5 DAY WONDER DARE

Companion resource for
Wonderstruck: Awaken to the Nearness of God
book and Bible study
Dear Friends,

God extends endless invitations to encounter Him, yet too often we sleep straight through. Unconscious of the life God wants for us, we slumber in the presence of the sacred and snore in the company of the divine.

Inactive and inert, we become spiritual sleepyheads who clamor for the snooze button rather than climb out of bed. In our dormant states, we miss opportunities to experience God’s many gifts and to know the Giver more fully.

Yet I believe as followers of Jesus we’re meant to live wonderstruck. We’re invited to live on the edge of our seats in wild expectation of what God might do next. We’re designed to live with divine expectation, an ongoing spiritual hunger that is wide-awake, searching for God in however He may want to reveal Himself.

The next few pages are a sneak peek of the dare to live wonderstruck. Each day, you’ll find a Scripture and invitation to open your eyes to the wonders of God all around. Then you’re going to be double dog dared to do something specific including pray, make a list, take a photo, study a Scripture, or give God greater access to your heart. Each day’s challenge ends with a short prayer.

Will you devote time over the next five days to living wonderstruck? I’m expectant of what God is going to do in and through you through these next five days. To be honest, I wish I could grab a latte with you and hear your story—the troubles, trials, praises and pains. But know in the meantime, I’m praying for you. I’ve asked God to speak, lead, guide, encourage, and infuse you with more of His presence and astound you with wonder upon wonder.

Blessings,

Margaret
Day One:
Inviting God to Reveal His Wonder

“Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder.”
—Isaiah 29:14

The wonders of God are those moments of spiritual awakening that make you long to know God more. But often in the busyness of life, we miss God right in the midst of our everyday.

**Double Dog Dare:** In the space below, make a list of the places you’ll be today and the people you know you’ll see. As you say each entry on your list aloud, ask God to reveal His wonder. Ask God to give you those moments of spiritual awakening that stir your desire for Him. Live expectant. At the end of the day, return to your list and give thanks for the ways God has revealed Himself and His handiwork to you.

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**Prayer:** Lord, thank You for desiring to astound me daily with Your wonders. May I remain awake and aware to Your presence each and every day. Amen.

To unearth extraordinary moments on ordinary days and discover joy in knowing you’re wildly loved, grab a few friends and pick up a copy of the *Wonderstruck* Book and Bible Study.
Day Two:
Opening Your Eyes to Wonders All Around

“The heavens praise your wonders, Lord, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.”

—Psalm 89:5

Sometimes we miss the wonders of God because we’re not paying attention. We become all too familiar with our surroundings. We slip into the habit of only seeing what we know and skip over many of the subtle details, shifts, and changes taking place around us.

Double Dog Dare: Right where you’re sitting, write down ten things you hadn’t first noticed about your surroundings. Use as many senses as you can and don’t edit yourself. Begin writing now.

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When you finish, take moment to look over your list. What objects, hues, smells, or sounds stand out to you? Sometimes we miss things right before our eyes because of their familiarity or simplicity. Now spend time asking God to make you supernaturally aware of Him, His presence, and His handiwork today. Ask God to open your eyes and heart to places you didn’t even suspect He’s at work. Live expectant for God to reveal Himself in surprising ways today.
Prayer: Father God, You’ve given me eyes to see and ears to hear, but apart from You I remain deaf and blind to the all the ways You’re working. Open my eyes and ears and heart to Your presence and handiwork all around. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, show me Yourself today. Let me live with a greater sense of divine expectation. Amen.

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Day Three:
Living with Divine Expectation

I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember
Your miracles of long ago.

—Psalm 77:11

God reveals Himself in countless ways throughout the Scriptures. He shows up time and time again to people in moments, places, and ways they never expected Him. One of the places in Scripture where this is displayed is found in Luke 24. The disciples are baffled by what they’ve seen and experienced through Jesus’ ministry, death, and the rumors of His resurrection. They’re not quite sure how to handle what’s happened. In a startling turn of events, Jesus not only meets the disciples, but He reveals Himself and surprises them.

Double Dog Dare: Read Luke 24. Make a list of the wonders—those moments of spiritual awakening that make you want to know God more—found in this passage. What do you think left the disciples most wonderstruck? Spend some time asking God to meet you, reveal Himself to you, and surprise you today. Live expectant for how God will answer.

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**Prayer:** Holy God, I ask You meet me today—in the midst of chores, to-do’s, bills, and stress. Just as it was for the disciples, sometimes life and circumstances are confusing, and I need a fresh glimpse of You. Today, I ask You to meet me right in the midst of my schedule. I ask You to reveal Yourself with such a clarity and profundity I cannot miss You. And I ask You to surprise me. Take my breath away, God. I want to know You as Wonderful. Amen.

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Day Four: 
Taking Snapshots of God’s Wonder

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.”
—Psalm 19:1

The wonders of God are all around you. They can be found in the eyes of a child, friend, or spouse. They are displayed in the soft blue sky and gently rustling leaves. They can be tasted in the crunch of an almond and the words of Scripture. They’re not just meant to be seen but savored.

Double Dog Dare: Carry a personal camera or a camera-equipped cell phone and search for wonder throughout the day. Snap photos of God’s creation, beauty, love, grace, peace, gentleness, and joy. Upload the pictures online and share them with others using the hashtag #livewonderstruck.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank You for Your faithfulness and goodness. May I live each day aware of Your faithfulness, thankful for Your grace and goodness. Even as I face trials and heartache, may I learn to celebrate You and Your presence. Amen.

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Day Five:
Believing God for the Impossible

“Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from Him.”
—Psalm 62:5

One of the many ways God leaves us wonderstruck is by doing the impossible. In situations where we convince ourselves there’s no way out and every option has been exhausted, God wants to meet us.

Double Dog Dare: Make a list of impossible situations you or those you love are facing right now. Where all you see is limitation, ask God to provide you with tactics to overcome. Where you see death, ask God to give you the grace to have faith and choose life. Remember God specializes in impossible situations.

Prayer: Loving Father, I’m facing situations right now only You can overcome. I ask You to give me the strategies, tactics, and wisdom to live out the promise of being more than a conqueror through Jesus Christ. Instruct me in what to say and what to leave unsaid. Guide me in where to act and when to remain still. Lead me in Your holy ways. Amen.

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