ENCOURAGING SCRIPTURES OF TRUTH

God's word is meant to encourage, strengthen and lift you up to a place of healing and joy. I'm sharing but a few of my favorites with you. Read these scriptures on how the Lord feels about you over and over and over again until they begin to seep into your soul and become your truth. Not sure how to find scriptures? I've included some quick tips at the end to help you.

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. -- Isaiah 40:28-31

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you a hope and a future." -- Jeremiah 29:11

I am with you always, to the very end . – Matthew 28:20

See, I have you engraved on the palms of my hands . -- Isaiah 49:16

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. – Isaiah 41:13

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. -- Ephesians 3:12-14

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who love him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us. -- Psalm 103:11-12

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. -- Joshua 1:9

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight . -- Proverbs 3:5-6

So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He promised.--Hebrews 10:35-36

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us form the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:35, 37-39

He is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. -- Psalm 34:18

The Lord your God is with you, the mighty warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you but will rejoice over you with singing. -- Zephaniah 3:17

And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. – Ephesians 3:18

This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: if our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. -- 1 John 3:19-20

Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—he remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to hungry. -- Psalm 146:3-7

I thank you, high God—you're breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation!-- Psalm 139:14

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. – Jeremiah 33:3

I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. -- John 16:33

If we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself. -- 2 Timothy 2:13

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Even now it sprouts and grows and matures. Don't you perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and open up flowing streams in the desert. – Isaiah 43:18-19

Finding Scriptures: At the back of many bibles is something called a Concordance, which is just a fancy name for an alphabetized index of words. You can look up words like "unfailing" or "love" or "precious" and you will find scriptures containing that word. Some Bibles have a topical index, which gives you a topic like love and then lists key scriptures that teach about the topic.

Both concordances and topical indexes can be bought as separate books. You can also check them out from your local library or go online to biblestudytools.com/concordances or biblegateway.com/topical. Bible Gateway also has about every version of the Bible you can think of available for you to explore for free online.

Another great way to find scriptures is to read books of the Bible that focus on the topic you want to learn about. Some Bibles will give a brief summary of the main lessons from each book right before the first chapter. Others will give you a list like this at the back of the Bible. Both of the websites above will give you lessons as well. Some great books for gaining vision are Joshua, Nehemiah, Mark, Romans, Ephesians, and 1 John. Both Psalms and Proverbs are also full of nuggets of wisdom and contain many versus about God's love and vision for you. Don't have a bible? Most churches will give you one for free. You can also order a free Bible from biblesforamerica.org. Happy hunting!