



A coaster or a guide?



Receiving the TV Guide Best Actress in a New Series Award, Bette Midler recently commented, “To think I have been using TV Guide as a coaster all these years.” My thoughts quickly wondered why she would even open a TV Guide - you know - being an actress and all. But then again, I’m sure that she would want to read everything that is written regarding her in a reliable publication.

How about you? Don’t you enjoy seeing your own name in print? Or reading anything that is about you? However the most important book ever written is often the most neglected book as well - the Holy Bible.

Inside its pages are words, if we choose to apply them, offering us long, healthy lives with the abundance of the Lord’s blessings raining down on us. But do we really view God’s Word as if it applies to us?

Nancy Leigh DeMoss shares in her book, *Lies Women Believe*, a lie that often entraps us. The lie sounds something like this: God is good but we doubt that He is good to us. It is easy to read through God’s Word and apply the words to a friend who is currently hurting, believing that God is there for her and willing to meet every need. But when it comes to ourselves we have difficulty looking beyond our own circumstances to see God’s love and concern for us. The oracles within the Bible are the most reliable script in print. You can trust His Word.

I challenge you to read the book of Philippians for the next week as if it is an article written about your life. Personalize it and take it to heart because you can trust it. You are a celebrity in God’s sight and He will reveal to you that He is completely good and that everything He does is good.

The Lord will reconfirm to you that every good gift and every perfect gift is from above (James 1:17). Once your doubts have been arrested by the above exercise, begin living the words that you discovered in Philippians. Appropriate each principle to your life and the Lord will bless your every deed (James 1:25). Don’t allow the Bible to become just a coaster on the end table. Use it as a guide to the life promised within it - one of great abundance and fulfillment.



Focus Questions

1. Summarize a reference from the book of Phillipians that seems to fit your current circumstance?
2. What other events or situations are causing you to look for God's divine direction?
3. Read 2 Timothy 2:15 and discuss why we are to study God's Word?

*The Diamond Monologue 1-2007 is written by Melody Barnard.
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