

SAMPLE



My stones of remembrance

2026

Grace Smith

"Thus far the LORD has helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12



A BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

For

Josh, Lily and baby Hope

on the occasion of

The end of our 2026

So you always remember what God did for our family
this year, in the hard days and the happy ones.

"Thus far the LORD has helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12

Grace Smith

20 December 2026

2026: what God did

19

times you praised God

8

hard roads walked with Him

6

prayers answered

67

times others prayed with you

95

hours set aside for the Bible

238

things you thanked Him for

WHAT THE YEAR WAS ABOUT



Family ×11



Health ×6



New life ×4



Church ×5



Provision ×3



Work & study ×3



Home ×2



Grief ×1

THE PEOPLE IN THIS YEAR'S STONES



Hope

Born 3 October, our third child



Grandma Rose

Buried in August, aged 91



Emma and Ben

Married 7 November



Josh

Baptised in the river in April



Mum

Surgery in March, home and well

Your walk with God in 2026



Your time in the Bible grew from about 7 hrs a month to 8.9 hrs a month.



December was your month in the Word: 12 hrs with the Bible.



Your longest run of thankful days: 47 days in a row.



On average, the answers you saw came after 4 months of prayer. Keep praying.



You are still carrying 3 prayers into the new year.



“Mum’s diagnosis” in February became “Walking Mum out of hospital” in April.



3 hard roads this year later turned into praise.



4 new pillars to stand on.

January 2026

2 praises

7 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks



New year prayer night with our small group

New year prayer night with our small group

🌞 9 January

Eight of us in a circle, each praying for the person on our left. I felt held.

"For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them." **Matthew 18:20**

Started reading the Bible every morning

🌞 20 January

Fifteen minutes before the house wakes up, with coffee. I have not missed a day this month.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." **Psalms 119:105**

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 4 January

Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started

Week of 11 January

Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy

Week of 18 January

Fresh bread
Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school

Week of 25 January

Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home

February 2026

2 hard roads

6 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks

Money ran out before the month did

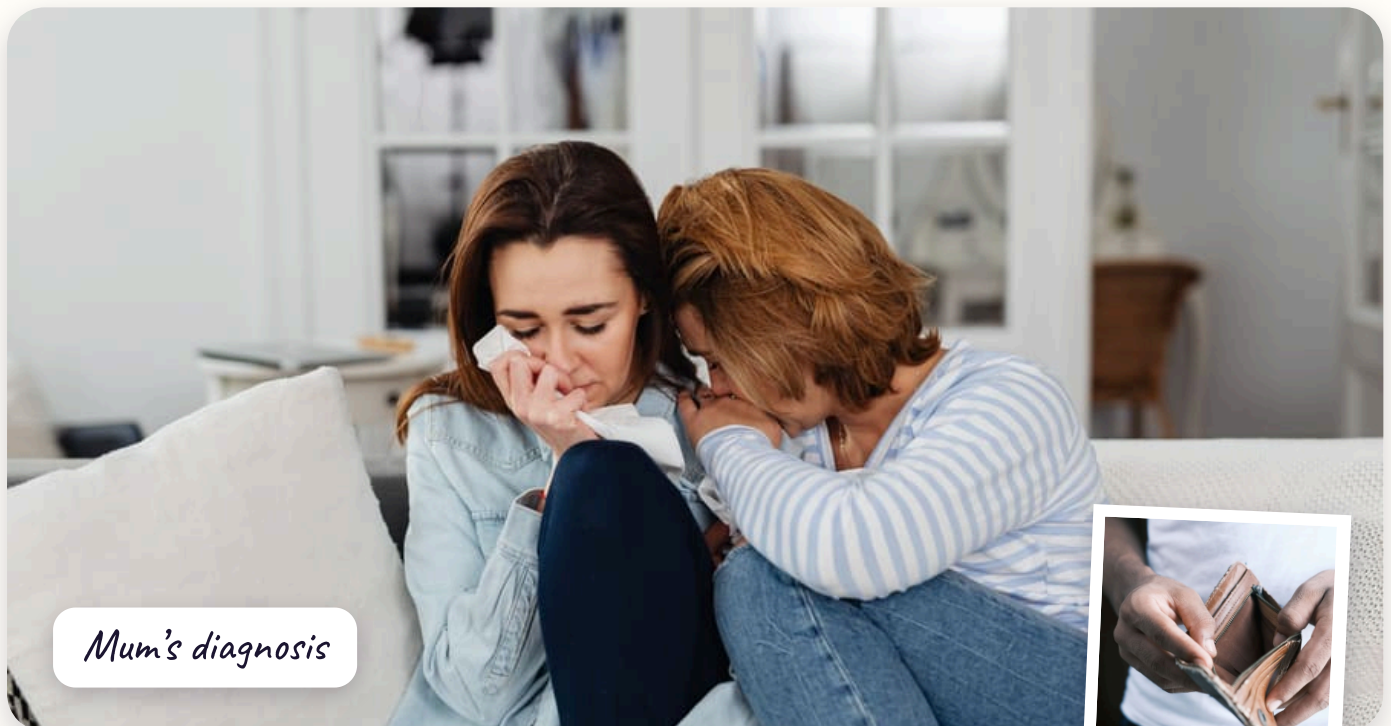
6 February · Anxious, ashamed

Daniel's overtime stopped and the car needed new tyres. I sat in the car and cried.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

Telling God the truth is the first step, not the last.

"The LORD is near to the brokenhearted; He saves the contrite in spirit." Psalm 34:18



Mum's diagnosis



Mum's diagnosis

19 February · Afraid, numb

The doctor said the word none of us wanted to hear. My sister Emma and I held each other on Mum's couch.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

He is close to the brokenhearted, even in a doctor's waiting room.

"The LORD is near to the brokenhearted; He saves the contrite in spirit." Psalm 34:18

March 2026

2 hard roads

8 hrs with the Bible

24 thanks



Mum in hospital for tests

10 March

Mum in hospital for tests

💧 10 March · Tired, worried

Two weeks of tests and waiting. I learnt the names of all the nurses.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

Waiting is not wasted when it is done with God.

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you go through the rivers, they will not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire, you will...” Isaiah 43:2



Holding Mum's hand before surgery

💧 24 March · Scared

She was the calm one. She prayed for me.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

Faith looks like my mother's hand on mine.

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will surely help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right...” Isaiah 41:10

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 1 March

Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister

Week of 8 March

Fresh bread
Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden

Week of 15 March

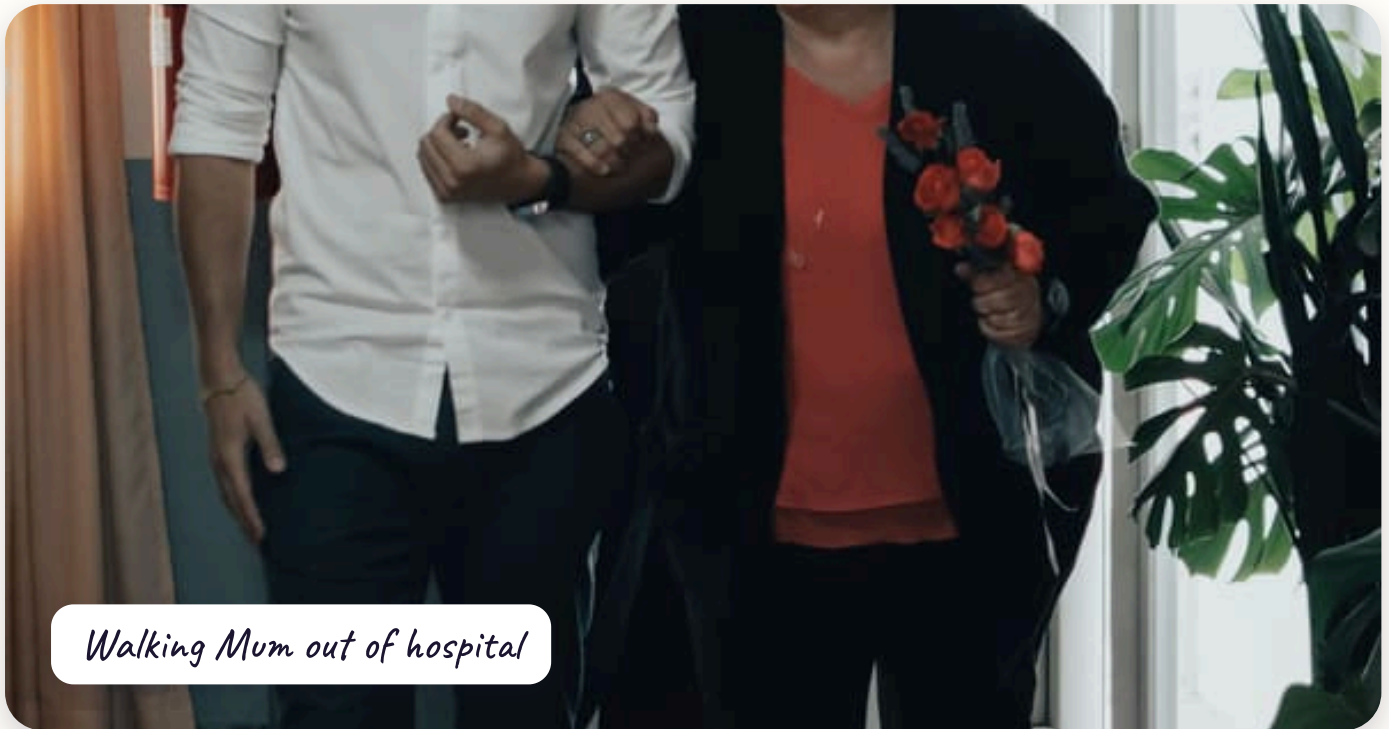
Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home

Week of 22 March

Dad laughed today
The children praying
Rest on Sunday

Week of 29 March

Coffee with an old friend
A good school report
Dad laughed today
The children praying
Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen



Walking Mum out of hospital

Walking Mum out of hospital

🌞 8 April

The surgery went well and the doctors are hopeful. Daniel walked her all the way to the car.

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all His kind deeds— He who forgives all your iniquities and heals all your diseases," Psalm 103:2-3

18 things you thanked God for in April.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

April 2026

2 praises

7.5 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks

Josh was baptised in the river

☀ 19 April

He asked for it himself. Pastor John said the water was freezing; Josh said he didn't notice.

"We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too..." **Romans 6:4**



Josh was baptised in the river

19 April

🏛 A NEW PILLAR

God is near in the waiting

↳ Mum in hospital for tests · Walking Mum out of hospital

💖 A PROMISE KEPT

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will surely help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 5 April

A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report

Week of 12 April

The car started
A long call with my sister
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend

Week of 19 April

Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister

Week of 26 April

Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy

May 2026

2 praises

8.7 hrs with the Bible

24 thanks



First day at my new job

First day at my new job

🌞 4 May

After eight months of applications, a job ten minutes from the school.

"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

24 things you thanked God for in May.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

Moved into a home of our own

☀ 23 May

Boxes everywhere, no curtains yet, and the best sleep I have had in years.

"A song of ascents. Of Solomon. Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain; unless the LORD protects the city, its watchmen stand guard in..." Psalm 127:1



Moved into a home of our own

23 May

♥ A PROMISE KEPT

"And my God will supply all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 3 May

Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report

Week of 10 May

Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister

Week of 17 May

Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden

Week of 24 May

Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home

Week of 31 May

The children praying
Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting

June 2026

2 praises

1 hard road

6.5 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks



We're expecting!

We're expecting!

🌻 7 June

After two years of hoping. Daniel cried before I did.

"He settles the barren woman in her home as a joyful mother to her children. Hallelujah!" Psalm 113:9

18 things you thanked God for in June.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

June 2026

2 praises

1 hard road

6.5 hrs with the Bible

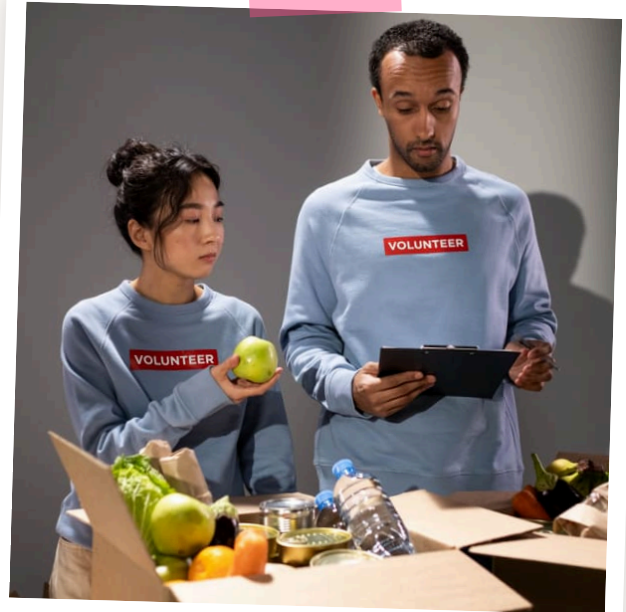
18 thanks

Packing food parcels at church

☀ 20 June

Two hundred parcels in one morning. Josh carried the heavy boxes.

"Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9



Packing food parcels at church

20 June

A hard week in the pregnancy

☁ 28 June · Afraid

A scare and a night in the hospital. Everything was fine, but I was not.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

God was not surprised by that night.

"For His anger is fleeting, but His favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping may stay the night, but joy comes in the morning." Psalm 30:5

🏠 A NEW PILLAR

He provides, so we can give

↳ Money ran out before the month did · Packing food parcels at church

June 2026

2 praises

1 hard road

6.5 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks

💛 A PROMISE KEPT

*“He settles the barren woman in her home as a joyful mother to her children.
Hallelujah!”*

Psalms 113:9

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 7 June

Dad laughed today
The children praying
Rest on Sunday

Week of 14 June

Coffee with an old friend
A good school report
Dad laughed today
The children praying
Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen

Week of 21 June

A long call with my sister
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report
Dad laughed today

Week of 28 June

Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister
A kind word at work



Holiday at the coast



Holiday at the coast

☀ 11 July

Our first family holiday in four years, paid for by a friend's gift.

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow." James 1:17

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 5 July

A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report
Dad laughed today
The children praying
Rest on Sunday

Week of 12 July

The car started
A long call with my sister
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report

Week of 19 July

Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister

Week of 26 July

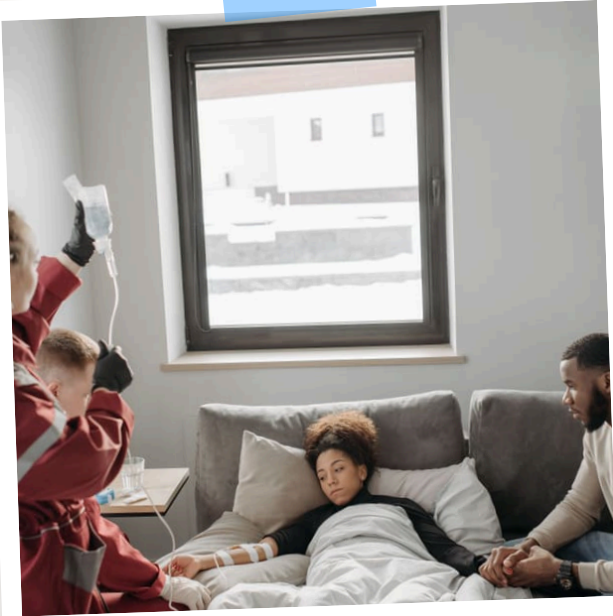
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden

August 2026

2 hard roads

9.3 hrs with the Bible

22 thanks



Lily sick for two weeks

5 August

Lily sick for two weeks

5 August · Worried, weary

Pneumonia. The longest two weeks of the year.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

I can rest because He does not sleep.

“Behold, the Protector of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.” Psalm 121:4

22 things you thanked God for in August.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

August 2026

2 hard roads

9.3 hrs with the Bible

22 thanks



We buried Grandma Rose

We buried Grandma Rose

22 August · Grieving

She was 91. I found comfort in family and in the promises of Scripture.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

Grief and hope can live together.

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.” Psalm 23:4

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 2 August

Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden

Week of 9 August

Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home

Week of 16 August

The children praying
Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting

Week of 23 August

A good school report
Dad laughed today
The children praying
Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen

Week of 30 August

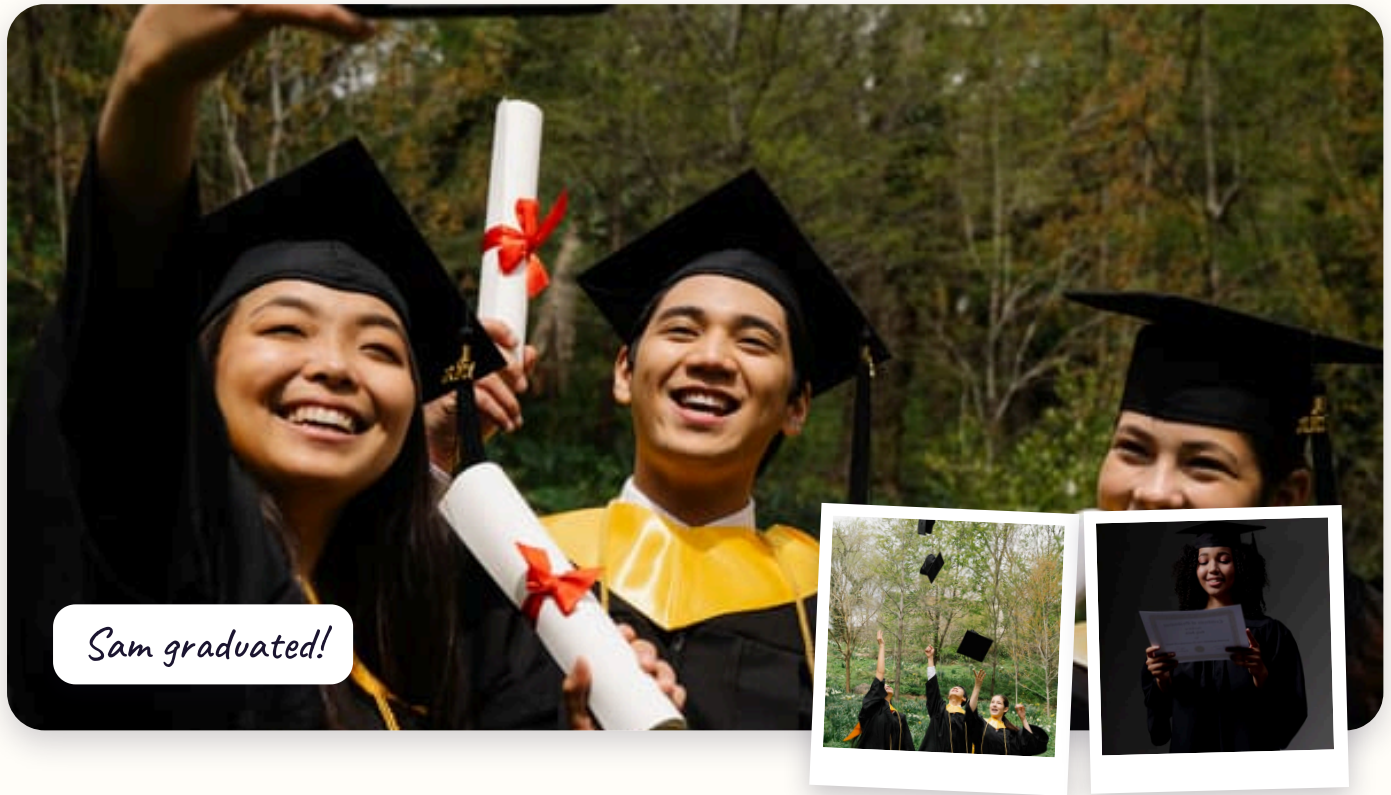
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report
Dad laughed today

September 2026

1 praise

10.2 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks



Sam graduated!

Sam graduated!

🌞 12 September

My little brother, the first in our family with a degree.

"Whatever you do, work at it with your whole being, as for the Lord and not for men," Colossians 3:23

A NEW PILLAR

Grief and hope can live together

↳ We buried Grandma Rose

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 6 September

A long call with my sister
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report

Week of 13 September

Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister
A kind word at work

Week of 20 September

Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy

Week of 27 September

Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden

October 2026

1 praise

1 hard road

Time in the Bible this month

18 thanks



Welcome, baby Hope!

Welcome, baby Hope!

🌞 3 October

Born healthy at 3.4 kg after a long night. Lily whispered, "I prayed for you." Josh held her and did not move for an hour.

"Children are indeed a heritage from the LORD, and the fruit of the womb is His reward." **Psalm 127:3**

Daniel's hours were cut

🌧️ 26 October · Anxious

Right after the baby came. We are still praying for this one.

WHAT GOD SHOWED ME

He provided before; He will provide again.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." **Matthew 11:28**

October 2026

1 praise

1 hard road

Time in the Bible this month

18 thanks

A NEW PILLAR

Every good gift is from Him

↳ Holiday at the coast · Welcome, baby Hope!

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 4 October

Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister

Week of 11 October

Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden

Week of 18 October

Fresh bread
Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy

Week of 25 October

Rest on Sunday
Singing in the kitchen
Fresh bread
Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting

18 things you thanked God for in October.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

November 2026

4 praises

10.8 hrs with the Bible

24 thanks



Emma's wedding day

Emma's wedding day

🌟 7 November

My sister married Ben. Mum walked her down the aisle, strong and well.

"And though one may be overpowered, two can resist. Moreover, a cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12

24 things you thanked God for in November.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

November 2026

4 praises

10.8 hrs with the Bible

24 thanks

Baptism Sunday

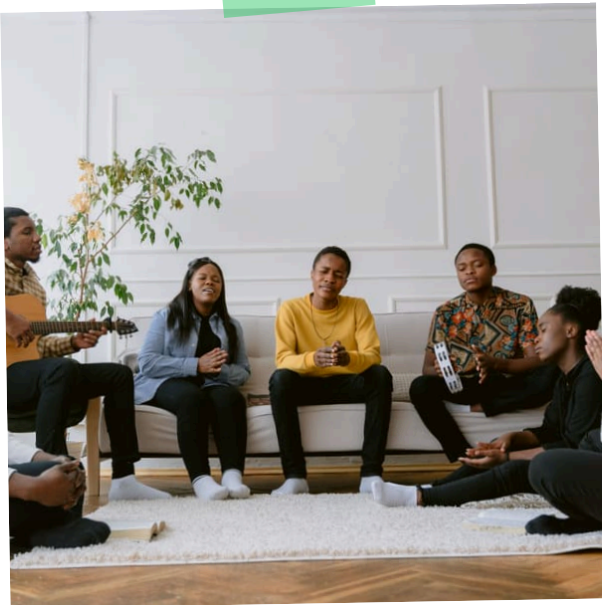
🌞 15 November

Fourteen people baptised, including two from our small group.



Baptism Sunday

15 November



Youth worship night at our house

21 November

Youth worship night at our house

🌞 21 November

Twenty teenagers, one guitar and a lot of noise.

November 2026

4 praises 10.8 hrs with the Bible 24 thanks

Serving breakfast at the shelter

☀ 28 November

Mum came with us for the first time since her surgery.

“And the King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.” **Matthew 25:40**



Serving breakfast at the shelter
28 November

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 1 November	Week of 8 November	Week of 15 November	Week of 22 November	Week of 29 November
The children praying	A good school	A kind word at work	The car started	Rain for the garden
Rest on Sunday	report	Coffee with an old	A long call with my	Church full of joy
Singing in the	Dad laughed today	friend	sister	The car started
kitchen	The children praying	A good school	A kind word at work	A long call with my
Fresh bread	Rest on Sunday	report		sister
Safe trip home	Singing in the	Dad laughed today		A kind word at work
Peace in a hard	kitchen			Coffee with an old
meeting				friend

December 2026

4 praises

12 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks



Twelve years married

12 December

Twelve years married

🌞 12 December

Daniel and I walked the same field where he proposed.

Delivering hampers with Josh

🌞 19 December

Thirty hampers, one van, and a very proud son.



Delivering hampers with Josh

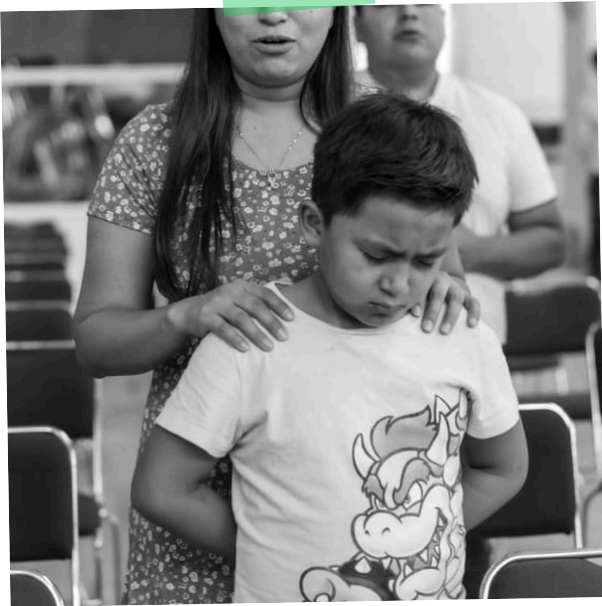
19 December

December 2026

4 praises

12 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks



Carols at church

20 December

Carols at church

🌞 20 December

Josh read the Christmas story. Lily sang every word.

18 things you thanked God for in December.



Thus far the LORD has helped us.

December 2026

4 praises

12 hrs with the Bible

18 thanks



Everyone around one table

Everyone around one table

🌞 25 December

Mum, Emma and Ben, Sam, Daniel's parents, and Hope asleep in the middle of it all. Lily prayed for everyone at the table by name.

"A song of ascents. Of David. Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!" Psalm 133:1

COUNTING MY BLESSINGS

Week of 6 December

A long call with my sister
A kind word at work
Coffee with an old friend
A good school report

Week of 13 December

Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister

Week of 20 December

Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy
The car started
A long call with my sister
A kind word at work

Week of 27 December

Safe trip home
Peace in a hard meeting
Sunshine on the walk to school
Rain for the garden
Church full of joy

The 2026 awards



STONE OF THE YEAR

Walking Mum out of hospital



8 April · The surgery went well and the doctors are hopeful. Daniel walked her all the way to the car.

MOST PRAYED-FOR ANSWER

A safe birth for our baby



15 praying with you

THE HARDEST ROAD

Money ran out before the month did



Telling God the truth is the first step, not the last.

VERSE OF THE YEAR

Matthew 18:20



"For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them."

MOST THANKFUL WEEK

Week of 11 January



6 thanks

MOST TIME IN THE WORD

December



12 hrs with the Bible

19 reasons to praise

New year prayer night with our small...

Started reading the Bible every morning

Walking Mum out of hospital

Josh was baptised in the river First day at my new job

Moved into a home of our own We're expecting!

Packing food parcels at church Holiday at the coast

Sam graduated! Welcome, baby Hope!

Emma's wedding day Baptism Sunday

Youth worship night at our house Serving breakfast at the shelter

Twelve years married Delivering hampers with Josh Carols at church

Everyone around one table

What I carried to God

67 times, people in your circles prayed with you.

✓ ANSWERED Healing for Mum since February 2026 · answered April 2026 · 12 praying with you	✓ ANSWERED A job close to the school since September 2025 · answered May 2026 · 6 praying with you
✓ ANSWERED A home of our own since 2024 · answered May 2026 · 4 praying with you	✓ ANSWERED A safe birth for our baby since June 2026 · answered October 2026 · 15 praying with you
✓ ANSWERED Lily's lungs to heal since August 2026 · answered August 2026 · 9 praying with you	✓ ANSWERED Sam to pass his final exams since May 2026 · answered September 2026 · 5 praying with you
🙏 STILL PRAYING Daniel's hours to be restored since October 2026 · 7 praying with you	🙏 STILL PRAYING Dad to come back to church since 2022 · 3 praying with you
🙏 STILL PRAYING Peace for Mum after Grandma Rose since August 2026 · 4 praying with you	🛟 LAID DOWN The house on Oak Street since January 2026 · 2 praying with you

PILLARS

What I stand on

BUILT IN APRIL 2026

God is near in the waiting

↳ Mum in hospital for tests · Walking Mum out of hospital

BUILT IN SEPTEMBER 2026

Grief and hope can live together

↳ We buried Grandma Rose

BUILT IN OCTOBER 2026

Every good gift is from Him

↳ Holiday at the coast · Welcome, baby Hope!

BUILT IN JUNE 2026

He provides, so we can give

↳ Money ran out before the month did · Packing food parcels at church

PROMISES I HELD ONTO

✓ **KEPT IN APRIL 2026**

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will surely help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

Isaiah 41:10

✓ **KEPT IN MAY 2026**

“And my God will supply all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19

✓ **KEPT IN JUNE 2026**

“He settles the barren woman in her home as a joyful mother to her children. Hallelujah!”

Psalms 113:9

HOLDING ON SINCE OCTOBER 2026

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

The words that carried me

“For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them.”

Matthew 18:20

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

Psalms 119:105

“The LORD is near to the brokenhearted; He saves the contrite in spirit.”

Psalms 34:18

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will surely help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

Isaiah 41:10

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all His kind deeds— He who forgives all your iniquities and heals all your diseases,”

Psalms 103:2-3

“We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may walk in newness of life.”

Romans 6:4

“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

“A song of ascents. Of Solomon. Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain; unless the LORD protects the city, its watchmen stand guard in vain.”

Psalms 127:1

“He settles the barren woman in her home as a joyful mother to her children. Hallelujah!”

Psalms 113:9

“Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Galatians 6:9

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow.”

James 1:17

“Behold, the Protector of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.”

Psalms 121:4



Stick your photo here

Date _____

Place _____

Your reply

Signed

Date _____