

Let's not re-invent the wheel

So Sarah Asaro, who does the *Weekly Woodland*? Yep, that woman. She made me spit up my coffee one morning in church. I was sitting there, watching the morning video and she was hyping up Woodland's **Legacy Class**. I wasn't really paying attention, thinking 'that's for older folks.' Then she said it was for anyone 55 and older (oops)! Then the kicker came when she said that she couldn't wait another 28 years until she could join the legacy class! I'm lucky there was no one sitting in front of me.

I have to say, she and Thayne are way beyond their years in God's wisdom.

Don't tell her but, Sarah Asaro is one of my favorite authors. A few years ago, Sarah wrote this booklet called **21 Days of Prayer**.

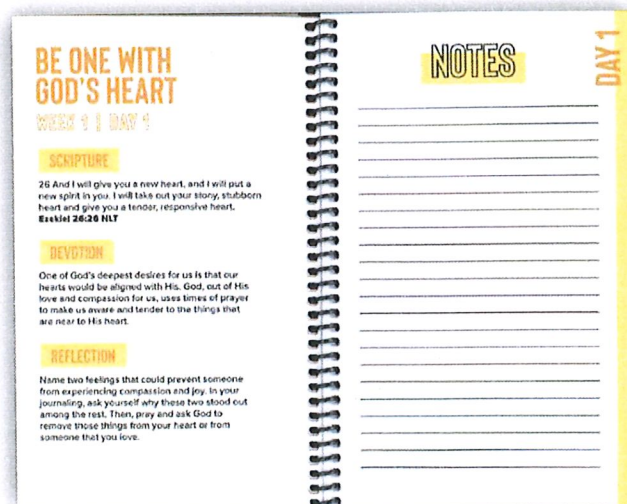
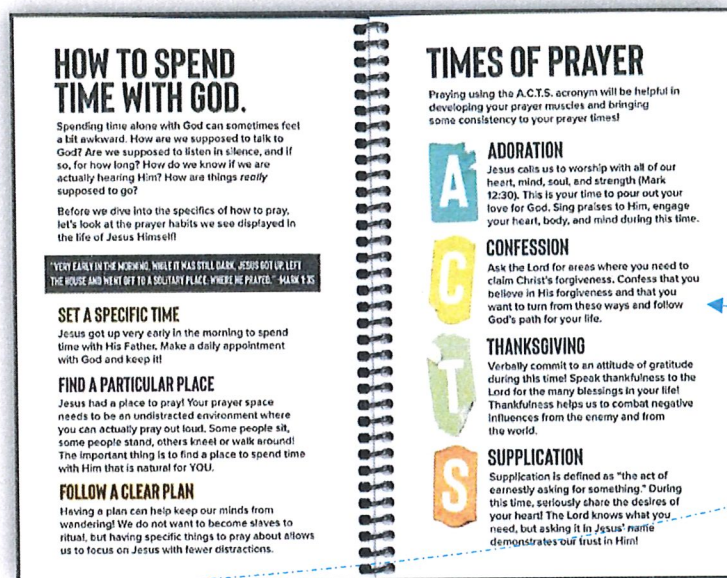
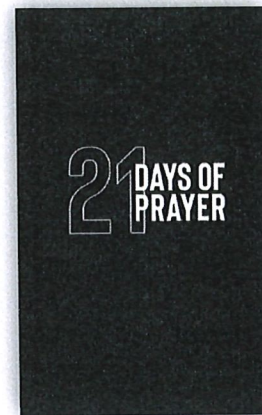
What a great journaling tool.

Like the *Idiot's* book, Sarah's book talks about looking at your journaling time as a **specific** appointment. It also offers a time to **reflect**. And, if you can **WRITE** out your prayers so that they **worship**, are **contrite**, are full of **gratitude** and offer up spirit led **requests**... you will have a powerful prayer.

Besides, A.C.T.S. is so much cooler than W.C.G.R.

Think about this for a second, please

You have the rest of your life to journal; to cultivate your relationship with God on this side of heaven. I say this just to say, **be flexible in your journaling**. If a study isn't working for you, start something different, **just keep writing**. If a friend invites you to do a study, **do it now!** (If only for community and the body of Christ) You can come back later to the plan you are currently doing. See something interesting, try it. Jump in and jump out of plans. Keep it fresh; never be afraid to try something new. Just **keep writing!**



The Last Thing I Want

Hey, the last thing I want is for journaling to become some academic chore for you. You are **too important and too busy** to waste your time on anything but a real connection with the Lord of Hosts.

I was looking at the table of contents in the *Idiot's* book and thought of this. Though there is no wrong way to journal, there are a couple of things you could do to make this **personal to you and a valuable part of your faith moving forward.**

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- **Photo Finish** Make it your own. Paint in it, doodle, put clippings in it, tape pictures in it. Whatever it takes to help you remember what Christ is doing in you and through you.
- **Main Character** It's yours. Write about you. Make it personal to you and God. The news, nations, trends, and sports (my struggle- Go Blue!) come and go, but God's Word is Eternal.
- **Show, Don't Tell** God knows what you are going to write before you say it, so don't just say you're mad. This is your heavenly father. He can take it; let him have it, tell him **why** you are hurting.
- **The Devil is in the lack of detail** Share with God the good, bad and the ugly parts of your life. Don't waste your time trying to write like a saint. (You already are!)
- **Make it a conversation** Take your time and listen to what God is saying to you.
- **Firm Foundation** God's word is truth (John 17:17). Never stray far **from the reading** of His word. Amen!

Activity 3

Let's group journal, so to speak:

I'd like to try this. We all have different and interesting perspectives. I learn from you as much as you learn from me.

How cool would it be if we could all agree on the same 7-day journal plan, journal each day individually and then come back next week over coffee and talk about the wonders God showed us in his Word and in our writing!

Some of us are more techie than others, so please bare-with me.

This is my home screen and the bible/journal apps I frequent. I'm willing to give any other app a try. Whatever you want.

Can we search the plans and choose one to follow? 😊 Below I just went to YouVersion (Holy Bible) and typed in 7 days and came up with a ton.

Well, what do you like?

Let's, go for it. Journal in whatever way you like and be prepared to share with us next week what the Lord and you talked about.

Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor

Romans 15:5-6 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the SAME MIND with one another according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

