



# EMBRACING HOPE

*Day 1*

## VALUE IN EACH DAY

What is it that secures our hope? I believe it is rightly valuing the gift of each day.

“So teach us to number our days,  
That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12)

The original Hebrew for “to number our days” is translated to something like “allotted,” which makes me think of a finite amount. This verse says that we each have been given a certain number of days. Although it sounds like the psalmist is telling us to count our days, I think he’s really advising us to value our days, every hour and each moment contained in them, so that at the end of each day we can present ourselves to God full of wisdom. The Bible tells us that God is pleased with our good work. He honors and commends those who are good stewards of the days they are given. (Matthew 25:21, 23 and 1 Corinthians 15:58)

How does valuing our days give us wisdom? Let’s look at another psalm:

“This is the day which the LORD has made;  
Let’s rejoice and be glad in it.” (Psalm 118:24)

Once again, we are reminded of the importance of acknowledging Him. Before we can appreciate our days, we must remember *Who* made our days. Recognizing that He has purpose in the time He gives us shows us the importance of surrendering that time back to Him. Acknowledging, and following His direction in our lives proves us wise because it demands we live beyond our own desires, goals, and talents, and present back to Him a “heart of wisdom.” A heart wise enough to know that He alone can accomplish the good we may have been credited with in this life.

In all of that acknowledgement, we find that each day is no longer a square on the calendar. Each day is an opportunity to hear from God about our next step. Does that mean that every day will be a grand adventure? Does that mean that we are missing God if we didn't hear Him ask something audacious of us this morning? Of course not. Many of us find ourselves in a simple pattern of sleep, eat, work, and repeat. God may not give each of us something new *to do* every day, but He does supply something new *for* us every day. The book of Lamentations confirms this:

“The LORD’S acts of mercy indeed do not end,  
For His compassions do not fail.  
They are new every morning;  
Great is Your faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Isn't that a beautiful thing to consider? Regardless of how dull or monotonous we may see our daily routine; He provides new compassions and endless mercy each morning. As the sun rises in its faithfulness, the layers of color in the sky are unique. They vary moment by moment. He paints a sunrise for us every day. And beyond that, He will not fail to bring new insight, new contemplation, or new perspective to us when we spend time with Him each day. Even when we think our time in the Word of God was boring or unfruitful, we are gaining knowledge of His character and that knowledge is building a new and refreshing confidence within us. This story of today is but a small chapter in an ever-changing life. And still His mercies and compassions prove to be new every morning.

### *Action Steps:*

**Meditate** for 60 seconds on Psalm 90:12, and the idea that there is value and purpose in the day we are in right now.

**Read** Psalm 90.

**Write** down one verse from Psalm 90 that illustrates God's intervention in our days.

**Consider** how you can shift your perspective on each day you're given.