



KINDRED
SPIRIT
DEVOTIONS

3 MINI DEVOS
FOR BOOK LOVERS

BY RACHEL DODGE



DREAMY SOLITUDE

"Dear old world," Anne murmured, "you are very lovely, and I am glad to be alive in you." -Anne of Green Gables, L.M. Montgomery

Have you walked in dreamy solitude with God lately?

As in, an actual walk? Without a podcast or music or anything else in your ears? Without anyone else?

In my Bible study recently, we were given an assignment to do just that: Take a 30 min walk with (just) God.

It caught my attention because I recently read a book where the author took "God walks" every Sunday afternoon. He was inspired by Enoch who is described in the Bible as a man who "walked with God" and was commended as having pleased God.

Walking in thoughtful solitude is good for the soul. It's healing and purging. It's uncomfortable even, but in a good way.

Anne Shirley loved taking long, rambling walks. So do many of my favorite heroines, such as Elizabeth Bennet, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Mary Lennox, Jane Eyre, and Jo March. So inspiring!

When is the last time you walked quietly with the Lord? What would you need to do to make it happen?

If, like me, you sense the Lord calling you to come away with Him, make time for a 30 minute "ramble" this week -- without anything in your ears. No music, no podcast, Just you and him.

God has something He wants to whisper to us if we will silence everything else and walk in dreams with Him.

"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

Mark 6:31

HIS BREATH

*"You have listened to fears, Child. Come,
let me breathe on you. Forget them.*

Are you brave again?"

-Aslan in Prince Caspian, C.S. Lewis

Oh, to step into Narnia and have Aslan breathe on us! Can't you just see him so vividly and imagine yourself standing in front of him? His mane, his hugeness, his eyes.

Wouldn't that sense of perfect protection, safety, and love feel wonderful?

And yet, even Aslan is only a beautiful glimpse into the truth of who God is.

Our true Aslan - Jesus - is bigger, kinder, more loving, more powerful, more beautiful, and more able than you or I could possibly ever imagine.

When God breathes on us, fear fades and hope rises. Courage comes in. Faith is enlarged. Victory is found.

What fearful thoughts have you been listening to? What fearful emotions have been taking over?

Let's take all of our named and unnamed fears to Jesus, our High Priest, and ask Him to breathe on us anew, that we might forget all our fears and become brave again.

*"He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find
refuge; his faithfulness will be your
shield and rampart."*

Psalm 91:4



STEPPING OUT

"Now they rode away amid songs of farewell and good speed, with their hearts ready for more adventure."

-The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien

Do you prefer to stay home in your Hobbit hole or step out on grand adventures?

The best Jesus adventures take us outside our comfy Hobbit holes, down the road, and around the bend.

Into the unknown wild.

If I'm honest, I'm not very brave. I feel like Bilbo most of the time. Tiptoeing, trembling, on the lookout for something big and bad. Ready to hide. Ready to run back home.

But there are two spiritual truths we can learn from Bilbo's adventures:

1) You don't have to be brave to follow God's call. You just have to be willing. Bilbo stepped out the front door. Later on, Frodo did the same. They both were nervous and scared. But they went anyway.

2) You don't go alone. There are people who come with you. You may have to step out your front door by yourself, and make that initial first plunge, but soon there will be others that join you. There will be a band of brothers and sisters.

There will eventually be a Fellowship.

What is God asking you to do that's brave, courageous, or beyond your scope? What's one little thing you can do today to step out the door and start your adventure?

It could be as small as picking up your walking stick and stepping outside.



"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Deut. 31:8



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RACHEL DODGE
2023

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