

*A Dry
And
Thirsty Land*



*Making It Through
Tough Times*

*By
Marilyn Marinelli*

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| About The Author..... | v |
| Introduction..... | vi |
| Chapter 1 How Long Oh Lord?..... | 1 |
| Chapter 2 Rejoicing In God’s Love | 4 |
| Chapter 3 Are You Thankful?..... | 9 |
| Chapter 4 New Beginnings..... | 14 |
| Chapter 5 What Happened To Your Once Upon A Time? | 18 |
| Chapter 6 Resurrection Power Working In Your Life | 22 |
| Chapter 7 A Dry And Thirsty Land | 25 |
| Chapter 8 My Soul Longs For Thee | 28 |
| Chapter 9 Child of God, Why Do You Fear?..... | 32 |
| Chapter 10 When Nobody Cares, God Is There..... | 34 |
| Chapter 11 The Flesh & The Spirit | 36 |
| Chapter 12 Mattress or Faith | 39 |
| Chapter 13 Miracles Still Happen | 44 |
| Chapter 14 Lost But Not Forgotten..... | 48 |
| Chapter 15 Close The Doors And Walk On | 50 |
| Chapter 16 To Share In His Love..... | 54 |
| Chapter 17 Dealing With A Critical Spirit | 57 |
| Chapter 18 Don’t Let Others Keep You Bound | 60 |
| Chapter 19 Godly Counsel | 64 |
| Chapter 20 God Is Still Speaking, “ Are You Still Listening?”..... | 67 |
| Chapter 21 You Can Still Be A Blessing | 71 |

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----|
| Chapter 22 | Are You Walking In Faith or Under The Law? | 74 |
| Chapter 23 | Hope In The Midst of Change | 80 |
| Chapter 24 | Restoring Your Peace | 84 |
| Chapter 25 | In The Fullness of Time..... | 90 |
| Chapter 26 | Word From The Lord To Us All..... | 92 |
| Chapter 27 | It's Time To Move On | 96 |
| Conclusion..... | | 98 |
| A Final Thought | | 102 |

About The Author

Marilyn Marinelli

Marilyn Marinelli is an Ordained Minister of the gospel associated with Faith Christian Fellowship Int'l, a worldwide full gospel fellowship. She is also the Co-Founder of the Fellowship of Christian Poets, a worldwide ministry, and Co-author of "Together Forever" a marital enrichment seminar.

She was a contributing author, poet and playwright for the Fellowship of Christian Poets for over ten years. She hosted a monthly article called "Ministry to the Poets Soul".

Marilyn is also the founder and President of Have A Heart for Companion Animals, an information and referral website for the rescue, care and education of companion animals. (www.haveaheart.us) No More Homeless Pets.

One of her deepest desires is to share the knowledge of God, with others that have lost their hope. Her greatest joy is to stand on the Word of God, and see people being set free from bondage through her ministry.

She is inspired by the Holy Ghost, and often receives revelations from God in many situations.

All the Glory goes to God for His mercy and grace that He has shared with her and is still sharing in times of need.



Introduction

“A Dry And Thirsty Land” is a collection of specific teachings related to going through the dry and thirsty land of the soul. It is reflective of those times in which we all experience loneliness, heartache and yes, even despair. Psalm 63:1 “O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is.”

It is my hope that all who read this book will be blessed by the “how to get through” approach and faith that is presented in each chapter.

My hope, in compiling the subject matter for this book, is to share the truth that God never left me alone, not even in my darkest time. Instead, He encouraged me to go on and make it through.

We all want to believe a darkened, time will not come our way but, when it does, it helps to know that God will never leave us or forsake us in our time of need.

We can not see through the clouds of our life at all times but if we can remember that when there is only one beam of light leading to God, we can rest assure that the clouds will pass, the waves will stop overflowing our souls and the sunshine will arise in our hearts.

May God bless you as you read “A Dry And Thirsty Land”. Be encouraged that your nights can turn into days of joy and peace, if only you trust and stand on God’s word.

CHAPTER I

How Long Oh Lord?

How long oh Lord, do I search for you in the midst of my feelings of sadness? Are you sitting in a season of time when your days roll into nights, and nights into days? When the difficulties of life keep rolling in like waves of the sea? Do you find yourself saying, “Where are you my Lord, my Savior? Why does this darkness cover my soul as a blanket day and night?”

Yes, I have been there. You are not alone. I’d like to share with you how the Lord helped me to walk out of that time.

I was sitting in the waves of sorrow that were rolling in towards me. I went to my husband and he shared with me what he could from the Lord. My husband, basically said, “When you turn it over to the Lord, this time of darkness will end.” Well, that’s just great, I thought. I could try, but the waves of sadness hit so strong, knocking me from side to side. I didn’t even have the ability to think faith. It was as if a person was swimming and the waves kept hitting and hitting. After awhile the shoreline was not in clear sight.

God has His ways to help us. I purchased a cassette by Kenneth Copeland. The tape was full of songs that I hoped would bring me into a state of worship. All of a sudden, as I was listening to the tape, a song came on which confirmed what my husband had shared with me previously and further encouraged me to reach out to the Lord.

MARILYN MARINELLI

The special words in this particular song were “**how will it end, look to Him**”. I played this song over and over to get it into my soul ... sometimes very loud to close out the voices urging me on to wallow in the unhappiness I was feeling.

Jesus said “I will never leave you or forsake you” God says, “See I have engraved you in the palm of my hand”.

As I sat in my car, with the rain pouring down on my windshield, and tears streaming down my face, God spoke to me and said “The raindrops on your window are my angels crying for you today”. I said, “Oh, God, you have more to say to me, don’t you?” I grabbed a pen and some paper of sorts from my purse and proceeded to pen what God spoke to my heart that day:

Teardrops From Heaven

The teardrops on your window
Are the teardrops from my angels
Crying for you ...

To let you know you are not alone.
My tears fill your broken heart
And comfort you in this time of need.

They are tears from heaven
That flow from my throne
To let you know
That you are not alone.

For when you are saddened
My heart cries for you,
To send comfort to you.

Teardrops from heaven
For you this day
Streaks your window
Reflecting your inner cry of sadness.

A DRY AND THIRSTY LAND

My comfort to you this day
Are teardrops on your windshield.

Tears from heaven
To help wash away the sorrow.

Teardrops from heaven.
Teardrops as I cry for you
To let you know I am close
To healing your pain.

Teardrops from heaven
Teardrops from heaven.

By: Marilyn Marinelli

Herein, began the healing of my soul. The waves became less strong and the faith and love of God started to grow stronger. I remembered Psalm 23 "The Lord is my Shepherd. The Lord is my Shepherd"... sometimes God will only give us a little bit of His word to strengthen us. Remember, "The Lord is my (your) Shepherd" too.

CHAPTER 2

Rejoicing In God's Love

I have a great story to tell you. Now you have to understand that I am not a perfect Christian. Are you? If you are, you should think again, for no one is perfect, but Jesus.

Anyway, I have had a very hard time over the past year. I lived in sadness most of the time, struggling with my walk with God, because of the enemy's attack. It was as if every time I got up, I was spun around and punched. Men could relate to this, when I say it was like being in a boxing match, when things really get heated.

God is so good to us, when we don't give up. I felt I was hanging on with a thread somehow attached to God. Many things were attacking my walk with God, so that I would give up on following Him. But, in my deep despair I still called out to God for help and he answered my call.

I had to do some things, like make an effort to seek Him and His Word, yet I couldn't read my bible. I didn't want to sing praises. I didn't want to hear preaching and I didn't want to be around any Christians. That is how deep my despair was. Yet deep inside, I didn't want to walk away from God. Waves of darkness consumed my soul. And fear tried to take hold. When I went to church, a song or a word of preaching spun me into tears of sadness. Needless to say, I was afraid to go to church, because I didn't want to cry any more.

What about my husband? Of course, he tried to share God's wisdom with me. I heard but couldn't apply things and I understood yet, the pull on me became stronger. Mind you, I didn't want to run from God, but I guess I was running away from circumstance and thereby, I also found myself running away from God.

I realized finally, that I had a choice to make. There are always two roads to walk. You walk with God or walk away from Him. After all the blessings I received and the times God has used me to minister to others, I really didn't want to give up my walk with Him.

But sometimes, I am sorry to say, there are people around us that are Christians and yet are not really walking in God's love and wisdom, yet they think they are. These people can really trip you up. I urge you to watch out for them. Keep your walk with God and **Stay in His Word.**

Regardless of the circumstances, I tried to listen to Christian music and was blessed from time to time. Then I started to listen to TBN and God started speaking to me through Jan Crouch and her story of depression (great testimony), Kenneth Copeland, Creflo Dollar, Joyce Myers and a minister from Ft. Lauderdale, all of them unbelievably, preached on the same subject ...Get Out of the Boat and walk on the water to Jesus. Just reach out and Jesus will be there for you.

Finally, God's message got through to me and this is what happened. I pray I can express it all properly to you.

I had just listened to pastor Dollar preaching and said, "OK God, I am going in my room and get things in order with you." So I went in my room, took off my shoes and in my heart said, "God I'm coming to you and taking my shoes off like Moses did, so I

MARILYN MARINELLI

can walk on Holy Ground.” No sooner did I sit down on my bed and put my bible in front of me and prayed, “God I understand your message. I want to come back to you,” then I heard a faint cry of a cat (meow) and thought oh, another lost animal. I have to stop for a minute and tell you, not only through my time of sadness did I come across a lot of sad women, but also have helped rescue a few dogs and a cat. Almost every other week, when I would go out, I would see a lost dog... at least 5 in the past month. We don't live in the wilderness. There are many homes here so where were they coming from? There are so many lost people and animals.

To go on with what happened, I started to speak to God again, but I heard another cry of a cat (meow, meow). “Oh it's my cat. He must be shut up in the closet by accident.” Sure enough, it was my cat Sammy that I heard crying, and of course, I rescued him from his dilemma.

My two dogs came running in and jumped on the bed to see what was happening. They were rejoicing with me and began kissing Sammy, my cat too. Why am I telling you this story? Where does God fit into this? Well, let me tell you the most remarkable thing.

The preacher I was listening to said, “Jesus has His hand reaching out to you. All you have to do is reach back and you can walk on the water with Him and get out of the storm.”

God revealed to me that since I reached out to Him with understanding and made an effort to follow Him, He was already there for me and was rejoicing that I had come back home to Him. Now let me tell you the funniest thing. God has a sense of humor and also uses things we can understand to understand Him.

While I was rejoicing on getting Sammy, my cat, out of the darkness of the closet, God was showing me in my spirit how He was rejoicing over me, that I chose to reach out to Him and He was taking me out of my closet of darkness. God's word from the bible to me at that time was, Luke 19:10 "For the Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost."

My two dogs, God showed me, were rejoicing and wondering what was going on and kissing Sammy, my cat, was a picture of God's angels rejoicing with Him ...that I had come back home to God. I laughed and laughed and laughed, how God could use this circumstance to show me His joy and now I found myself rejoicing and laughing with God. Not only did God show me all this joy but He also allowed me a little of how much joy He had over me on my return. He did this every time I touched Sammy. A tremendous amount of joy would flow through me and God kept saying to my spirit, "**This is joy I feel for you**". Every time I touched my dogs, God allowed me to feel some of what He feels when He touches His Angels. God and me, laughed for the longest of time and joy returned back to my soul (mind, will and emotions).

The next thing that happened was, that my dogs and I went out in the backyard and they ran and ran and ran with lots of life streaming in abundance. And as I rejoiced in the backyard, thanking God, He spoke to my spirit again and said, "**Life streams from Me. There is an abundance of life in My world.**"

II Corinthians 3:5 says..."Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being of ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God." And Psalms 66:5 says, "Come and see the works of God: He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men."

MARILYN MARINELLI

The last scripture the Lord shared with me was Psalms 16:7...”
Return to your rest oh my soul for the Lord has dealt bountifully
with you.”

