

FOR **GIRLS** **YOU**

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

A HAPPY TALE
Liddy

LOVES TO SMILE
AND HAS WRITTEN A
BOOK FILLED WITH
ADVENTURES
AND FUN!

Our LOL Issue!

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JOY &
LAUGHTER



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*just
joking*

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AND FAVORITE JOKES!

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KNOCK.**

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THERE?**

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WHO?**

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for GIRLS Like YOU

Volume 14 Issue 1

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P.O. Box 681322
Franklin, TN 37068
888.906.9055
forgirlslikeyou.com
info@forgirlslikeyou.com

FOUNDER
Wynter Pitts

PUBLISHERS
Jonathan Pitts and Four Girls Like You
in association with Roberta Croteau

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Roberta Croteau
roberta@forgirlslikeyou.com

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
Alena Pitts Kaitlyn Pitts
Camryn Pitts Olivia Pitts

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Andrea Kiser Martin

CONTRIBUTORS
Colbie C. Jackie Marushka
Bethany Denton Terra Mattson
Lydia Denton Shani McKenzie
Dannah Gresh Annie Pajcic
Kristin Hakoun Kate Yanof
Libby Hakoun

**DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS
AND DEVELOPMENT**
Linsey Driskill

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR
Jamie Brooks

MARKETING INTEGRATOR
Juliet King

WEB DESIGNER AND DEVELOPER
Ted Barnett

SUBSCRIPTIONS/CUSTOMER SERVICE
Call toll-free 888.906.9055 or email
subscriptions@forgirlslikeyou.com

FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU BOARD
Donna Carruthers
Courtney DeFeo
Dione Dewitte
Andrea Evans

SPECIAL THANKS TO
Ken Ott, Peta Pitts, Taylor West

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hello FRIEND

It's Time for Joy!

Shout aloud and sing for joy!
ISAIAH 12:6

It's that time of year again. The Christmas decorations are coming down and the beginning of this new year has finally begun! This time of year can be a little bit dull for some people ... but I take this time of year to make it my most joyful season! People like to associate the word "joy" with Christmas (and the New Year) but now that these festivities are over, we sometimes feel like everything is dull and stale. **But what if instead we strive to have joy and stand firm in God no matter how lacking excitement this season is?**

Joy is the one attribute we have that can stay consistent no matter what we're going through. It is the "feeling of great pleasure and happiness." And in times of trouble, the joy of the Lord is there, no matter what.

My middle name is this very word that we are talking about ... JOY! But my mom, the founder of **FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU**, chose to spell it JOI. My middle name is a great reminder to stay reliant on God during my day no matter what battles or struggles come my way.

Philippians 4:4-7 says: **"Always be filled with joy in the Lord. I will say it again. Be filled with joy. Let everyone see that you are gentle and kind."** This verse is a great reminder that joy is something that brings light to a dark room. It brings excitement to a sad room. So, as you begin this year, bring your joy to the lifelessness around you. You never know—your joy could change someone's outlook on life.

Have a joy-filled new year!

Camryn Pitts
AND YOUR FRIENDS at
FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU

And here's a favorite funny:
What did the plumber tell the singer?
Nice pipes!



Camryn, 14

In this issue, we loved reading about everything that brings you joy and makes you laugh! For me, I'd say all of my friends make me laugh! Every single day my friends and I are filled with joy and laughter! It's non-stop giggling for our entire lunchtime.

WHERE IT'S AT

Our LOL issue

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Happy Tales

Meet Liddy—a girl like you who loves to laugh and spread the joy of Jesus everywhere she goes—and in her book, *Peg & Fetch!* (She's an author too!)



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Laughing All the Way

Your hilarious stories, inspiring moments of joy, and the silliest jokes we've ever heard! Get ready to *hahahahaha* your way through these funny contributions!

Fun House Mirror

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Kate Yanof has some great advice for girls like you—after all, she used to be one! Discover her super fun way to remember important truths with colorful sticky notes and your bathroom mirror!

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SPrinkles

SPRINKLE JOY. SPRINKLE FUN. SPRINKLE BEAUTY.



Hold Your Horses!

"Some trust in chariots, some trust in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." PSALM 20:7

I love horses! I completely understand what this Bible verse said about horses—they're big, muscular, beautiful and graceful animals—but no matter what anyone says, I will always trust in the Lord. I started horseback riding in July 2023. My favorite horse is Happy, the first horse I ever rode. He is a piebald pinto so he's black and white, and he's so cute and fun to ride! I love horseback riding because anytime I go riding, after the lesson I always feel like I achieved something new! I think horseback riding is good for anyone if it is what you want to do. Always follow your dreams and listen for when the Lord is talking to you. He told me that this is my passion, and I should go for it! I am so glad I did. I have no regrets!

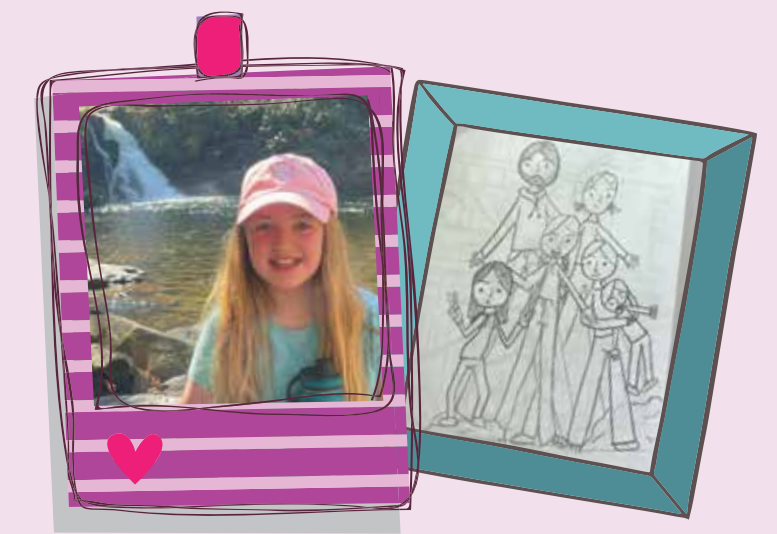
-Niniola, 10



Song Advice

My name is Esme, I can't wait for the next **FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU** magazine! I wanted to share some of my favorite inspirational Christian songs: "Who I Am" by Blanca, "Gold" by Britt Nicole, "Magnetic" by Bright Ones, "Fighter" by Jamie Grace and "Just A Friend" by Jamie Grace. I would definitely recommend these songs to every girl. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do!

-Esme, 11



Meet My Family

Y'all are amazing! I anxiously await every new magazine. I love drawing and doodling in notebooks, so I drew this picture of my family. I am the oldest of four children. The people in the back are my mom and dad, the girl with the braids is me, and the girl doing the peace signs is my sister Ellie. The bigger boy is my brother Josiah and the boy he's picking up is my brother Judah. They are always wrestling. I hope you like it!

-Adalyn, 11

SPRINKLES

SPRINKLE JOY. SPRINKLE FUN. SPRINKLE BEAUTY.



Serving Up Fun!

One of my favorite things to do is play tennis. It helps me keep things off my mind, and it's a lot of fun to play with other people and strategize. When my coach teaches me something and I finally get it, it just feels so good. We can shine God's love with whatever we do!

-Gracie, 12



A Girl Like Me!

I love **FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU** because it explains how girls can play out their Christian faith whether they're everyday girls like me, or famous, like your favorite celebrity. My BFF Ava gave me an old magazine and that's when I knew I wanted a subscription. Some things I enjoy are acting, baking, drawing, laughing and crocheting. I am homeschooled with an awesome older sister.

When I grow up, I want to be a mom and record audio books. One of my favorite Bible verses is Exodus 14:14: "The LORD Himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." I find it to be pretty funny because the Israelites are freaking out because Moses hasn't parted the Red Sea yet. We all know how everybody escapes, but the Israelites just don't get it and don't trust God. Silly, right? Well, sometimes we don't either. Have no fear! The Lord will fight for YOU!

-Gretchen, 12



Sister Sillies

We thought we'd share some of our favorite embarrassing (but funny!) moments with you!

One time I put my black school shoes on with my sport uniform instead of putting my sport shoes on with my sport uniform!

-Naomi, 11

One time, during my piano lesson, I was looking out the window because I could see my family in the kitchen in the reflection of the window. Then my teacher said to me, "It's a beautiful sunset, right?" but I wasn't even looking at the sunset!"

-Amelia, 10

One time, we were at a friend's house, and we were having hot chips. I went to squeeze tomato sauce next to the chips, but when I squeezed, the bottle lid burst off and all the sauce dropped all over my chips!

-Christina, 8

I AM

COLBIE JOY
10 years old
Optimistic. Friendly. Creative.

My family—my mom and dad, my sister, who's 12, and my twin brothers, who are 8!

I love spending time with my friends and family playing games, petting my dog, hanging out outside, and laughing.

I've sold my jewelry at two entrepreneur fairs!

A Girl Like You

Do you know how your name was chosen? My parents liked the names Coly and Coby, so they combined them to make Colbie! They chose Joy for my middle name because it was their prayer that I would be filled with joy and that I would bring joy to others.

Tell us about your pets! I have one dog, Hank. I love him, and to me he's the best! He can be very brave, cuddly, scared, playful, lazy ... and he definitely makes us laugh! Hank is a husky mix, so he loves to "talk" to us.

What do you want to do or be when you grow up? I would like to be a dance teacher, a stay-at-home mom, a writer or a counselor. I really enjoy helping people, working with younger kids, reading and writing.

What is something you want all girls to know about God? He loves you no matter what and will do anything for you. Also, even if it doesn't seem like it, He is answering your prayers. He might answer by saying later, or no, but He still hears you. God's been showing me that He will handle every situation; He has the answer before you even have the problem!

What are three things you are grateful for today? My family and friends, Jesus dying for me, and my dog, Hank.

What is something that nobody would ever guess about you? I have a double-jointed big toe on my right foot. And I have a "freakish" memory according to my mom. I'm good at remembering random facts—the weirder the fact, the easier I remember it!

What is on your bucket list? Go to Paris, meet a famous dancer (which I also hope to be), and get their autograph.

What is one of the coolest things you have ever seen? Or done? Getting baptized last April was a big milestone for me!

FIVE FUN FACTS ABOUT ME!

1. I've been dancing since I was 4!
2. Our family is trying to go to all 50 states. So far I've been to over half the states.
3. I've never broken any bones or had any cavities.
4. I've been in a newspaper twice, and on the news twice (like on TV)!
5. I have a business selling beaded bracelets, necklaces, earrings and keychains.

JUST FOR LAUGHS

It makes me laugh when my dad does weird things to try and make us laugh, like talking in a weird voice or telling bad jokes. I love to make videos with my siblings, friends or alone, but what makes it funny is no matter what I try, they always turn out to make people—including me—laugh instead of being serious like they're supposed to!



FAVORITES!

Color: Any shade of purple, periwinkle and gold.

Song: Pop and worship songs.

Book: Pretty much anything with fairy tales!

Hobbies: I love dancing, reading and writing.

Thing To Wear: Jeans and a T-shirt or a hoodie

Class in School: Literature

Bible Verse: 1 Peter 5:7

"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

A GIRL LIKE YOU
COLBIE JOY

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! We'd love to showcase your paintings, poems, songs, stories, drawings, photographs, anything! And we'd like to see you! Email your entries and photo to sprinkles@forgirlslikeyou.com!

GOD'S girl

DEVOTIONALS & MORE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

WYNTER'S WORDS



I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy!

The joy of the LORD is your strength.
NEHEMIAH 8:10

You know the fun song that starts like this: "I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart. Where? Down in my heart ...?" The upbeat tune and the hand motions do make this a fun song for everyone, and the words are full of truth.

Joy, like love, is much more than something you feel when everything is going great. Joy is something you can have however hard life is, when you remember that you are God's chosen daughter. And, like love, joy grows in your heart because God lives in you.

When I was a little girl, I sang that joy-joy-joy song all the time. But it took me a long time to realize that even when things around me were sad, I could still have the joy I was singing about. A lot of sad things happened where I grew up. My neighborhood wasn't very safe, and we didn't have a lot of money. I was grateful for a warm home to live in, but it wasn't fancy. Even with these not-so-good circumstances, my grandmother always seemed to have the biggest

smile on her face. So how did my grandmother manage to keep smiling in her difficult situation?

You know the answer. She relied on God to give her the strength she needed, and He gave her His joy. The joy that God gives does not depend on anyone else's actions or your circumstances. Joy comes from God living in us, and the joy is there regardless of what is happening around us. And the Bible tells us that God's joy makes us strong.

My grandmother knew that she was God's child and because of that, she had joy inside. She simply had to say yes to the joy God made available to her. Mama's joy was not connected to good things or bad things. Her joy was connected to God

Himself. The circumstances of our lives will change all the time, but we can have joy in our hearts because God never changes. We have joy because of who lives inside us; our joy doesn't depend on what is happening around us.

From *Living As God's Girl* by Wynter Pitts.
Courtesy of Harvest House Publishers.

DEAR God,

Thank You for making it possible for me to have joy in any situation because You love me. You forgive me, and You promise to take care of me. Help me not to worry, but always to trust You. Thank You for using Your joy to make me strong. Thank You for helping me say yes to joy today!
In Jesus' name—AMEN

GO Girl!

WITH JACKIE MARUSHKA



GO Girl!

Joy and Laughter

"What did the zero say to the eight?" Answer?
"Where'd you get the belt?"

Hahaha—OK, so it's a little on the "cheesy" side but it's still a good one!

I love to laugh, and I believe many of you reading here do also! One of my favorite verses is Psalm 30:11: "You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing." It's a favorite because it reminds me of how good it feels to experience God's joy and how that joy often shows up as laughter.

Another thing I love about laughter is that it is very contagious. Have you ever noticed when someone starts laughing, others will laugh even if they're not sure what everyone is laughing about? It's a great way to spread cheer and lighten the mood of any room.

Are YOU the jokester in your friend group? If you're not, I bet you can pick out the person who is always making jokes and starting a chain reaction of laughter. If you're not the jokester and you'd like to work on making people laugh and smile, here are some funny jokes to get the new year started with sharing your silly side.

As you read and share them, remember you can also share **where YOUR joy comes from**—our Savior Jesus! Psalm 2:4 says, "But the one who rules in heaven laughs." Isn't that the best? God Himself laughs!

Finally, if you, or anyone around you, is feeling sad and in need of laughter and joy, you can always think of this verse from Job 8:21: "He will once again fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouts of joy."

JOKING AROUND

Why did the pony ask for a glass of water?
Because it was a little horse.

What do you call a beehive with no exit?
Un-bee-lievable!

Do you want to hear two short jokes and a long joke?
Joke! Joke! Joooooooooooooooooooooke.

What do you call cheese that isn't yours?
Nacho cheese!

How do you cure a fear of a speed bump?
You slowly get over it.

What do you call a fish with no eye?
A fsh.

What breed of dog can jump higher than a skyscraper?
Any breed of dog! Skyscrapers can't jump.

I wish you a wonderful 2024 filled with **joy**, **laughter** and **happiness** in our Lord Jesus.

LOL

HAHAHAHA!



JOKES, FUNNIES & MORE!

Why did the man fall IN A WELL?

Because he couldn't see that well!



What did the pirate say when he turned 80?

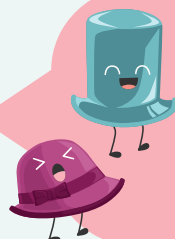
"Aye matey."

What kind of doctor is Dr. Pepper?

A fizzician!

What did one hat say to the other?

You wait here — I'll go on ahead!



Why don't the CIRCUS LIONS eat the clowns?

Because they taste funny!



What do frogs ORDER at fast-food restaurants?

French flies!



Did you hear about the rancher who had 97 cows in his field?

When he rounded them up, he had 100!



What do you call a lazy kangaroo?

A pouch potato!



What do you call a belt made of watches?

A waist of time!

Why are elevator jokes so good?

They work on many levels!



WHEN DOES a REGULAR joke become a DAD joke?

When it becomes apparent!

What did the SNAIL say when it rode on the turtle's back?

Wheeee!



I don't trust stairs.

They're always up to something.



SEND US YOUR FAVORITE LOLS! What jokes make you laugh? Have a great riddle to stump us? Have you drawn a cartoon you'd like to share? Anything funny at all—we want to hear from you! Email LOL@forgirlslikeyou.com!



TRUE girl

WITH SHANI MCKENZIE

TRUE girl

Seriously Funny

"Class clown!" "You're so crazy!" I heard those words all the time growing up. I loved making people laugh. I loved being silly. And I knew that's what came naturally to me. What I didn't know was that I was reflecting part of God's image. To be honest, for a long time I thought that humor wasn't part of God's character. I thought maybe I should try to be less humorous. What if people couldn't see the God in me because they couldn't take me seriously? After all, God is holy, righteous, all-knowing—those are serious things, right? The answer is yes ... those ARE serious things, and they are part of God's character. **But the truth is God is also loving, humorous, and kind, among countless other things.**

Sometimes we get caught up in the seriousness of our faith and responsibilities. However, in the midst of our spiritual journey, we must recognize the importance of humor and laughter as gifts from God. As I grew in the Lord and got into His Word, I found that He does have a sense of humor. In the book of Proverbs, we find a verse that emphasizes the joy that laughter brings: "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." (PROVERBS 17:22) What a great reminder that laughter is a gift from God, healing for our souls.

And humor doesn't just play an important role in our relationship with God, it's also something that helps enhance our relationships with others. **Sharing laughter creates bonds, eases stress, and helps us relate to each other on a deeper level.**

Laughter also helps us deal with the hard things we experience in life.

In times of difficulty, humor can be a powerful coping tool. Proverbs 14:13 says: "Even in laughter, the heart may ache, and rejoicing may end in grief."

This verse lets us know that laughter can coexist with difficult emotions, offering some relief for the pressures we face.

But whether it's during good times or hard times, laughter exists to reflect God's joy. Our faith teaches us that God is the source of true joy. Psalm 126:2 says: "Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'" **When we embrace laughter, we reflect the joy that comes from knowing God and experiencing His goodness.** By finding humor in our daily lives, we show others the transforming power of God's love!



True Girl

Dannah Gresh is the founder of True Girl. She's written more than 20 books for girls and moms. Find out more at mytruegirl.com.



HAPPY

Tales

The JOYFUL Journey of Liddy Hakoun

A girl like you who loves to have fun and bring the joy of Jesus to others, Liddy has written a book that has a pirate! And a monkey! And adventures! And a whole lot of fun!

A NOTE FROM MOM

Liddy brings so much fun and excitement to our family! She has a witty sense of humor that makes us laugh constantly. Every room she enters becomes a lot more fun and filled with life. Liddy is lively and unique and not afraid to be herself. Her outfits are funky, her accessories are fun, and her interests are quirky!

Liddy's name means **noble**, **honorable** and **upright**, which is very meaningful to us. When she was in my womb, we called her a "mover and a shaker" because she was so active. We believe that God is going to take Liddy's energy and excitement for life and pair it with honor and righteousness as He molds her into a mover and shaker for His purposes.

Liddy is great at noticing and appreciating the small joys in life, and she reminds the rest of us to enjoy them too. **My biggest joy as Liddy's mom has been watching her develop her own relationship with Jesus.** She is the first to pray for anyone who needs it, she is eager to learn to hear God's voice more clearly, and she looks to God to help her in tough situations. Liddy is a wonderful daughter, sister and friend!

—Kristin Hakoun



I planned all the decorations for my sister's 16th birthday.

I love this shirt because I love to smile!



I made these donuts at my first cooking class. They looked so good we couldn't make it home without trying them!

Hi, I'm LIDDY

I love to have fun, joke around and play, but I also love going to youth group, worshipping Jesus and reading my Bible. My Bible is full of neon highlighting and bright-colored sticky notes from marking my favorite verses.

To me, **joy is being grateful for what's going on in any moment.** I try to appreciate and enjoy the small things like drinking hot chocolate out of a cute mug or eating my homemade chocolate-filled raspberries. Joy is also having fun and laughing with the people around me.

Joy is important because we can't do epic things every day, so we have to enjoy the small things like finding unexplored areas on a hike, or spotting deer in the neighbor's yard. God gives us so many little things to enjoy in our lives!

One way I like to bring joy to others is with my smile. People always tell me that my smile lights up their day.

I also love to make people feel special on their birthdays and other special events. I like to make banners and collages and pop confetti. When my sister Jayna got her license and first drove by herself, I wanted to surprise her when she got home. I got everyone to stand on the front lawn and hold up big signs that said: "Jayna, You Drove Home!"

I also love to plan surprises when people walk downstairs on their birthday. I usually make everyone hide and then we jump up with party hats and say "Happy Birthday!"

This is ME

Liddy Marie, 11
Spunky. Loving. Adventurous.

My Name

My parents got my name from Lydia in the Bible. They thought Liddy was a cute, modern version of it. My name means noble, honorable and upright, and that meant a lot to my parents.

My Family

My family is awesome. It's me, Mom, Dad, and my two older sisters, Jayna and Elli. Jayna is 16, and Elli is 13. Jayna and Elli go to school, and I'm homeschooled. I also have two cats. We live in a small town in New Hampshire. We are very adventurous and love nature.

My Pets

I have two Siberian cats named Boston (also known as Mzr. Chubbs) and Naya. Boston is gigantic! He's also super fluffy and huggable. He loves being cuddled. Naya is soft and little. She prefers to find cozy spots and sit by herself.

My Hobbies

I love cooking, exploring in the woods, and taking videos with my camera. I also love riding my moped around the neighborhood.

When I grow up...

I want to go to culinary school to learn how to cook cool foods and become a great cook.

I want all girls to know that...

God is always there when you need Him, and He will help you and be right there with you when you're going through a tough time.

Three things I am grateful for today...

I'm so grateful for my family. They are kind, funny and caring. I'm also grateful for my cats.

Boston is always ready to cuddle with me! I'm so grateful for my house. It's cozy and has a nice big yard.

No one would ever guess ...

I've been sworn in as a Junior Ranger in Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Everglades and Acadia National Parks.

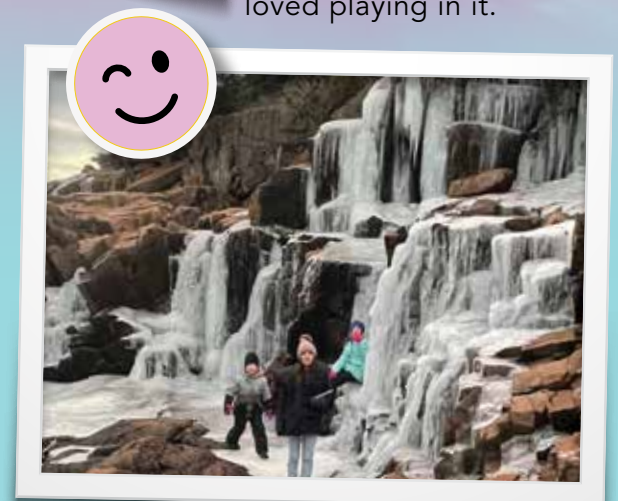
One of my favorite memories was when we went to Acadia National Park after Christmas when not many people were at the park. We were all bundled up in our snow pants and coats. We walked off the trail to explore and found an ice-covered rock cliff. We called it our ice castle, and we loved playing in it.



Here I am, getting sworn in as a junior ranger at Grand Teton National Park by Park Ranger Nicole.



Reading the Word with Boston. He loves cuddling with me while I read my Bible.



This is me and my sisters at the epic ice castle we discovered in Acadia National Park.

My unusual talent is...

I'm a great belly flopper. Everyone laughs at it.

My happy place...

I like sitting at our kitchen island, coloring, and talking while Mom's cooking.

On my bucket list...

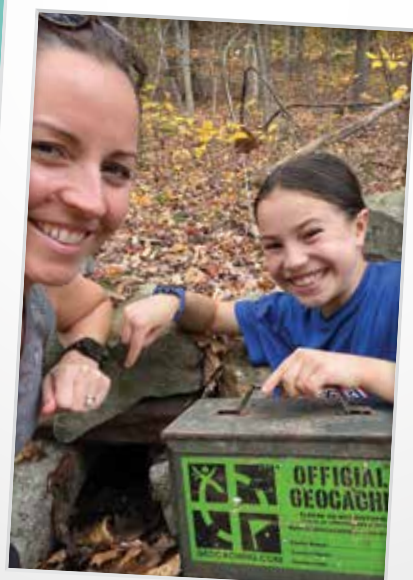
I want to take a one-month vacation to Europe, build an epic tree house, and own a cool old car. I like cars from the '80s. I also want to sled down a really steep hill.

God has been showing me that...

He speaks in many different ways, like through worship or even by giving me a thought or idea.



I love playing the electric guitar. I just started this year.



Me and my mom went off the trail while hiking and found a geocaching box by accident! The box had books to take one and leave one. We're going to go back and put PEG & FETCH inside.

This is me in my favorite checkered pants. We found this ski lift when we were walking in the woods.



Here I am riding my moped with my bestie. I like to ride to the neighbor's house to buy eggs for my mom.



FIVE FUN FACTS ABOUT ME!

1. I play the electric guitar.
2. People call me smiley. I'm known for my smile.
3. I love drinking plain black coffee.
4. I have lots of funky stuffed animals.
5. I am the family party planner.



Me and my sister found this cool tree fort at a park by the ocean.

FAVORITES!

Color: Purple

Song: "I Thank God" by Maverick City Music

Singer/Band: Maverick City Music

Book: Peg & Fetch by me! Also, World Record books

Food: Rice bowls

Thing To Wear: My baggy checkered pants

Vacation: Tiny cabin in the woods in Maine

Class in School: My homeschool cooking class

Bible Verse: Isaiah 41:10

"Don't be afraid,
for I am with you. **DON'T BE DISCOURAGED**, for I am your God.
I will **STRENGTHEN YOU** and **HELP YOU**. I will
HOLD YOU UP with my
victorious right hand."

This is FUNNY

A funny memory...

When I was in fifth grade, we each got worms to observe and take care of. I named mine Squirmy, Billy, Bob, Joe, Sue, and I named my biggest, fattest worm Jesus. Everyone laughed when I said things like "I found Jesus" and "I got you, Jesus!" Once when my worm was wiggling away from me, I said, "Jesus, don't go backwards! I need you!" Everyone loved hearing me say these funny things to my worm. We still laugh about it.

Here is the leader of all my worms, Jesus!



Everyone laughs at me and my sister's Limu Emu and Doug costumes. Here we are at our cross-country costume practice.

What makes me laugh is...

Liberty Mutual commercials! It sounds crazy, but when I was turning 10, I decided my birthday party theme would be Liberty Mutual. I loved Limu Emu and thought it would be fun. I wrote little skits and me and my friends acted them out. It was funny and out of the ordinary. Who would base their party on Liberty Mutual?! The joke continued when my sister and I dressed up as Limu Emu and Doug for our cross-country costume practice this year.

5 THINGS I THINK ARE HILARIOUS

When I was 4 years old, I decided my name should be "Fellow Jello Marshmallow." I told everyone they could just call me "Fellow" for short.

The funny positions my cat sleeps in.

My Papa's jokes. He loves to make us laugh.

The Worshicken! It's a hilarious rubber chicken that "sings" worship songs on YouTube. The Way Maker video cracks me up!

The funky hairstyles my dad used to do to my hair. My mom says Dad used to help me do it because she wouldn't—and that I would march into church like it was totally normal.



I loved the six-elastic pony on top of my head!



This is MY BOOK!

One of the coolest things I've ever done is ... publish my own book! Sometimes I forget how crazy it is! I'm so excited for you to read it. You'll love Fetch. He's so cute.



Chubbs loved my book!



Two versions of PEG and FETCH I'm holding the first version of my book and the final published version. I was so happy when it arrived!

PEG & FETCH is a fun story that I wrote based on my family's values. We created our values years ago, and we use them a lot. We put them into the acronym PEGFETCH so that we could remember them more easily.

My uncle and I came up with the idea to turn PEGFETCH into a pirate named Peg and her pet monkey named Fetch. Peg and Fetch go on exciting missionary adventures based on our values of **Prayer, Exploration, Generosity, Forgiveness, Encouragement, Thankfulness, Courage and Honesty.**

My book started as a big school project in fourth grade. A year later my dad and I worked with a publisher and an illustrator to create the finished product. It's so cool to be able to hold a book that I wrote! I hope you will enjoy the fun pictures and impactful story too.



I'm Pirate Peg! This is me presenting the original version of my book at a school event. I was the only one who dressed up!

You can order Liddy's book on Amazon. Search "PEG & FETCH book."



Laughing ALL THE WAY!

Your hilarious stories and moments of joy ...
along with favorite jokes to make you giggle (and groan)!



Esther, 8

What do you
call two cats?

A PURR

This story is usually told by my Aunty Karla and involves one of her babysitting experiences with me when I was about 5 or 6 years old. She was babysitting me while I was home

for remote learning (during COVID) and the alarm for my next class went off. I was just finishing up my lunch. My mom usually set the alarm on my iPad to give me five-minute warnings before my next class. Aunty tells the story: "Like a good auntie I say, 'Oh Esther, time to pack up. Esther, being who she is ... comes over to me and says: "So Auntie, when you HEAR the alarm, you actually don't have to remind me. You see that's what the alarm is for. But if you remind me before the alarm, now that is helpful. Also, if you remind me and the alarm goes off at the same time, that's OK too. But once it goes off, you really don't need to tell me, OK? But thanks so much Auntie. I love you." I laugh every time she tells this story!

Why did the cookie
go to the doctor?

BECAUSE HE WAS
FEELING CRUMB-Y.



Adeline, 10

Something that has brought me joy this year is that I got baptized! I've been wanting to get baptized for a while and finally, I did it with my dad baptizing me at church. I was so excited, I tried to baptize myself, going back in the water before my dad could get a chance to help me! My excitement definitely showed through. Also, my dapple dachshund Max makes me laugh a lot!

Sydney, 9



What do
teachers drink on
snowy days?

HOT CHALK-OLATE!

My dog Lola brings me joy.

She is a Boston Terrier/Rat Terrier Mix. She is cute, funny and snuggly. She loves to jump, and I love to dress her in cute sweaters!

Valentina, 11



Cooking with
my parents
brings me
great joy.

My dad creates a lot of different recipes like hummus, cream cheese, tomato sauce, chili, pumpkin pie, chocolate pudding, little dessert balls we call Energy Bites (those are our favorites), and so much more! We make them together and sometimes my little brother helps. My mom and I make a lot of things, but

one of our favorites is Scottish oatmeal. We put almond milk, sunflower-seed butter, syrup, cinnamon, and slices of banana in it. It comes out warm and creamy and we always have more than one bowl!

Why does God
love mangoes
and math?

BECAUSE HE SAID
TO BE FRUITFUL AND
MULTIPLY.



Reese, 13

One thing that brings me great joy is my absolute FAVORITE day of the year: the day after Thanksgiving! That day is the day when my family and I decorate for Christmas, make Christmas treats, watch a Christmas movie, and listen to Christmas music for the first time in the year! It brings me great joy because I love love love Christmas, and I love my family, and I love reading all the stories in the Bible leading up to Jesus' birth! The Christmas season is so happy, and I think that is the thing that brings me the most joy.

What is a duck's favorite snack?
QUACKERS



Abby, 8

Dancing brings me great joy! When I'm having a bad day, I dance to feel better. Last year, I took Ballet 1 and danced in my first recital, and I felt great joy and happiness. I love to praise the Lord through dance! What makes me laugh? Watching videos of myself that my dad recorded when I was a baby.



Nora, 9

I'm an Autistic PDAer. What helps me the most is how much God loves me and that He's with me all the time. One place where I hear about God's love and that brings me great joy is Christian Youth Theater (CYT)! It's really fun and I meet a lot of friends there. One of the rules is that everyone is kind and encouraging to each other. Some of my friends there are my age and some of them are teenagers! I just did my first play, Annie Kids. I love singing and dancing on stage! I'm also adopted. My family and my birth family came to watch my play!
CYT brings me so much joy!
Something that makes me laugh is my brother!

What do you call a dessert that went to school?
A SMART COOKIE!



Zoey, 11

Why did the melon jump in the lake?
SO IT COULD BE A WATERMELON!

I love when I make people laugh. It brings me so much joy, especially when it is my own joke! A verse I like that reminds me about joy is Psalm 16:11. It tells us that without God there would be no joy!



Rey, 11

Who patrols the north and south poles?
THE POL-ICE

Who founded April Fool's Day?
BENJAMIN 'PRANK'LIN

One thing that makes me happy is spreading joy by making gifts for people. Throughout the year, I make birthday presents and other gifts for my friends and family. Some of the things I enjoy making are bracelets, handmade cards, hand-sewn stuffed animals, and lots of other little projects. When I give people gifts, it makes me happy to know I can show them love.

I also love to write jokes. Here are two!



Vivian, 11

I was taking my aunt and uncle's dog, Lars, for a walk. My dog, Daisy, became jealous, and you could see her scowling head sticking between the posts on the balcony. She was also growling so loudly at Lars you could hear it from 10 feet away.
Needless to say, he did not make a good impression on her!



Ava, 11

Why are the mountains so funny?
BECAUSE THEY'RE HILL-AREAS!

One thing that brings me a great amount of joy and laughter is when my dad and I make silly videos. In 2021, I asked my dad to make a video with me and my toys. He agreed and we did a video of my toys doing silly stuff! Since then, we have done many videos with my toys! I gave every one of my toys a name and then created a silly adventure for them like: "Jessie and Bo Peep Teach Woody and Buzz Ballet." We also do videos when my toys have a talent show and do silly stuff like sing, dance and tell jokes. My dad is so funny, and he makes my toys say the silliest things! I'm so blessed that I have a dad who is so silly! I really love reading **For Girls Like You!**

Ava, 13



My sister told me this joke:

Who keeps the ocean clean?

MERMAIDS!

Doctor: You have a banana in your ear.

PATIENT: I CAN'T HEAR YOU, I HAVE A BANANA IN MY EAR.

I love to laugh. One of the things that brings me joy is being able to worship through singing, especially if it is a solo. Being able to share Jesus through singing is one of my favorite things to do. My brother Luke can always make me laugh because of his goofy, fun-loving spirit. He is the one I go to when I'm feeling down.

Want to build a boat?

I NOAH A GUY.



Sofia, 11

the same school my best friends were attending! We screamed and jumped a whole lot that morning we found out, so that was exciting!



Natalie, 10

My big sister brings me joy! She makes me laugh every day. This week my mom rearranged furniture and my sister went to sit where an armchair used to be and instead plopped onto the floor!

What did the horse say when he fell?

I'VE FALLEN, AND I CAN'T GIDDYUP!

In my family, I am the most joyous person there and I make the most jokes. The funniest thing in my life was when we (me and my friends) were eating dinner together and talking about what time we were born. So, the oldest,

Andrea, said that my older brother was a late and bad bird. Then my younger brother was an early/bad bird. I was an "on-time" bird, and I was good. We laughed hard that day, and whenever we mentioned it, we laughed hilariously until one of us broke into tears. What makes me laugh, mostly, is seeing my brothers fight for a long time, then playing for a longer time than they were fighting, and the time in between is three seconds. It's hilarious and great to see my brothers get along so well together. The most joyful thing in the world was last year when I got accepted to the same school my best friends were attending! We screamed and jumped a whole lot that morning we found out, so that was exciting!

Abigail, 13



My older brother always makes me laugh. Somehow, no matter how I'm feeling he can always bring a smile to my face. One night, we created keyboard shortcuts so that when you type a few letters on your phone, it will expand to words you want to type and the idea is you will get what you want quicker. For example, you might make your shortcut "lmk" and then your phone will automatically expand to "let me know." But, instead of that, we created shortcuts that would turn yes into no and vice versa. We put in a bunch of opposites and I don't know what was so hilarious about it, but it had us both laughing SO hard. It is always the things that you have no idea why they're funny that are the funniest. I am so grateful for my brother and that he is always able to make me smile and laugh in so many ways and in so many things. Happy New Year and I really do hope you have a joyful and laughter-filled 2024!

Miriam, 10



I love being with my family and my dog! It brings me joy when we play our favorite board game, Chameleon!

I also love shopping with friends, baking, volleyball, and hand lettering. It makes me laugh when I listen to comedians on road trips with my family!

Trinity, 13

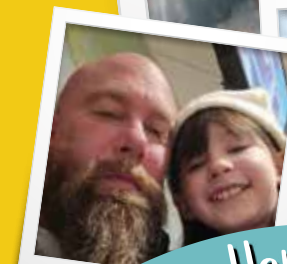


were coming down, we were about to hit the tree and my dad was trying to stop us—but my friend rolled off and the sled ran into my dad's legs! He fell and I went right under him and he fell right on top of my friend. My friend's dad got it in slow-mo on video. Dad got a bloody nose but it was a funny story after it happened!

My family is the silliest and I love them a lot. We have friends and their last name is Wall. My dad makes so many jokes about their last name, such as: "Yes, but you have to make sure she agrees that there is more to a house than walls." Or, "They need to stop putting up barriers." I made one too: "You're our favorite secluded family." They are awesome and we love to joke with them about their last name!

Why was 6 afraid of 7?

BECAUSE 7 8 9!



Hannah, 10

What brings me joy is when I watch funny animal videos, and I laugh when my dad tells bad dad jokes!

I have an EXTREMELY funny family! They bring me great joy. I could tell you so many stories.

Years ago, I was sledding with my friend down a big

hill! I was around 7 or so. My dad was at the end blocking a tree so we wouldn't run into it. So, as we



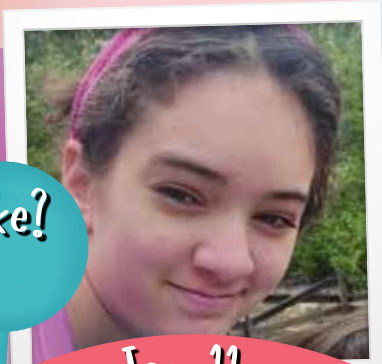
Louise, 12

A moment I will never forget is when my family went to family camp in Colorado. We had all woken up really early to drive to the horse stables outside of camp. We were assigned to horses, and then we set off on a beautiful trail ride during sunrise to get to our breakfast spot. Once my dad, sister and I arrived, we met my mom and brother who had come to breakfast on a hayride. We had hot chocolate, cereal, sausage, and delicious omelets. But the most fun of all was when we got a plate, smothered it in maple syrup, and tried to catch a pancake that was flipped to us in the air! **It was so much fun laughing about the pancakes bouncing off our faces or flying straight towards the ground!**



Lily, 13

One time at my orthodontist, the doctor brought a lady into the room who was looking to work there. I mistook her for my mom coming in to speak with the orthodontist, so I said, "Hi, Mama." Then the doctor said, "This is Doctor Jo. She came to look around here. Is that OK?" I then realized that it wasn't my mom. I was so embarrassed! When I got into the car afterwards, **I told my actual mom about it and we both had a laughing fit!**



Isa, 11

Wanna hear my vegetable joke?
NEVER MIND, IT'S TOO CORNY.



Evie, 12

I try not to get hung up on things in life, but sometimes I can't help it—like the time I got hung up on our fence. When I saw my brother jump over our fence as we left for a walk, I thought, "That looks easy—I'll try it too!" But when I jumped, I got hung up—by my shorts! (Caught on one of the ornaments poking up on our fence!) Shocked, I hung there helpless to free myself! Mom came to my rescue, but I'd never been so embarrassed in my life! That's when she told me a story about my dad. He was about my age and attending a church event with a big bounce house with twists and tunnels. As a girl he liked stood watching, inspiration struck! Before long, he and his friend were racing through the bounce house to show off. He was in the lead when he dove through the final tunnel to end with a grand flourish. He stood in triumph, not realizing that along the way he'd lost his shorts! The girl and all her friends were watching when he popped out the other end in his undies! I guess embarrassing short stories run in our family! I love to come up with and tell jokes.

When is a door not a door?

WHEN IT'S AJAR!



Paityn Joy, 12

My name is Paityn Joy. My first name, Paityn, means "joyous" and my middle name is Joy! **So my whole name means joy!** I have tried to live up to my name's meaning each day, as I love to bring JOY to others. I'm going to tell you a little story on how I got my middle name. One Sunday, my parents were in church, and our pastor was talking about joy. My dad took a note, pretty much the only note he's ever really taken in church! He wrote **JOY: Jesus, Others, You.** This little moment stuck out in my mom's mind when it came to picking my middle name. It paired perfectly with the first name my parents both loved. And that's how I became Paityn Joy. Some things that bring me JOY are: Hanging out with my family * Visiting with my grandparents * My family taking time to teach me (I'm homeschooled) * Snuggles and playing fetch with my dog, Waffles * Crafting * Doing well in school * Listening to music * Dance class * Worship * Karaoke with Daddy * Helping around the house * Playing games * Cartoon Saturdays * Homemade waffles * Bible journaling



Brielle, 13

Knock, knock.
Who's there?
STAR.
Star who?
YOU ARE A STAR!

I will never forget my 13th birthday. My mom took my sister and me to Silverton, Colorado. We went to an underground gold mine, and got to ride in a train, help the tour guide with stuff and pan for gold and other gems. We then ate lunch at a historical hotel on Main Street in Silverton. The hotel has a bullet hole in the wall. The piano player played "Happy Birthday" while the whole restaurant sang to me. I had my favorite soup—tomato!



Brook, 11

How did the hamburger win the race?
IT MUSTARD UP ALL ITS STRENGTH TO KETCHUP!

Something that brought me great joy was driving my Pop Pop around on the RTV and hanging with him. Something that makes me laugh is my sister singing to the K-Love station as loud as she can in the car. I love it!



Gara, 9

Why can it take pirates so long to learn the alphabet?
BECAUSE THEY CAN GET LOST AT "C."

I have two dogs named Bella and Bentley. Once Bentley kept coming upstairs looking all nervous, so my family and I went downstairs to see what was going on. Once we started looking, we couldn't find Bella. After a few minutes, I saw the office window screen flapping in the breeze. We realized Bella must have seen a squirrel and jumped out the window! My dad rushed to search for her. Thankfully, she didn't get far and was at the community park and pool. **My family and I will never forget that hilarious dog trouble day!**

Sisters

Notes on the MIRROR

Serious Advice from a Funny Girl

KATE YANOF

Ever since my middle school days of high ponytails and braces, I've been sticking notes on my bathroom mirror. As you can see, the notes cover my entire mirror aside from a small section allowing me to see my own reflection. The problem? I am only 5'2," meaning my taller friends are completely unable to see their faces in my mirror. Sounds like tall people problems, am I right? But all jokes aside, those notes are on my mirror on purpose—to remind me of important truths. They help me remember how Jesus says I should live, not how the world says I should. I want to be surrounded by what the Bible teaches and the

wisdom of people who have influenced me, instead of worrying about what the world says about how I look or what I can do. So, to my vertically gifted friends, I am very sorry. I'm sure there have been many sleepovers at my house where my taller friends left with their makeup looking a bit crazy since they couldn't use the mirror. However, these notes have reminded me that no matter the chaos that may come along with each day, I can have peace and stand firm knowing that the everyday craziness does not change the accuracy of these notes.



Here are some of my favorite
STICKY-NOTE reminders:

"If you're going to laugh about it in 10 years, laugh about it today."

-My grandmother

This has been one of the most valuable pieces of advice I've ever received. From middle school to high school (and even college), I've learned that awkward and embarrassing moments are simply part of life. In middle school and high school, I was overly concerned about avoiding embarrassment, whether through my choice of clothing or my actions. Looking back, I now see that life becomes significantly less stressful—and surprisingly more enjoyable—when we embrace laughing at ourselves. It also allows others to see the real versions of us, forming the truest of friendships.

"If you fear anything other than God, you're giving it too much power in your life."

-Sadie Robertson

Sadie Robertson has had a big impact on my life for many years. I admire how she lives, including not caring about things the world emphasizes such as appearances, actions and looks. Sadie talks a lot about not letting our anxiety rule our lives. The Bible tells us the Lord has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and peace. (2 TIMOTHY 2:7) Our lives are not meant to be controlled by fear. Rather, we are created to share the hope we find in Jesus with unbelievers we may encounter in our everyday lives. When I'm anxious about something, this quote reminds me to reconsider the power I'm giving it in my life.

"Be the exception."

-My mom

I'm sure we all have a phrase that our mom or dad repeats to us. "Be the exception" is what my mom has always told my two younger brothers and me as we were growing up. She encouraged us to be the ones who sit with someone no one else wants to sit with at lunch ... to be the ones who aren't breaking the rules, even if everybody else is ... to be the ones who choose not to cuss, even if nobody else sees a problem with it. We have the choice every day to live like everyone around us, or we can be the exception—and live our faith out every day, in every circumstance.

"Hard times don't change you; they make you more of who you are."

-Levi Lusko

I've had my fair share of hard times, whether it's losing close friends, anxiety issues, family deaths or any of the other things life tends to throw at us. Through these struggles, I've come to realize that situations don't change who we are; instead, they magnify the character traits we already have. If we have resilience, determination and positivity, challenging circumstances can strengthen these qualities in us. It's during tough times that our true character becomes more apparent, showing glimpses of who we really are. Embrace the hard times, knowing God created us to shine and not shrink back.

"When our personal reputation becomes more important than God's reputation, we cannot run our race well."

-My journal

This last sticky note advice comes from a journal I kept in high school. I've spent too much time in my first 20 years on this earth concerned about what other people think of me. My reputation has at times been overly important to me. But I've had to remind myself often that my sole purpose on this earth is to make much of the name of Jesus. In the Great Commission, Jesus tells us to go and make disciples of all nations. He doesn't tell us to spread the gospel while making sure people like us and think we are amazing along the way. He simply says to spread the gospel in our words and actions. Period. Looking at Jesus' time on earth—He was disliked by many for the truths He spoke. If Jesus prioritized the truth of the gospel over His own reputation, then we can and should too.

Kate Yanof was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. She's currently studying journalism at the University of Texas at Austin. She has two younger brothers she adores and enjoys playing sports of any kind. She plans to go to law school when she graduates college and would love to work in Christian ministry someday.



COURAGEOUS girls

WITH TERRA MATTSON

DEAR
TERRA,

"My friends can laugh and make jokes, but I don't feel like I am good at making other's laugh. Sometimes I wish I was funnier. Do you have any help for someone like me?"

LOVE, HANNAH, 10

What's So Funny?

Hannah, your honesty is beautiful. And you know what? I have felt the very same way in my life.

I thought I wasn't

very funny because I am surrounded by really funny friends who make me laugh all the time. Then I discovered something really powerful. God created different kinds of humor! What makes one person laugh doesn't always impact another. It can take some time to find the kind of humor that gets each of us laughing. Also, the gift of humor, the ability to make people laugh with ease, is not everyone's superpower. Similar to other talents like being good at sports, dance, singing, math, science, cooking, etc., being someone who brings laughter to a room is a talent God gave them and we can celebrate that even if we didn't get that talent. In the meantime, discover what kind of humor you have and what makes you belly laugh. When you do, share it with those you love.

The Bible says that laughter is good medicine! (PROVERBS 17:22)

God is so smart and creative that He knew when He gave us the gift of laughter, it would be good for our hearts, minds, bodies and souls. You see, laughter is proven to create special hormones that make us feel closer to those we laugh with! Hormones are those funny chemicals that can cause us to feel and act certain ways. Laughter helps us create oxytocin. Big word, but it's easy to pronounce ... OX-EE-TOW-SIN.

Here are 3 benefits we get from laughing:

1. Laughter helps us with our anxiety and stress. That's right ... it actually calms our bodies and gives us a chance to see the good around us.
2. Laughter helps us feel closer to the people we laugh with (not laugh at) and we bond together.
3. Laughter helps our immune systems, the part of the body that fights disease and sickness.

You might be thinking ... no way!? I know. So cool. And get this ...

You don't even have to be laughing for real. If you were to fake laugh—you know the laughing you do when you're trying to annoy your parents or siblings—and it comes up from the depth of your tummy? It can sound like a villain laugh at first but give it a few seconds and you will find yourself laughing for real. **Even fake laughing gives us these same benefits. Peace. Connection. Health.**

Laughter really is good medicine. So, when you are trying to get through a hard day, find a friend to fake laugh with or try to create some silly jokes. Learning to laugh brings joy in ways we forget the older we get. You, courageous girl, are a way God is bringing this kind of good medicine in the world, especially to those stressed-out and sometimes cranky adults. Remind them to laugh with you. Be silly. Wiggle your body. And let out the deepest belly laugh you can find.

Laughter is good medicine.

Love,
Terra

faith SERVICE. FUN.

WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

OUR CREED: "As an American Heritage Girl, I promise to be Compassionate, Helpful, Honest, Loyal, Perseverant, Pure, Resourceful, Respectful, Responsible and Reverent."

Faith, Service and ... Fun!

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

MATTHEW 22:37-39(NIV)

Faith.

American Heritage Girls is all about exactly what our title says—faith, service and **fun**! As we draw near to the Lord in a personal relationship, our faith grows. As our faith grows, we see the importance of loving others through service, like Christ has loved us. FAITH and SERVICE represent the Great Commandments—to love God and to love others. When we are obedient to the Lord and are focused on Him, we find joy in our calling! Did you know a word used to describe the process of expressing joy is *fun*? Let's never stop learning more about who God has created us to be, and how to experience faith, service and fun in our relationship with Him!

Service.

PUT YOUR HEART IN IT

Here's a fun way to put your faith and service into action! This Valentine's Day, why not create Scripture Valentines to share God's love with others? Choose favorite Scriptures or inspirational quotes, add some of your own creativity with a poem, prayer, drawing, painting or papercraft, add a short note from you ... and deliver! You'll bring joy and a fun reminder of God's love on this heart-filled day!



MEET

FIONNA (8)

Fionna is a Tenderheart in Troop TX3120. While working on her **TOYS & GAMES BADGE** Fionna learned all about kites and how to fly them!



Fun.

Fun is the expression of your joy. When you know who God is and who He has created you to be, you can express the joy of this knowledge through your gifts, talents, and skills. You can use your gift of encouragement to send your friend a cheerful letter. You can see how your singing talent can be used to bless the hearts of senior citizens in a nursing home. You can use your outdoor skills to teach others outdoor safety. You can find joy, or fun, in the most everyday tasks because you know that your actions will bring glory to the Lord!



courageous
girls ROOTED IN GRACE

Terra Mattson is a counselor, author and founder of **Courageous Girls**. To learn how to be a Courageous Girl and start your own group, ask your mom or caregiver to go to mycourageousgirls.com or have her read Terra's book, *Courageous: Being Daughters Rooted in Grace*.



AMERICAN
HERITAGE GIRLS
FAITH | SERVICE | FUN

Looking for a community of faith, service, lots of fun—of girls just like you? With your parents' help, go to americanheritagegirls.org/find-a-troop/ to get connected. We think you'll love who you find!

Joy Jar

Let's celebrate laughter and joy with our happiness-making Joy Jar! It's always good to be reminded that God loves us. Grab a piece of paper and write down what you are experiencing today. Fold it up and drop it in your Joy Jar. Then, the next time you need encouragement, pull out one of your joyful reminders of God's faithfulness in your life!

SUPPLIES

Container (Aluminum Can or Glass Jar), School Glue, Low-Temp Hot Glue Gun and Glue Sticks, Foam Brush, Fabric, Ribbon, Wire, Yarn, Cording, Trim, Etc., (optional) Floral Wire, Scissors, Embellishments (Buttons, Sequins, etc.), Hammer and Nail, Printer and Cardstock Paper



1. Select and clean a container. Measure, cut to size, and glue fabric or paper onto the container.



2. (Optional) If you are using a tin container, punch two holes in the side of your can using a hammer and a nail. Simply hammer two small holes in opposite sides of the container an inch from the top.



3. Using a low-temp glue gun or school glue, embellish your container with fabric, ribbon, trim, buttons, and more. Tip: Use your favorite magazine to decorate (AHM: For Girls Like You!). This is the FUN part. Make it special and JOYFUL.



4. Print out the JOY JAR Scripture circles found at ThouArtExalted.com/JoyJar onto cardstock paper, cut, and attach with string or wire.



JOY JARS
make joyful
gifts!

These holes will be used for handles. If you choose to make a handle, attach your handles using 15 inches of floral wire.



STEMgirls

SCIENCE FUN WITH THE DENTON DUO

Lydia and Bethany

That's Hyst-AIR-ical!

It isn't magic, it's science!

Using air, a recycled water bottle and a little STEM know-how, you can become a spectacular practical joker—and learn a little something along the way!

JOKE #1: MIND-CONTROL BOTTLE

Amaze your friends with the power of your mind!

You'll need: water bottle with cap, water, ketchup packet



Fill the bottle close to full of water. Put the ketchup packet in the water. Put the cap on tight. Squeeze the bottle and the ketchup packet should dive to the bottom of the bottle. Let go and it will float to the top. Practice subtly squeezing the bottle to make it go up and down at your command.

What is going on? Inside the packet is a little bubble of air. When you squeeze the bottle, you make the pressure rise and this squishes the bubble, making it smaller. The smaller air bubble isn't enough to float the ketchup, so it sinks. When you let go, the bubble gets bigger again and it rises.

JOKE #2: DO NOT OPEN BOTTLE

What's funnier than having someone pour water on themselves!

You'll need: water bottle with cap, water, pushpin



Fill the bottle with water and put on the cap. Write the warning "DO NOT OPEN" on the bottle. Carefully use the pushpin to make a small hole or two on the bottom of the bottle. Set it on the counter and wait for your victim to come along.

What is going on? If you squeeze the bottle you can make water come out, but if it is just sitting on the counter the bottle won't leak. This is because water has special properties called adhesion (which means it sticks to

the plastic) and cohesion (which means it sticks to itself.) Because of this, the water can form a layer and plug the hole. When you open the bottle, you allow air into the bottle—and air is HEAVY! The cap isn't holding up the air anymore and now the air can push on the water, forcing it out of the hole. The air pressure is strong enough to unplug the hole and water will shoot out of the bottom!

JOKE #3: IMPOSSIBLE FLOATING BALLOON

They'll never guess how you're doing it!

You'll need: water bottle (use the one from #2 with the holes in it) and balloon. You'll also need a bottle without a hole, and a balloon for your "victim."

Put a balloon inside each bottle. Stretch the opening of the balloons over the mouths of the bottles. Challenge your friend to blow up the balloon in their bottle. They won't be able to inflate it much at all. You should be able to blow yours up easily.



What is going on? Well, when we consider a bottle EMPTY, it is actually FULL of air. When your friend tries to blow up the balloon, the air has no place to go so it is pushing back against them blowing up the balloon. In your bottle, when you blow out, the air can sneak out those little holes, allowing your balloon to inflate!

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

I CORINTHIANS 4:18

All these jokes use the power of air, something that is not seen. God is like that—a strong force you can't see with your eyes, but His presence impacts every moment of our lives. Just as we cannot survive without air, we cannot survive without God. When we squeeze God down to a tiny bubble in our lives, we start to sink, but when we let Him lead us, He lifts us up! God's presence is all around us, even when we cannot see Him.



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BEFORE YOU
GO

She laughs

PROVERBS 31:25

Earth LAUGHS
in flowers.

RALPH WALDO
EMERSON

A good
LAUGH
heals
a lot
of
hurts.

MADELINE
L'ENGLE

These things

I HAVE SPOKEN
to you, that my
JOY

may be in you and
that your joy may be FULL.

JOHN 15:11

LAUGHTER

is the shortest
distance between
two people.

VICTOR BORGE

A CHEERFUL heart is good medicine.

PROVERBS 15:15

Though
you do not see Him now,
you TRUST HIM; and
you REJOICE
with a glorious,
inexpressible joy."

1 PETER 1:8

From
THERE to HERE,
from HERE to
THERE, funny
things are
EVERYWHERE.

DR. SEUSS

THERE IS A time
for everything
... a time to WEEP
and a time to
LAUGH...

ECCLESIASTES 3:4

BLESSED
are YOU WHO WEEP
NOW, for you will
laugh!

LUKE 6:21

The most
wasted of all days is one without
LAUGHTER.

EE CUMMINGS

Friendship Makes Life Sweeter.

Do you wish for that one
special, best friend?

Or a circle of friends that
you can share fun moments
and memories with?

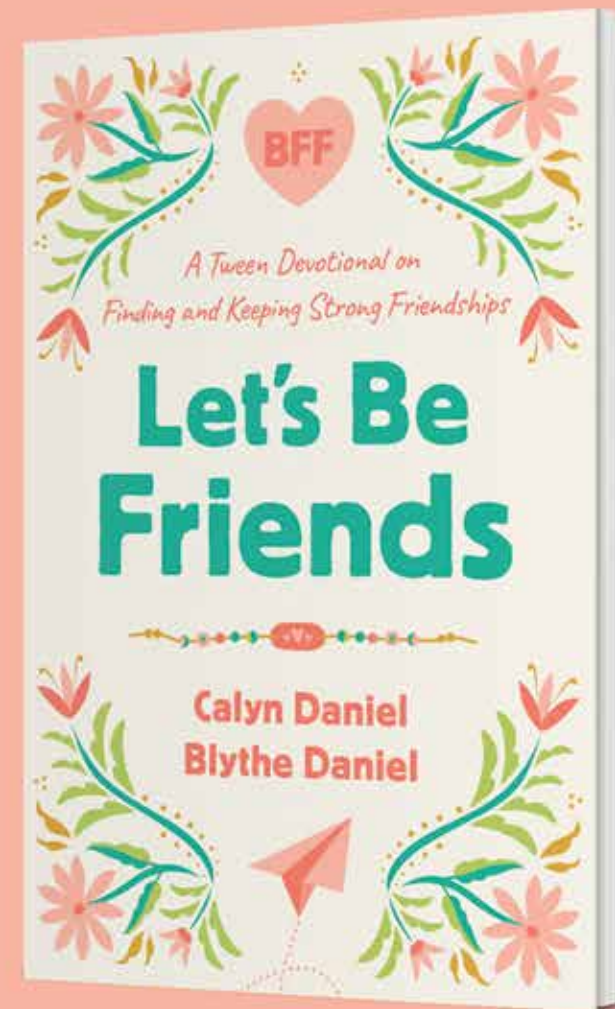
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mom and her
daughter
especially for
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for friendship, you'll be amazed
at what He will do in your life
through the friends you choose!

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