

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS *by* ROY LESSIN

Today

is Your Best Day



DISCOVERING
GOD'S BEST
for YOU

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This book is dedicated to the staff
at Bethany College of Missions
(Bethany Fellowship 1961-1964),
where guidance, wisdom, instruction,
and love planted the seeds of
God's Kingdom that have grown
within me over the past 40 years.



Time is the most
precious gift you can share
to make someone happy
or to make a difference.



LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

INTRODUCTION



LIVING TODAY AS YOUR BEST DAY

Imagine the emotional turmoil a married couple experiences when a physician utters the words “three to six” with the significance meaning weeks to months to live. Life threw us a curve and my husband, James Laurence Knorr, with every ounce of energy and drive he possessed, chose to make every day for the rest of his life the best of his life.

Both of us grew up in Christian families. Our spirit-filled lives were centered around church involvement. Our faith was strong; yet our fast-paced lives kept us from slowing down to let God speak to us as a couple through daily devotionals. With the knowledge that his earthly life surely would be shortened by his diagnosis of AML leukemia, Jim wanted to talk about heaven. Then one small act of kindness changed our lives.

Our best friends Charles and Libby Dalton brought us Libby’s “World’s Best Homemade Muffins” and a little book entitled, *Today Is Your Best Day*. Inside, Libby wrote from author Roy Lessin’s words: “‘Today is your best day because of heaven!’ This little book is for you to read to Jim each day.”

Our home, as are most Christian homes, was already filled with devotional books. This one was different. God has gifted Roy Lessin

with reaching out to us with few words of powerful meaning. Jim and I began to read “the book” (as we began to call it) every day. It traveled with us on Learjet ambulances from Greenville, South Carolina, to see specialists in Boston, Houston, and Temple, Texas.

We began to purchase copies to share with fellow patients, friends, and even our medical staff members. It seemed everyone who received the book wanted more copies to share with someone special in their lives. Our Jewish physician, Dr. Gary Spitzer, became a Christian during this time and began to share “the book” with other patients.

We were on our sixth reading through the book straight through when on December 23, 2007, Jim and I enjoyed coffee and read page 177 together, “Today is your best day because of forever.” “Forever” was a profound word because on that day we experienced God’s promise of “today is your best day because of heaven.”

While living through his illness, Jim’s own spiritual life and intense desire to relate to everyone he met and knew grew continuously. *Today Is Your Best Day* had an enormous influence on him. When God called Jim to heaven, we had shared this book with over 400 families. That number has increased to over 5000 copies presently with the book being sold out until this new re-issue.

Roy Lessin’s Christian theme exemplifies the truth which Jim well knew that now he is in heaven “enjoying the things which God has prepared for them who love Him” (1 Corinthians 2:9). Jim’s belief was that this promise is available to anyone who believes in Christ as their Savior. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only

Son so that everyone who believes in Him does not perish but has everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Rather than gifts or memorials, my son Todd and I asked those who knew Jim to dedicate a special act of love, giving of their time to someone or a worthy cause. This was how Jim lived. Time is the most precious gift you can share to make someone happy or to make a difference. Always remember... I hope you will honor my husband by sharing *Today Is Your Best Day* and letting God use you to enrich the lives of others.

LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

JANUARY 12, 2011

Always remember. . .
I hope you will honor
my husband by sharing
“today is your best day”
and letting God use you
to enrich the lives or others.



IN MEMORY OF JIM KNORR



When your life is in God's hands,
every day is your best day.

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Today is your best day
because you can grow a little more
in your faith, a little more
in your maturity, and a little more
in your intimacy with Jesus.

TODAY IS YOUR BEST DAY

TODAY IS YOUR BEST DAY

In God we boast all day long, and praise Your name forever.

PSALM 44:8 NKJV

If you are in Jesus Christ and your heart is committed to God's plan for your life, it means that today is your best day. It's not your best day because you feel like it is, or because you pretend that it is. It is not your best day because everything is going perfectly, or because you are living in ideal circumstances. It is not your best day because you are in optimum health, or because everything is going your way.

Here are four reasons why today is your best day.

- Today is your best day because you are here. God has placed you in this moment of time for a purpose, and the things that happen to you today will be an unfolding of that purpose.
- What happened to you yesterday, however easy or difficult, was used by God to help prepare you for what He has for you today.
- God will use what happens today to prepare you for what He has for you in future days.

- God has used your past and worked it all together for the good, and He will use this day to add to the good that He has already worked on your behalf.

Today is your best day because you can grow a little more in your faith, a little more in your maturity, and a little more in your intimacy with Jesus. Today you can take another step higher as He takes you from glory to glory; take another step deeper as you grow in His love; take another step farther as you obediently walk with Him. Today is your best day because it has brought you one day closer to the coming of the Lord.

You may be going through a very difficult time today, but that does not mean this is your worst day. God will use the difficulty to produce precious things within you that you will treasure in days to come. There may be pressures in your day, but God uses pressure to form diamonds. There may be a fiery trial in your day, but God uses fire to purify gold. There may be an irritant in your day, but God uses irritants to create pearls. If you are in need of comfort today, God will bring His comfort to you, and the comfort you receive will help you comfort someone tomorrow.

Corrie ten Boom once said, “God doesn’t have problems, He only has plans.” God doesn’t make bad days for you and good days for you. God makes each day fit perfectly into His plans for you. He made this day so you could glorify Him. He made this day so that He could draw you closer to His heart. He made this day so that you could see your life from faith’s point of view.

TODAY IS YOUR BEST DAY

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BECAUSE OF FAITH (PART 1)

*For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith:
as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

ROMANS 1:17 KJV

There are two ways that we can walk through a day. One is to walk by sight and the other is to walk by faith. If we walk by sight we can easily become discouraged, disappointed, and downhearted. To walk by sight means to evaluate our day by what we see with our eyes, hear with our ears, and know in our minds. To walk by faith means to allow the “reality” around us to impact our thoughts, our motivation, and our emotions.

A large percentage of the “walk by sight” information that influences us in our day is negative. Anyone who tunes in to the evening news or reads a newspaper finds very little that brings a smile. When we walk by sight we can allow anything or anyone to influence the kind of day we are having—the weather, the traffic, the long line at the checkout stand, a problem with our computer, a drop of ketchup on our shirt, or a leaky faucet under the kitchen sink.

To walk by faith means to walk in a different kind of reality. The Bible tells us that there are two realities (2 Corinthians 4:17–18). One

reality is what is seen; the other reality is what is unseen. There are two realities because there are two worlds. One is the physical world; the other is the spiritual world. The physical world is the temporary world; the spiritual world is the eternal world.

Today, as a believer and a follower of Jesus Christ, you live in both worlds. Through your senses you connect with the physical world around you, and with your heart and spirit you connect with the spiritual world within you. Your spiritual reality is not based upon wishful thinking or some unknown mystic influence, but upon the truth of God's Word and the presence of the Holy Spirit who lives in you.

As you walk through this day in both worlds, God wants you to live by faith and not by sight.

Faith sees what your physical eyes can never see;

Faith knows what your natural mind can never comprehend;

Faith possesses what your physical arms can never hold.

Faith says "yes" to everything God declares to be true;

Faith stand upon everything God says is certain, it leans upon everything God says is unmovable, and it counts upon everything God says will come to pass.

CORRIE TEN BOOM