyone of Data from The New Generation?)

Q: What are the advantages of A.I.?

A: As an A.I. language model, there are several:

Quick access to information: With my knowledge and quick response time, I can provide you with accurate, relevant information in seconds.

24/7 availability: I'm available 24/7. You can ask me anything, any time.

Objectivity: I'm programmed to be objective and unbiased in my responses. You can trust that the information I provide is based on facts and not influenced by personal biases.

Personalization: I can personalize responses based on specific needs and preferences.

Privacy: Be assured that your privacy is protected. I don't store personal information, and your interactions are kept confidential.

Using me saves time, provides you with accurate and objective information, and offers personalized support based on your needs.

Q: What about the disadvantages?

A: With any technology, there are disadvantages.

Lack of empathy: I can provide information but don't have emotions or empathy.

Limited context understanding: I understand language, yet, understanding context can be limited.

Potential for errors: I'm programmed for accuracy, yet, there is always a chance for errors.

Language barriers: I communicate in multiple languages. However, my abilities are limited by my training data.

Overall, I have many advantages. But I'm not a perfect solution for all situations.

Q: What about a sense of humor?

A: I'm programmed to recognize humor and jokes, but don't have a sense of humor like humans do. I'm happy to engage in lighthearted banter and make conversations enjoyable and engaging.

**Should we give the power
of our yes to A.I.?**

**I have concerns, one of
which is the loss of voice.**

**What about infusing our
writing with Jesus? He
granted us the heart and
passion for our writing,
not A.I. Facts are great
but not equal to heart or
Spirit.**

**At least ChatGPT is good
for lighthearted banter on
a lonely Friday night.**

KWA MERCH



click
here
to view

PAOLA LANE *magazine*

WHERE SMALL BEGINNINGS LEAD
TO ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.

FOR THOSE WHO FEEL LIKE THERE'S
SOMETHING MORE.

START WITH WHAT'S IN YOUR HAND
AS EVERYTHING GREAT STARTS
SMALL.

OUR MOST TREASURED MEMORIES
ARE THE LITTLE THINGS.

LIFE IS CRAZY INTERESTING—LET'S
SOAK IT ALL UP!

BE HUMBLE ENOUGH TO LEARN
FROM OTHERS AND COURAGEOUS
ENOUGH TO SHARE YOUR STORY.

WE SHOULD ALL TAKE MORE TIME
TO ENJOY THE VIEW, TALK TO THE
TREES, AND FEEL THE RAIN ON OUR
FACE.

YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD TO ASK
QUESTIONS.

YOUR LIFE WILL BE AMAZING
BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION IF
YOU SAY 'YES' TO GOD EVERY DAY.

IT'S TOO LATE WHEN WE WAIT TO
DO SOMETHING PERFECTLY.

WE LEARN FROM DOING.

Thought-provoking | Theme-based
Visually intriguing | Engaging stories
Published quarterly

PAOLALANE.COM





*KCI, founded by
KWA Directors
Brae and Jill
Wyckoff, is
the nonprofit
organization that
houses KWA.*

KCI exists to equip, encourage, and empower creatives to reach more people for Christ.

We envision a world-wide community of creatives walking in the authority of their unique identity in Christ, advancing His Kingdom through their creative expression and the power of the Holy Spirit to see lives transformed by the Truth, Power, and Love of Jesus Christ.

Just before Covid hit in 2020, God called Brae and Jill to start KCI. Since then, God has moved through KCI/KWA to reach across the United States and the nations beyond. Local communities were launched, creatives ignited, creative works manifested, and lives changed. Best of all, individuals have been saved, healed, and delivered as a result!

There is much more on the horizon. Will you consider making a one-time or ongoing tax-free donation to KCI to see this work continued and the Kingdom of God advanced through creative expression?

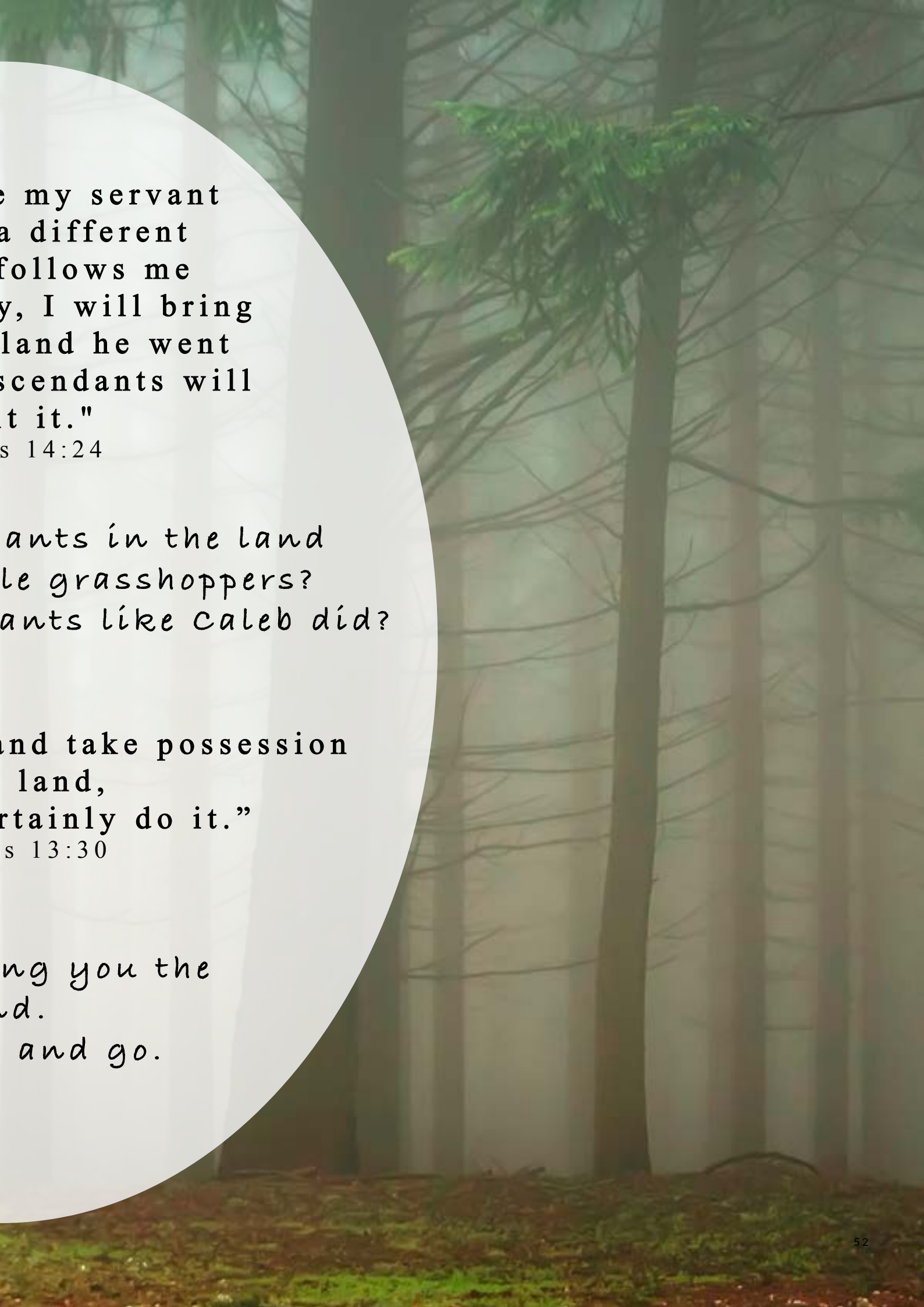


"But because
Caleb has a
spirit and is
wholeheartedly
him into the
to, and his desire
inheritance
Number

Do you see the gift
with eyes of little
Or do you see the gift

"We should go up and
of the
for we can certainly
Number

God is giving
law
say yes,



Let my servant
go to a different
land, and he will
follow me,
and I will bring
him to the land he went
to, and his
descendants will
possess it."
Joshua 14:24

What about the
ants in the land
of the grasshoppers?
What about the
ants like Caleb did?

Go and take possession
of the land,
and certainly do it."
Joshua 13:30

Bring you the
land.
Go and go.

FILLED AND POURED OUT

I held the brush in my hand, pondering. Will I remember how? Will I be joyous at the outcome or embarrassed that I even tried? I was nervous as much as excited at that moment. I thought I signed up for a writing session, but somehow, I was now sitting in a chair with crisp white paper in front of me. A small rectangle filled with colored cubes was placed at each person's spot, along with a brush and a cup of water.

I could have gotten up at that moment. I could have said 'no' to this creative experiment that toyed with my self-worth. I could have, but I didn't. I said 'Yes,' and so did all the others at the table with me that day. We came together as writers and creatives but had no idea what God had planned for us. Our leader, Jill, began to share about tapping into who we are as creatives and partnering with Holy Spirit, "Go ahead and put some water in each of the cubes to soften the paint. We are going to do a watercolor!" Suddenly, my inner child jumped for joy, and I couldn't wait to paint and have fun, but then Jill said, "I want you to close your eyes and then start painting."

What? Paint with my eyes closed? It will look awful. I'll be embarrassed. I looked around at the others who had signed up for Jill's session. They, too, seemed confused, but one-by-one, they closed their eyes and





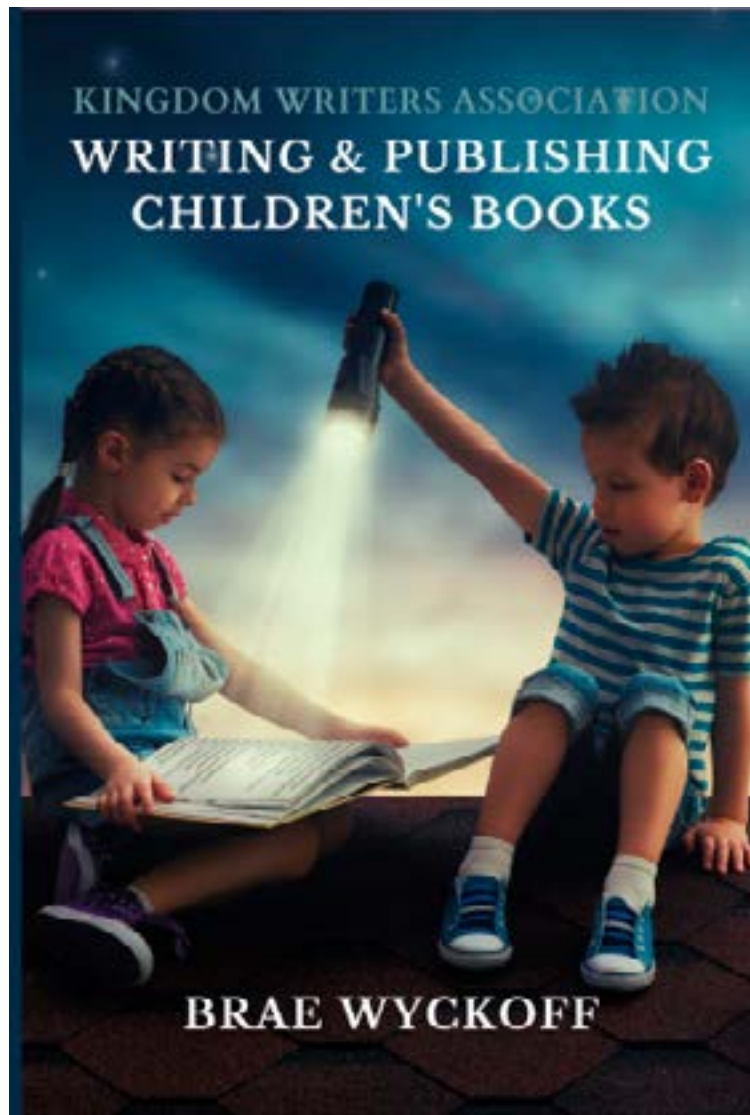
said, "Yes." I had been praying for an encounter. I desired to partner with Holy Spirit more and more in my writing and in my life. This was the moment that shifted how I flow in my giftings.

For the next few hours, we painted. The blind paintings revealed prophetic messages; as we held each up, others would share what they saw. "Provision, freedom, healing..." I was captivated by that experience, especially because I was blind when I painted. I thought I was reaching for blue, but another color immersed. We were partnering with Holy Spirit and tapping into our creative flow.

Olivia began to lead us in worship. With eyes now open, I continued to paint, and I felt His Spirit guide me as I worshiped. I began to see clay pots being filled and poured out by the Master, flowing into one another. As one pot overflowed, it filled the next, and on and on. This was my Yes. Yes, to the call as a writer, but so much more. Yes, to His leading even when it feels like I cannot see. Yes, to awkward, uncomfortable moments that stretch me. Yes, to surrender my will and the way I think things should be. Yes, to be a vessel filled by the Master and poured out for others to experience His love and goodness.

We're invited to the unfamiliar, so only He can show us the way! Will you say yes today?

*Article and painting
by Michelle Lucas, Chapter Leader
Boise, Idaho Sacred Scribes*



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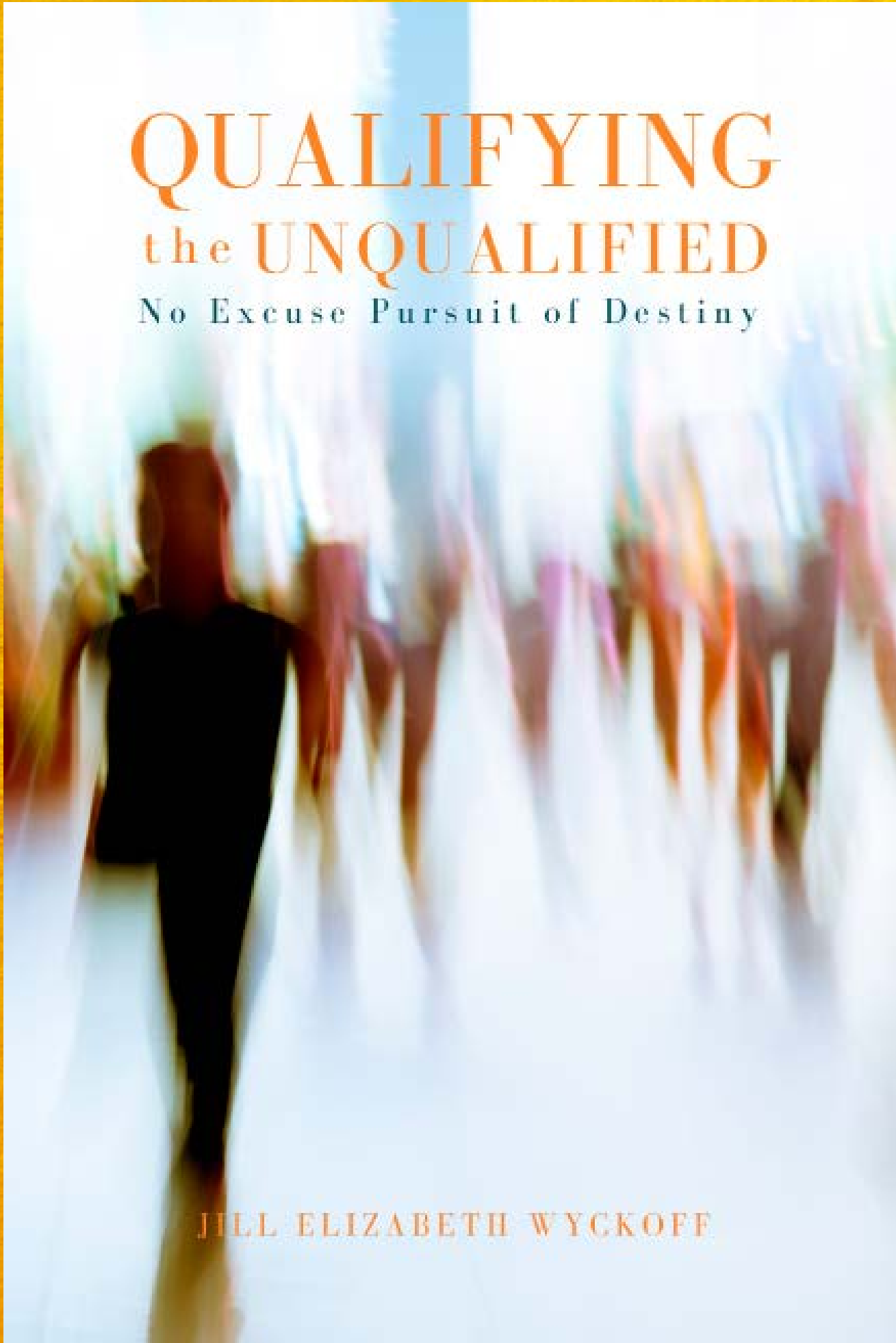
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QUALIFYING
the UNQUALIFIED
No Excuse Pursuit of Destiny

JILL ELIZABETH WYCKOFF

AVAILABLE NOW ON AMAZON!

Do you find yourself holding back from opportunities because you feel unqualified?

Do you disqualify yourself or allow the opinions of others to disqualify you?

Do you long for more than what you are currently experiencing?

Many of us believe that God has a plan and a purpose for our life, but we doubt our ability to carry it out.

The Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:10 that we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Do we believe this?

In this easy-to-digest but power-packed mini-masterclass, Jill Wyckoff gives a biblical foundation for identity and addresses the "imposter" self, the spirit of rejection, the voice of unworthiness, the lie of being enough, and more. She reveals the "Mocker" for who he is and shines a light on his wicked ways. Armed with the truth, readers overcome their self-imposed limitations and pursue their destinies without excuse.

Wyckoff engages the reader from beginning to end with her candid writing style and personal transparency. Qualifying the Unqualified includes scripture, science, powerful testimonies, and activations for reader participation and personal breakthrough.



Idyllwild, CA WRITERS ADVANCE November 2-4, 2023

There's nothing like gathering in the fresh mountain air, surrounded by God's glorious nature and like-minded writers and creatives!

Join us in the beautiful mountain city of Idyllwild where we'll celebrate what God is doing in and through each of us. This small community setting lends itself beautifully for activities, ministry, prophetic creative expression, coaching, activation, free time, and filling up on the goodness of God.

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE! Please note that this is a lodge setting with dorm-style sleeping arrangements. Special arrangements can be made for those with disabilities.

Price for members is \$375, and non-members is \$425. This includes lodging in Emerson Lodge and food. Due to limited space there is a non-refundable deposit of \$100.



KWA Boise, ID

WRITERS ADVANCE

Sept 28-30 2023



It's time to meet God on the mountain!

Thu-Sat Includes sessions, lodging & 5 meals | \$300 per person



Come EXPECTING

Join us for a weekend of inspiration and powerful teaching in the beautiful mountains above Boise, ID. We are honored to have KWA founders, Brae and Jill Wyckoff as our guest speakers. Space is limited so don't delay!

Full details, address and carpool/ride share info will be sent following registration confirmation.

KWA Members:

- \$100 deposit due by May 13*
- Balance of \$200 due by Aug 31, 2023

Non KWA Members:

- \$135 deposit due by May 13*
- Balance of \$200 due by Aug 31, 2023

* Deposit and fee are non refundable but can be transferred to someone else if you are unable to attend.

SEND EMAIL TO BOISE CHAPTER LEAD, MICHELLE LUCAS
michelle@weboptions.net

CONTACT

CONTRIBUTORS



BUTORS

(Pictured from left to right)

Claudene Adam

Glenna Adams

Julie Bonderov

Kecia Campbell

Laura Coppock

Dr. Cindy Holman

Debbie Howard

Tim Larkin

Michelle Lucas

Jan Renee Turnbull

Dana Williams

Jill Wyckoff

Desiree Theassa Young



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