

# Draw Near to God

✘ Believing God's promises necessitates first knowing God.

Our experience of the Father comes through daily prayer, reading the Word and trust. Jesus taught that unwavering faith would be rewarded with heavenly answers. But when doubt comes our way, the Holy Spirit will help build our faith in the Father.

---

## Rebecca St. James' Pro-Life Message



{youtube}muyLiEoBmk0{/youtube}

For years singer and author Rebecca St. James has passionately delivered her True Love Waits message about abstinence and purity. Now she is extending that message with a burden for the unborn via her latest movie, *Sarah's Choice*. In her first leading role, St. James portrays Sarah Collins, a rising single professional who has to make a life-altering decision when she gets pregnant. Sarah struggles with her new reality and also faces her doubts and frustrations with God.

---


# Hold Fast

**Hebrews 10:18-39** Recently I heard a message titled “What to do when you are going through hell. “The answer given in the message was this: “When you are going through hell, keep moving.”

---

# Be a Life-Changer

Here are quick and cheap ways to help transform someone else's life.

-  Buy a pair a shoes for a friend or family member from Tom's Shoes. With every pair you purchase, TOMS will give a pair of new shoes to a child in need.
- Help build a house with Habitat for Humanity for a person in need. Join in the fight against poverty housing and homelessness around the world!
- Volunteer at your local homeless shelter. Homeless shelters welcome volunteers and have a variety of programs through which you can get involved.
- Make a double batch of cookies the next time you bake and share with a friend or neighbor to brighten their day.
- Help others learn to read by volunteering as a tutor to help illiterate children and adults with Reading Is Fundamental, Inc. Help transform someone's life today by teaching this important and necessary skill.
- Offer to babysit, sometimes parents need a break. If a

friend or other loved one in your life doesn't get that chance very often, call them and offer to babysit sometime. It can make a big difference.


- Save a life by giving blood. The American Red Cross estimates that "every two seconds someone in America needs blood" and over 4 million Americans donate to the cause. To learn more about donating blood visit your local American Red Cross.
  - Clean out the garage. No doubt you've got a garage or basement full of stuff you've been meaning to get rid of. Consider having a garage sale and donating the proceeds to a local charity, food pantry or ministry.
  - For those who like to knit and crochet: Knit for Kids has a program to supply sweaters for children of poverty all over the world.
  - Many senior citizen centers offer volunteer programs to provide friendship and community activities to senior citizens. Call your local senior citizen center and volunteer your time.
- 

## Make a Decision

In his first book *Shaken Not Shattered*, author Matthew Hagee challenges readers to "make a decision, and go for it!" in life. But for some Christians, that's easier said than done. Are you afraid to make choices that require you to abandon your comfort zone for the unknown? Though you are passionate about God and want to advance His kingdom, your decisions will determine your destiny, not chance. To discover why faith not fear must govern the choices we make, listen to podcast below.

---

# Rebecca St. James' Pro-Life Message

For years singer and author Rebecca St. James has  passionately delivered her True Love Waits message about abstinence and purity. Now she is extending that message with a burden for the unborn via her latest movie, *Sarah's Choice*. In her first leading role, St. James portrays Sarah Collins, a rising single professional who has to make a life-altering decision when she gets pregnant. Sarah struggles with her new reality and also faces her doubts and frustrations with God.

St. James says God had already given her a pro-life passion before she was even offered this role. Sensing that the Lord was calling her to get more involved with films about faith and family, St. James moved to California a year ago. Through a couple of friends, she got involved with several crisis pregnancy events and recognized an incredible need for movies that support life.

---

## Hello Hurricane

 By Switchfoot | Sparrow

*Hello Hurricane* is Switchfoot's seventh full-length studio album, which lead singer Jon Foreman calls a "new beginning." The band combed through 80 songs before selecting the very best for this album.

---

# Christmas Like This

📖 By Ayiesha Woods | Gotee Records

The Grammy-nominated Ayiesha Woods offers a sassy, energetic holiday album with *Christmas Like This*. This nine-track CD features such classics as “Walking in a Winter Wonderland,” “Jingle Bells,” “Joy to the World” and “O Holy Night.”

---

# The Misunderstood God

📖 By Darin Hufford | Windblown Media | softcover | 224 pages  
| \$13.99

In *The Misunderstood God: The Lies Religion Tells Us About God*, the first nonfiction release from the publisher of *The Shack*, Darin Hufford confronts a skewed idea of the nature of Christ perpetuated by teachers, preachers and believers in general. The author addresses these misconceptions and then asks who would want to love a god who beats down a person, judges unmercifully, betrays or abandons if one wrong move is made.

---

# Finding Purpose Beyond Your Pain

📖 By Paul Meir and David L. Henderson | Thomas Nelson |  
hardcover | 304 pages | \$22.99

Written to address the problem of suffering, *Finding Purpose Beyond Our Pain* gives advice for facing pain directly. The authors, psychiatrists Paul Meir and David L. Henderson, classify types of suffering into seven categories—injustice, discipline, failure, death, rejection, loneliness and loss—and examine how each can bring their “gifts” into a person’s life.