

A Wise Woman His Princess

A Wise Princess
Builds Her House
Set Apart
on the Rock



My First Love
"Closer than a Brother"



**On the Rock
Set Apart**



**Disagreeable
and
Contentious**
"Rejected for Good"

A Wise Woman

His Princess

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Erin Thiele

HomeGrownMinistries.com

Cover Design by Erin Thiele • NarrowRoad Publishing House

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A Workbook for Children
By Erin Thiele

Published by:
NarrowRoad Publishing House
POB 830
Ozark, MO 65721 U.S.A.



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First Printing: 2024

ISBN: 1-931800-12-X
ISBN13: 978-1-931800-12-9
Library of Congress Control Number: 2006935282

Dedication

This workbook is dedicated to my Best Friend, the One I met Who has been with me and guided me for over six decades and counting/ Thank you for never leaving me. Thank you for being so faithful to your promises, especially “we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28

To my eight granddaughters and all the many granddaughters who are reading this book. May you seek a “gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God” and spend your life with your Best Friend.

As with the original *Wise Woman* and *Wise Woman in Waiting*, these books would never have been possible if not for your example as a mother and grandmother. Thanks to my mother, Grace McGovern, Grammy, who went to be with the Lord on April 10, 2000. It was her example of cherishing each of her seven children as “a special blessing from the Lord” that encouraged me to desire a houseful of children and to trust the Lord with my fertility. It was her love of motherhood that inspired me to love my children. My mother was right – “love never fails”!

To the many ladies who came through Restore Ministries and helped with the revising, editing, and proofreading of this workbook. Thank you all! You were an answer to our prayers.

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“For My People Perish for a Lack of Knowledge”

My First Love “Closer than a Brother”

“There is a true, loving Friend
Who sticks closer than a brother.”
Proverbs 18:24

“My First Love”

When growing up, Erin desperately wanted to be a nun because she heard nuns were “married to God.” Deep in her heart, there was a longing she couldn’t understand until she was much older. Very soon, however, Erin changed her mind the instant she discovered nuns had no children of their own.

Erin absolutely loved babies. She loved to make them laugh, to see them smile and giggle when she crawled after them across the floor. Erin played with baby dolls long after she was considered too old to play with dolls. Her favorite game was pretending her baby dolls were all her own babies. Did you know that God said, **“Children are a gift from God... a reward!”** Erin not only loved babies but she loved gifts and rewards, don’t you?!

Yet, as much as she loved babies and wanted to have a **house full of her own children**, Erin still had this deep-down longing to feel closer to God. Her love for Him began the day she discovered He wanted to be her Best Friend.

FBF “Forever Best Friend”

Like most blessings, Erin discovered her **Forever Best Friend** in the midst of a crisis. Erin and her older brother went to a private school on the other side of the Hollywood Hills where her family lived. Erin’s brother was four years older and was responsible to take her home. Early in the morning, they were dropped off at school by their dad who worked in the television and movie industry, but it was Erin’s brother, Adrian, who took her home from school each day on the public bus. But on this fateful day, Adrian bribed her with enough money to buy a mile-high ice cream cone if she would go home on the bus by herself.

Adrian quizzed her over and over to make sure she knew the name and number of both public buses Erin needed to take. He asked her how much money for each bus, to be sure to remember to ask for a transfer on the first bus, and where to get off to change buses. Erin, who was just in first grade, was too young to understand the danger so she smiled happily, agreeing excitedly, patting all the coins in her tiny blue uniform pocket for the bus fare and her ice cream.

While waiting on the corner, Erin got a bit scared because she was confused as she waited for her first bus. So many buses stopped and opened their doors before she read the right name and the correct number. But as soon as the right bus came and she put her coins into the farebox and got her transfer that folded tightly, stuffing it into her

tiny pocket, she smiled and took a seat. All she could think about was ordering her strawberry mile-high ice cream cone!

Just as the bus passed the famous Chinese Theater where everyone was taking pictures, standing in the movie star’s footprints and on their knees with their hands in their handprints, she jumped up and excitedly pulled the cord to let the bus driver know she wanted to get off at the next stop. Erin knew she didn’t need to pull the cord, her brother always told her this was the busiest corner in all of Hollywood (maybe the whole world!) and why he held her hand after they got off.

That day no one held Erin’s hand. She stood at the exit before the bus stopped and was the first one off the bus. At the corner, she waited for a green light and crossed the street, heading for the corner soda fountain. She handed the man her money and ordered a strawberry mile-high ice cream cone. Delighted, she sat down to read the comic books, forgetting she needed to watch the time. All of a sudden, she remembered, and her heart started pounding. As Erin rushed outside, she looked up to see the clock on the bank, and the time was the exact time when the bus would leave! Then to her horror, she saw where she should have been waiting, and there was her bus—slowly pulling away!

This happened once before when Adrian was joking around with his friends. So Erin knew the next bus going into the Valley wouldn’t come for another hour, so she crossed the street to her bus stop, then went into the bank. Erin and Adrian loved to play in the bank when their mom went down into the basement to the giant vault to put important papers in or take important papers out. They’d ride the elevator up and down. They’d go to the top of the stairs, then sit down and slide down on the marble stairs that curved, taking them to the lobby.

Playing inside was another mistake—it caused Erin to miss the next bus and the bus after that.

By the time Erin got on her bus to get home, it was getting dark. Being on a bus when it was light inside but dark outside frightened Erin. She was sure she'd miss her stop. So even though there were dozens of stops before they'd reach her street, Erin began cupping her hands to peer out the window, watching for her stop.

Almost an hour later, after she passed the Party Shop, where she stole something and got caught, Erin was relieved to get off and cross the street. But this is when she was the most frightened! There were no streetlights on her block. Erin began by walking up the street but soon she started to run to get home where she would feel safe again.

Now crying, very sure that her brother would be in a lot of trouble for not taking her home. As she walked into the kitchen, she heard her mother call out, "Hurry and take your uniform off, Erin, dinner is almost ready." Sobbing she told her mother that Adrian had made her come home on the bus alone!! Erin's mom, still stirring the spaghetti sauce, turned and smiled at her, "But look what a big girl you are, Erin, you made it home just fine."

All Things for Good

How could God let this happen? Erin knew God loved her, so why did this happen? Why do bad things happen?

Would you believe that what happened was all **God's plan**? It's true. God used this and every difficulty in Erin's life **for GOOD**. God allowed

this crisis to happen in order to prepare Erin for her future and even her children’s future. It’s the same with you!!

That night, as she lay in bed, Erin realized no one can be with her all the time. There was no one to **guide** or protect her or make her feel safe all the time. Erin knew her mother loved her but her mother hadn’t understood and she couldn’t always be with her.

Erin had lots of older siblings but none could hold her hand to make her feel safe and not miss another bus. That night Erin longed for a brother, a mother, a friend—Someone who would be with her all the time. Someone who would **never forsake or abandon**, or desert her. Someone who understood. Does this sound like Someone you would want to meet, Someone you would want to know?

His Princess

Erin rode the bus **alone** a couple more times that year before summer vacation. And even though she’d learned her lesson to not spend time anywhere else but at the bus stop, the fear of being alone still gripped and frightened her.

Then, at God’s **appointed time** Erin became His Princess, never to be alone again, something life-changing that happened at the beginning of the following year.

Erin’s favorite nun was who God sent to prepare her and her classmates for their First Holy Communion. Even more important was preparing for her first confession. The nun who God chose was raised a Baptist and Erin was about to meet her Prince! The **Prince of**

Peace. The Best Friend she wanted and needed Who would be with her always. The Son of God who Erin fell in love with.

All her life, Erin would have Someone who would guide her **“He leads me”** and protect her and make her feel safe no matter where in the world He would (someday) take her. God **causes everything to happen for good** so she would meet that Someone who would never **forsake, abandon, or desert her**. Someone who understood.

It happened when the nun explained that even though there was a priest in the confessional, to imagine that they were speaking to God Himself, confessing everything to Him. Confess everything they'd ever done wrong right there in the church pew. So while kneeling quietly in the dark church, Erin **confessed everything to God** beginning with how she **wanted her brother punished** for making her go home alone. For stealing something in the Party Shop and all the times she talked in class when it was forbidden.

After Erin finished she immediately felt wonderfully different!! Tears of joy began running down her cheeks. The nun saw her and gave her a hug. But the hug she felt was inside and she knew it was from Him. Erin was happier than she ever felt in her life. Erin felt **lighter**, happier, safer, and **peaceful**.

Erin's name actually means peace, but she never felt peaceful. Not like this peace. It was like it **surpassed all understanding**.

After a few minutes, while everyone visited the priest (the part Erin didn't like and learned later was unnecessary), the nun passed around “unconsecrated” hosts said to be the body of Christ. Then in a very quiet voice, she said, "Now it's time to ask the Lord into your heart

because your hearts are now clean." She said, "Ask Him to come in and live there, in your heart, giving your life and your future to Him." Bowing her head again, Erin asked Him to live in her heart and at that moment— she **changed instantly and radically**.

Erin didn't need any more religion, nor do you. We want and need a relationship with our Creator. Religion isn't bad or wrong as long as it doesn't get in the way of a relationship that isn't earned but given freely.

The change in Erin was so profound that her parents believed it was the Catholic school she went to. They said that to everyone who asked, "What's gotten into Erin? She's not that rambunctious, naughty little girl that used to give you so much trouble." They believed it was the strict school and the nuns who had changed her. In a way, they were right, it was a nun who introduced Erin to find forgiveness and ask the Lord to live in her heart.

From that day on, Erin was never the same. That year the Lord became Erin's **FBF Forever Best Friend**. Due to the way, God orchestrated Erin's life, just like many people in the Bible, and maybe just like YOUR life too—Erin's life was separated and she was **set apart**—separate and **set apart** from just about everyone.

Set Apart for His Good Use

All three of Erin's brothers were much older, and because she was a tomboy, Erin's sisters wanted nothing to do with her.

Erin had no school friends either. Living in the Valley, but attending school in Hollywood and as you just read, which took over an hour to

get home on the public bus, Erin couldn't play after school and make friends with the other children like everyone else. And because it was a very strict Catholic school, there was almost no interaction during school. Even while having lunch, Erin had to sit at her desk and was forbidden to talk, which is why she had to **confess** this to the Lord.

Much of Erin's aloneness had to do with being a tomboy, as was mentioned earlier. It meant she never had any close girlfriends. On top of that, talking on the phone to classmates was not possible because back then—it was called a "long-distance" call and it was very expensive.

In Erin's neighborhood, all the other children were much younger, and during any other activities, like the ballet she took, and later as a swimmer, Erin was **set apart** from all of her friends due to living in cities far from where she lived. SO, this meant that for most of her childhood, Erin had only ONE faithful close friend, her **Forever Best Friend** who went with her everywhere! Someone she could talk to. Someone who listened. Someone who understood. So even though she was alone—Erin was never again lonely.

What About You?

Do you ever feel alone? Has God **set you apart** for something special? **For such a time as this?**

Sometimes the people we **trust let you down** like Erin's brother, Adrian. Sometimes it's a parent who believes you're more grown-up and responsible than you feel, like Erin's mom. Sometimes the person we care about the most is taken from us like Erin's mother, Grammy, experienced when her parents got divorced and Grammy's father

moved away after she and her brother **misbehaved** and he sadly drowned.

This means just one thing. No! No! Not that you must rely on yourself and put up a wall to keep yourself safe!! How silly! A wall means you’ve locked yourself in a prison. And getting tough is silly because there’s always someone stronger or tougher. The answer Erin discovered was finding the One who is “**closer than a brother**” and **loves us more than a mother**”!!!

So let me ask you again...

Do YOU ever feel alone?

Are YOU ever afraid?

Do YOU ever feel like no one understands?

Well then...Guess what? It’s the **appointed time**. You’ve been reading and/or listening to this story because this is your Divine Appointment. There’s Someone who’s been **waiting for you**. Someone Who is about to use everything that’s made no sense or what’s hurt you **for GOOD**.

All you need to do is talk to Him. That’s what prayer is—it’s simply talking to God! You can talk privately anywhere at any time because you’re talking to Him in your head and in your heart. Begin like Erin did, by **confessing everything you’ve ever done wrong** right here, right now. Then once you feel clean and free, ask the Lord to come and live in your heart!!

Epilogue

What Happened Later

For seven years, Erin often took the bus home by herself but she was never alone. God was preparing her to become very comfortable being **set apart** so that she would be ready to travel around the world **“listening to a word behind her”** so she knew when to go **“right or left.”** **“He led”** Erin to meet people all around the world who longed for a First Love Who would **never leave or forsake** them. Someone Who would always be **closer than a brother** and Who loved them **more than a mother**. A Heavenly Father Who would **comfort them** when their parents divorced.

And because His blessings are **passed to many generations**, Erin’s daughter, Tara, did the same—traveling and meeting people around the world. Little girls and boys and moms who spoke **many languages** but welcomed His love.

If this story has helped you feel better, please share your story with us. It’s your **testimony**, and it’s what will help other girls overcome difficulties in their lives! And if you shared our story with a friend or someone else, we’d love to hear just how it happened.

HIS PROMISES

“Children are a gift from God... a reward!” “Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward.” “Children are God’s love-gift; they are heaven’s generous reward.” Psalm 127:3 TPT

“full of her own children” “Oh, how blessed are you parents, with your quivers **full of children.**” Psalm 127:5

“God’s plan” “‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,’ declares the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so

are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”
Isaiah 55:8–9

“for GOOD” “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”
Romans 8:28

“Guide with my eye” “I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will advise you with My eye upon you.” “I will teach you and tell you the way to go and how to get there and I will watch over you.” MSG “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.” NLT Psalm 32:8

“never forsake or abandon” “for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I ever abandon you,’” “I’ll never let you down, never walk off and leave you,” MSG “I will never leave you alone, never! And I will not loosen my grip[a] on your life!” TPT “I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.” NLT Hebrews 13:5

“appointed time” “Then the LORD answered me and said, ‘Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that he one who reads it may run. For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, WAIT for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.’” Habakkuk 2:2-3

“Prince of Peace” “And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

“confessed everything to God” “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

“wanting her brother punished” “But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you.” Matthew 5:44

“lighter” “For My yoke is easy, and My burden is **light.**” Matthew 11:30

“surpassed all understanding” “Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” 1 Peter 1:8

“changed instantly and radically” “Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’” John 3:7

“set apart” “Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, **set apart** as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.” 2 Timothy 2:21 ESV

“For such a time as this?” “And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?” Esther 4:14

“let you down” “This is what the Lord says: ‘Cursed are those who put their **trust** in mere humans, who rely on human strength’...“But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence.” Jeremiah 17:5, 7

“misbehaved” “Children, **obey** your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.” Ephesians 6:1-3

“closer than a brother” “A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18:24

“loves us more than a mother” “But how could a loving mother forget her nursing child and not deeply **love** the one she bore? Even if there is a mother who forgets her child, I could never, no never, forget you.” Isaiah 49:15 TPT

"waiting for you" "Therefore the Lord longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you... How blessed are all those who long for Him." Isaiah 30:18

"listening to a word behind her" "right or left." "Your ears will hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left." Isaiah 30:21

"He leads" "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; HE LEADS ME beside quiet waters. He restores my soul." Psalm 23: 1-3

"comfort them" "'Comfort, O comfort My people,' says your God." Isaiah 40:1 "who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." 2 Corinthians 1:4.

"passed to many generations" "Understand, therefore, that the Lord your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps His covenant for a **thousand** generations and lavishes His unfailing love on those who love His and obey His commands." Deuteronomy 7:9 NLT

"many languages" "After these things I looked, and here was an enormous crowd that no one could count, made up of persons from every nation, tribe, people, and language..." Revelation 7:9 NET Bible

"testimony" "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death." Revelation 12:11

On the Rock “Set Apart”

“Anyone who hears and
Obeys these teachings of Mine
Is like a wise person
Who built a house on solid Rock.”
Matthew 7:24

Chapter 1— On the Rock “Set Apart”

Years after Erin met her First Love, she imagined herself standing way up on a **Rock**—high above a vast, enormous sea. As she was peering down at the **sandy** beach below, the homes and lives began to disappear **sinking into the sand**—being washed away.

Erin’s heart ached when she realized she couldn’t **rescue** them all, “Oh, if only there were more of His Princesses who knew and lived the **Promises** of Your **wisdom**, more who knew how to **follow Your lead**,” she said to her **Prince**.

“Since each of us is Your **letter, written on the hearts, known and read by** everyone, each of Your Princesses would be a lifeline, right? Oh if only our families, our friends, and our neighbors **witnessed** the **Promises** of Your **wisdom**—they soon would ask about Your powerful **Promises!**”

Dear Princess, did Erin envision YOU?

When you read and or listened to My First Love "Closer than a Brother" did you see that YOUR life has been **set apart**?

Are **You** one of His **chosen Princesses for such a time as this!**!?

Have you answered His call?

Just stop right now and say, "**Here I am, Lord**, use me!" just like Erin answered Him.

How wonderful!!! Now everyone who witnesses your life has the opportunity to listen to God and follow Him, being **wise** too—like a person who builds their house on solid **Rock**. And that means **when** the rain comes and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on the **Rock**.

Isn't it sad to know that God said that everyone else is like the **foolish who built their house on the sand**? So when the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house—it fell—and great was its fall. But I'm excited, aren't you? Now God will use you, and all you need to do is simply love others with His love! **We love others because He first loved us!**

Where do we start?

God says we must first **love our brother and sister whom we can see**—people we live with every day. And if we can love **our brother and sister** who isn't always kind to us, like Adrien who left Erin to get home on the bus by herself, then it will be very *easy to love everyone*—just as long as we keep going to **Him for His love**, which is **perfect love, that casts out** and gets rid of all our **fear!**

Like the **fear** of the **rains**, He said *will* come into each of our lives.

Chapter 2— THE RAINS

"The rains" could be your parents who divorced or are separated or just fighting all the time, like when Erin's parents separated.

“The rains” could be someone you love who is old and you’re afraid might die, as Erin feared. Since her parents were older when she was born and people asked her if they were her grandparents.

“The rains” could be when someone you love is sick.

Sometimes “the rains” are money problems that pour down on your family.

Every day does it feel like there are more and more problems and things that cause you to worry? Are there too many stumbling blocks, obstacles, and hurdles that continue raining down blocking your path? Each of these is “the rains” you can be protected from by first wearing **a graceful wreath on your head** so that **it may go well with you, and so you may live long on the earth and save many more people alive!** Just listen and **obey your parents** who God chose to guide you as you read in River of Life.

Are you or is your family living in a home that has fallen or feels like it’s about to fall?

Have your parents separated or divorced so you no longer feel happy and safe?

Have you heard that there's nothing you can do?

Maybe YOU can’t do anything— BUT God can!

God can do anything—and GOD loves to show up to do the **impossible!** Remember reading that in Macy's Barn Cat and Horses Hoped For? God said, **with people it is impossible, but with God all things are possible.** Because **nothing**, not one thing, **will be impossible with God.**

When Erin’s parents separated everyone said it was for the best, but that’s not how Erin felt. So Erin spoke to her Heavenly Father and God did the **impossible!** God restored her parents' marriage after they were separated for 9 years—so that Erin’s children could visit both grandparents! And both her parents lived a very long life too!! Remember, **nothing**, not one thing, **will be impossible with God.**

Just imagine how **silly** and sad it could have been if Erin believed the **lies** rather than trusting the **goodness of the Lord** and she let **fear** rule her life all those years!

Chapter 3— The Knowledge of Good and Evil

Should we learn *both* good *and* evil?

Well, let me ask you: As you begin to build your life on the **Rock, set apart**, do you want to use good or bad building materials? God says, we must **choose good** and turn our backs **on evil**. We know this is true because God commanded us, saying, not to **eat from the tree of the knowledge of both good and evil**.

To be safely **set apart** means we must **turn our backs on evil** and then **ask God** how we can **do something good!** Don't let **doubt** get into your mind either because God said if we doubt it will feel like we are being **tossed about like the surf of the sea**.

When Erin asked God to understand this principle, she imagined herself at the beach where her family had a vacation house. When she was at the ocean, there were large, powerful waves, so her parents wisely taught her that she needed to stay back up on the warm sand and watch the waves.

They said that even if she stood with her feet in the water, soon she would **sink** into the wet **sand** and a large wave could easily crash over her head—dragging her into the deep, rough water. God says it's the same with doubt. So, rather than **doubt** and be **tossed** about, or **sink** with worry, God says to trust Him and grab hold of the **gift of peace left by** our very own **Prince of Peace!**

Never forget to simply **ask Him** and then **not doubt** because at the **appointed time** God promises to answer us and give us the **desires of our hearts** —just like you read in “Macy's Barn Cat“ and “Horses Hoped For.” This means that each time we think about what we asked Him to do—we can **smile at the future!**

Chapter 4— Who Knows? GOD Knows!

Today everyone likes to give their opinion and many people claim to be an “expert” but the truth is, no one but GOD knows. That's why when anyone asks Erin something, she loves to say, “Who knows? God knows!” That's because it's

the **truth** and she knows the **truth will set** her and everyone else **free** so they can be **set apart** for **Him**.

Erin began to go to the Source of truth, she asked her Heavenly Father and read the **Promises in His Word**. **Now you know where to find the truth and you can do the same thing**. You can hide **God's Word in your heart**.

You already have learned so much of what GOD says about His love in My First Love "Closer than a Brother." It's also important to find out what GOD says about you as a *daughter* to your parents, a *sister* to your siblings, and what He says when you become a *wife* and then a *mother*. Being a mother means you will be **fruitful and multiply** which is important because God told us to be **fruitful and multiply** 14 times in the Bible! When you go right to the Source, your Heavenly Father and **His Word**, you will grow into a **virtuous** woman who God compares to be a precious **jewel!**

Remember, you have been **set apart** and **God has chosen you from all the nations of the earth to be His own special treasure**. For Erin to reach the **nations**, she needed to know what **God said** and then **give** away what she learned to **everyone who asked**. By following Him as **He led** her (as you read in My First Love "Closer than a Brother"), Erin began **looking for the narrow gates** that **few** ever **find**.

Chapter 5— Entering the Narrow Gate

Being **set apart** and building **on the Rock** to reach the **nations**, means you must **look for the narrow gate** and then choose to walk *through* that **gate** that very **few** will **find**. Here is one story of walking *through* the **narrow gate**.

One day Erin's teacher, a nun, said that unless someone confessed to something that happened when she was out of the classroom, her entire class would miss recess for a week. Unfortunately, the person who'd done this was a very shy French girl. So, Erin felt led to encourage all of her classmates to stand up when asked so Monique would not be afraid to stand up alone. But when the nun asked for the person who did it to stand, only Erin stood up and was immediately sent to the principal's office.

Erin **didn't say anything**, she didn't defend herself, she didn't say that Monique had done it because God's Word says that we are the only person who can **confess our own faults**, not someone else's. Erin never confronted Monique either but trusted God who **judges righteously**. It may not always seem fair, but it always brings about a hidden reward. Erin simply spoke to her **FBF “Forever Best Friend”** Who told her to remain **quiet** and **wait**. So, Erin chose to **love** the one who'd treated her unjustly by **speaking kindly** to Monique before and after school.

A week later, Erin's desk was still in the hallway as punishment and she still hadn't been allowed to go out to play at recess. But suddenly, Monique felt convicted and she no longer wanted to hide her transgression (what she'd done wrong).

Chapter 6— Few are Chosen

The day Monique **confessed her own faults**, Erin was again called to the principal's office. When she walked in, she saw Monique and her grandmother (who she and her little brother lived with) and Monique was crying. Erin was sad to see that her eyes were red and puffy because she'd hidden her transgression so long.

Erin was surprised that by doing what was right she was not rewarded or praised for it, instead, the principal and her teacher were angry with her. Even though she didn't understand it then, God had **hardened their hearts** because He wanted to teach Erin that the only One she needed to please was her Heavenly Father and because God was saving Erin's blessings for later. It's just like when **the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, making it strong and immovable**. That's because later, when Pharaoh does let God's people go, His people left carrying **whatever they asked for**, which was **all of Egypt's wealth!**

Doing the right thing isn't always easy and even though it may not feel like it—it's much better when you're **not** praised or rewarded because the best reward is **stored** up for us in heaven! **A Wise Woman, His Princess**, doesn't **store up** her treasures here on earth, where **moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal**. A Wise Woman **wisely** stores her **treasures in heaven**, where the **desires of her heart** will also be.

 **BONUS** 
HIS PROMISES

“Children are a gift from God... a reward!” “Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward.” “Children are God’s love-gift; they are heaven’s generous reward.” Psalm 127:3 TPT

“full of her own children” “Oh, how blessed are you parents, with your quivers **full of children.**” Psalm 127:5

“God’s plan” “‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,’ declares the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.’” Isaiah 55:8–9

“for GOOD” “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28

“Guide with my eye” “I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will advise you with My eye upon you.” “I will teach you and tell you the way to go and how to get there and I will watch over you.” MSG “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.” NLT Psalm 32:8

“never forsake or abandon” “for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I ever abandon you,’” “I’ll never let you down, never walk off and leave you,” MSG “I will never leave you alone, never! And I will not loosen my grip[a] on your life!” TPT “I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.” NLT Hebrews 13:5

“appointed time” “Then the LORD answered me and said, ‘Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that he one who reads it may run. For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, WAIT for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.’” [Habakkuk 2:2-3](#)

“Prince of Peace” “And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” [Isaiah 9:6](#)

"smiles at the future" “Strength and dignity are her clothing and she smiles at the future.” [Proverbs 31:25](#)

"hide God’s Word in your heart" "I have hidden Your Word in my heart, that I might not sin against You." [Psalm 119:11](#)

“A virtuous woman” **“A virtuous woman, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.”** [Proverbs 31:10](#)

“confessed everything to God” **“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”** 1 John 1:9

“wanting her brother punished” **“But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you.”** Matthew 5:44

“lighter” **“For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”** Matthew 11:30

“surpassed all understanding” **“Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”** 1 Peter 1:8

changed instantly and radically” **“Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”** John 3:7

“set apart” **“Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.”** 2 Timothy 2:21 ESV

“For such a time as this?” **“And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”** Esther 4:14

“let you down” **“This is what the Lord says: ‘Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength’...‘But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence.’”** Jeremiah 17:5, 7

“misbehaved” **“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”** Ephesians 6:1-3

“closer than a brother” **“A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”** Proverbs 18:24

“loves us more than a mother” **“But how could a loving mother forget her nursing child and not deeply love the one she bore? Even if there is a mother who forgets her child, I could never, no never, forget you.”** Isaiah 49:15 TPT

“waiting for you” “Therefore the Lord longs to be gracious to you,
And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you... How blessed are all those who
long for Him.” Isaiah 30:18

“listening to a word behind her” “right or left.” "Your ears will hear a word behind you,
saying, “This is the way, walk in it,” whenever you turn to the right or to the left." Isaiah
30:21

“He leads” “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green
pastures; HE LEADS ME beside quiet waters. He restores my soul.” Psalm 23: 1-3

“comfort them” “‘Comfort, O comfort My people,’ says your God.” Isaiah 40:1 “who
comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any
affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.” 2 Corinthians
1:4.

“passed to many generations” “Understand, therefore, that the Lord your God is indeed
God. He is the faithful God who keeps His covenant for a **thousand** generations and
lavishes His unfailing love on those who love His and obey His commands.” Deuteronomy
7:9 NLT

“many languages” "After these things I looked, and here was an enormous crowd that no
one could count, made up of persons from every nation, tribe, people, and language..."
Revelation 7:9 NET Bible

“testimony” "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the
word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death."
Revelation 12:11

Disagreeable and Contentious “Rejected for Good”

“An endless dripping on a rainy day and
A contentious, nagging, quarreling woman is alike.
Stopping her complaints is like trying to
Stop the wind or try to hold something with greased hands.”
1 Peter 3:4.

BOOK 3. Disagreeable and Contentious **“Rejected for Good”**

Chapter 1 **Outside in the Hall**

Do you remember reading [On the Rock, “Set Apart”](#) when Erin’s desk was moved out into the hallway as punishment? Well, Erin spent a good portion of her school years—rejected. And even though no one wants to be rejected, God chooses the **rejected to build** ministries and missions.

Instead of being with everyone else, Erin was rejected, set apart from her classmates. At her private school, students were only permitted to talk when they were outside during recess—never in the classroom or washroom or in the hallways.

Remaining quiet all day was difficult for Erin, who was blessed with a God-given passion for communicating. But like all God’s gifts, they’re reserved for **His good use**—not to feed our **flesh** and make **us** feel good. Feeding our flesh is **human nature** but it falls short of our spiritual nature designed for us as His princess.

In the hallway, however, Erin wasn't alone, nor did she feel alone. Remember how she'd learned to be with the Lord, who was closer than a Brother? Sadly, many never realize that the Lord is right next to us—just by inviting Him into our hearts—as I hope you read in [My First Love "Closer than a Brother."](#) This means Erin could talk all day long, in her heart, to her [Prince of Peace](#) who rescued her from ever *feeling* rejected.

Chapter 2 SELF-Love??

Feeling alone is a clever **scheme** the enemy uses to make us believe the lie that our heavy heart is because we need to learn to love ourselves. The keyword is SELF. When God sent His Son to live on the earth, He came for many reasons. The first was to **break the chains of death** so we can live **eternally**, living forever with Him. Another was to leave us an **example** to know how we are to live. The Good Lord describes Himself saying, **"I am gentle and humble in heart"** and when we live like this, humbly, we are promised to **find rest for our souls**. He also says that living humbly means we are **yoked** or connected to Him and it will be both **easy** and **light**.

The **Good Shepherd**, our **Prince of Peace**, came to save the lost. He lived His life in such a way that He never thought of HimSELF. Instead, **He lived humbly so we could follow His example** and to think of **others as more important than ourSELVES**. As His Princess, we never need to be concerned about anything since God promised to **supply all our needs**—nothing close to what we could get from anyone or anything on earth!!

As we pour our lives and love into others, He pours everything into us! It's just like the Creator designed our hearts to work since we are **fearfully and wonderfully made, in His own image, in the image of God!!** God designed the heart to pump and **give** oxygenated blood to every part of our body, then the blood returns back to the heart to receive more oxygen. Each beat pumps or **gives** more oxygenated blood to every part of our body so we can live! Imagine if our hearts didn't **give** and thought only of itsSELF?! Another lie is how we will be happier if we are independent and become SELFsufficient.

Chapter 3 SELF-Sufficient or Servant of All

God’s Word says that we are His body, **one body**, very dependent on each other to function harmoniously, not INdependently from one another. Our true dependence is on Him, being the **branches** as He is the **vine**! **Apart from Him, we can do nothing**. As one body, He showed us we are happiest when we serve, not focusing on ourSELF and SELFsufficiency but for true happiness being a **servant of all**. A wonderful way to serve is by doing your family's laundry.

Erin always enjoyed serving her large family of nine and while on their farm, she did the family’s laundry since she was a worker@home and the laundry room was connected to her office. And the way she has been able to keep a grateful and thankful heart when she is becoming **weary** in **whatever she does** is to always go to Him and **ask Him** to remind her of someone else who has it worse than she does. Often she recalled how God had reminded her of the millions of people in the world who don’t have a washer and must walk miles to wash their clothes in streams or other bodies of water! So anytime you need anything, go to **God and ask Him**.

What’s wonderful too is that you’re never too young to serve your family. Erin’s daughter, Tara who you will remember from Horses Hoped For (who has traveled all over the world meeting and ministering to women and who co-wrote A Wise Woman in Waiting for young women who are not yet married but long to be) began serving when she was very, very young! Tara began doing her family’s laundry when she was just 3-years-old!!

One day Erin noticed Tara on top of the washer but before telling her to get down, she watched her reaching in, grabbing some wet laundry, then sliding down and putting it into the dryer! Then Tara climbed back up and started the dryer. But before pushing the basketful of clean laundry into the living room, Tara started a new load of laundry for their family of 8 (since Macy wasn’t born yet). It was Tara’s older sister who taught her and ever since this time—Tara loves to minister and serve others!!

So as His Princess, offer to **serve** others—offer to do the laundry for your family or another task where He leads you to serve! God says that if we want to be first, we need to be last and be a servant of all. God says to find the **greatest among you**, look for the one who always **serves others**. Is that you?

Chapter 4

Amazed and Baffled

When Erin was ten years old, her mother decided to plan a trip driving around the United States and then go north through parts of Canada. They'd just sold the family's beach house so this was how they were going to spend the summer. Ever since Erin had started finding her way back home alone (as you read in My First Love "Closer than a Brother") her favorite place was being at home where she felt safe and peaceful.

When Erin was older, she also realized this was her nature, the way God designed her, so that later He could **use this for good**. God formed and created Erin and you, shaping and weaving all your traits together **in a secret place**, in the **safety** of **your mother's womb**, **carefully** and **skillfully** each of us was made!

The **skillful** way God designs us is so that He might reveal many amazing things others will **witness** and be **baffled** about. Those who knew Erin's nature were the most **baffled** when God called her to travel around the world many times and actually had no "home" to return to! When people are amazed and **baffled**, it is when they seek to know God, and we can introduce them to their Savior, the Prince of Peace!

Driving around America was challenging for Erin because for 3 months she didn't see or talk to her father, who she adored, and she couldn't be at home where she felt safe. Nevertheless, she didn't voice her feelings to anyone but her Heavenly Father because she'd learned to trust Him and this increased their closeness even more.

About halfway through their trip, after they'd traveled all the way from the West Coast of California to the East Coast, they got to stay awhile in the tiny seaside town of Ocean Gate—a house by the shore that had been in their family for generations. It was there that Erin had her first experience **rescuing** someone. No, not spiritually or emotionally **rescuing** them as you read in On the Rock but physically rescuing a teenager—becoming his only lifeline.

Chapter 5

Disobedience is Dangerous

That day Erin had been swimming all morning, jumping off of a very long pier when she noticed a group of teenagers who were teasing a boy. She couldn't hear what they said, but the next thing she heard was a splash and noticed this boy was on the bottom and wasn't coming up! Right away Erin could sense he couldn't swim!! Hoping there would be someone to help, Erin watched the group of bullies running away. The lifeguard hadn't noticed what had happened—and was much too far away to help. Erin knew she was this boy's **only hope** of being **rescued** or he'd drown.

Erin was very aware of the real dangers of drowning because Erin's mother, Grammy (who you read about in Macy's Barn Cat) told her and her siblings one story many times. It was the story of how Grammy and her younger brother had **disobeyed their parents** by playing in a rowboat tied to a dock. When she noticed the boat had started drifting far from shore, Grammy, whose name was Grace, told her little brother, Richard, to wait in the boat. Grace said she would swim to shore to get help since she was a good swimmer but Richard was just learning to swim.

Sadly, when 7-year-old Grace got help, Richard wasn't in the boat. He had **disobeyed** not just his parents but also his older sister and didn't wait for help. While trying to swim back to shore Richard had drowned. **Disobedience is dangerous.** This is what Erin taught her children each time she told the story of how her mother, Grammy, grew up as an only child, losing her only brother when he was just 7-years-old. Grace and Richard heard from their Quaker aunts that **children are to obey** their parents in the Lord, **for this is right and so that they would live long on the earth** because it's not God who says the good die young but the world.

So when Erin saw this boy on the bottom of the very same bay, she quickly swam to the boy, stood on the sandy bottom, and pushed the boy up to the surface to get air! Erin hadn't learned any lifesaving skills but when she grew up and became a lifeguard, she taught these skills to very young children—one was a little girl who saved her younger brother—a boy who was younger than Richard. This little girl was awarded a medal for saving her little brother and Erin's reward was seeing this little blonde-haired boy very much alive at his summer swimming lessons where she taught swimming!!

So having no skills, but trusting God, ten-year-old Erin began walking along the bottom holding the teenager's legs, as she kept walking towards the ladder until she

couldn't hold her breath any longer. That's when she'd let him go, resurface for more air and then swim back down again to lift the boy up to get air while she continued walking towards the ladder.

After repeating this several times, she finally reached the ladder, and thankfully, the lifeguard was there to pull the boy up out of the water. Erin also noticed there was a large crowd watching as she clung to the steps, coughing from swallowing so much water. Embarrassed, Erin assured everyone that she was fine, as she slipped past everyone and began hurrying back to the house, not wanting the attention or the praise.

This is one of the many benefits from receiving the unjust corrections you read about in [On the Rock](#)—God **uses unfairness for good** so that we are trained and no longer affected by criticism—nor praise—which can easily make us **proud**. And though the world says being proud is a good thing, God says the opposite. He says having **pride comes before destruction, and being arrogant before a fall**.

When Erin got back to the house, she never mentioned what had happened to her mother or aunt. But by the end of the day, everyone in town was talking about it but didn't know who the little girl was who saved the boy. When Erin's aunt asked if the little girl was her, she nodded and her mother only *tearfully* smiled and said, "Erin you did a good thing today" no doubt thinking of her own brother.

Chapter 6 On a Mission

It's important that we learn that our weaknesses are what He longs to **use for GOOD** and it's where we gain our real strength, spiritual strength. It's our trust in Him that helps us not be SELFconscious. It's only when we focus on others that the SELF in us will fade away. Rather than worrying about what others think of us, follow His example and put others first, make sure **they** are the ones who feel at ease.

Being set apart means we are often put in uncomfortable situations so we gain a better, closer relationship with our Forever Best Friend and find the comforting protection of our Heavenly Father. Once Erin met her friend Liesel who you read about in [On the Rock](#), the next year and the next and the next she went to a **new** school where she knew no one. At one new school, she ate alone for six long

weeks and determined once she made friends that she would never ignore someone eating alone!

Erin’s mission would be to walk around the cafeteria and the courtyard at lunchtime looking for anyone who was sitting alone. She’d simply walk over and say, “Hi, I’m Erin, would you mind if I eat with you?” and then agree to meet them the next day. That day Erin would suggest eating and meeting some of her “friends” whatever friends were most like her new friend.

In each difficulty, each challenge and each of our trials there is a hidden pearl—an opportunity—once we believe in our hearts that God causes **all things to work together for good**. God **created** each **calamity** to allow us to bless someone—becoming our **mission**, our **calling which comes directly from the Father**.

What’s funny is that most people believe that Erin is outgoing and has a lot of SELF-confidence, but the truth is that she simply looks out for others, because He looks out for her and her assurance is the best **assurance** anyone could have! The **assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen** because her hope and **trust IS the Lord**.

If you’ve been rejected, take heart—you’ve been rejected for good—and as you look to Him and trust Him I promise it will turn out for you and as you serve others!

 **BONUS** 
HIS PROMISES

“The stone that the **builders rejected** has now become the cornerstone.” Psalm 118:22

“for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for **His good pleasure**.”
Philippians 2:13

“For those who live according to the **flesh** set their minds on the things of the **flesh**, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. Romans 8:5
ESV

"Those who live as their **human nature** tells them to, have their minds controlled by what human nature wants. Those who live as the Spirit tells them to, have their minds controlled by what the Spirit wants." Romans 8:5 GNT

"so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his **schemes.**" 2 Corinthians 2:11

"For you have been called for this purpose, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an **example**, so that you would follow in His steps," 1 Peter 2:21

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for **I am gentle and humble in heart**; and YOU SHALL **FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.** For My **yoke** is easy, and My load is light." Matthew 11:28–30

"For My yoke is **easy**, and My burden is **light.** Matthew 11:30

"I am the **Good Shepherd**, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep." John 10:14-15 NKJV

"And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, **Prince of Peace.**" Isaiah 9:6

"for I am gentle and **humble in heart....**" Matthew 11:29

"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as **more important than himself**; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." Philippians 2:3

"And my God shall **supply all your needs** according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

"I will give thanks to Thee, for I am **fearfully and wonderfully made**; Wonderful are Thy works, and my soul knows it very well." Psalm 139:14

"And God created man **in His own image, in the image of God** He created him; male and female He created them." Genesis 1:27

"**Give**, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return." Luke 6:38

“And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ’s] **one body** you were also called [to live]. And be thankful (appreciative), [giving praise to God always].” Colossians 3:15 AMP

“I am the **vine**, you are the **branches**; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for **apart from Me you can do nothing**” (John 15:5).

“‘If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all, and **servant of all.**’ ” Mark 9:35.

“Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow **weary.**” Galatians 6:9

“But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither; and in **whatever he does**, he prospers” (Ps. 1:2).

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him **ask of God**, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him” James 1:5-6

“I came not to be served but to **serve.**” Matthew 20:28

“The **greatest among you** will be the one who always **serves others.**” Matthew 23:11

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it **for good** in order to bring about his present result, to preserve many people alive.” Genesis 50:20

“My frame was not hidden from You When I was made in **secret.**” Psalm 139:15

“You formed my innermost being, shaping my delicate inside and my intricate outside, and wove them all together in my **mother’s womb.**” Psalm 139:13 TPT

“You even formed every bone in my body when you created me in the secret place; **carefully, skillfully** you shaped me from nothing to something.” Psalm 139:15 TPT

“And you will be my **witnesses**, telling people about me everywhere” Acts 1:8

“Completely **baffled**, they said, “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? [each one heard them speaking in his own language.]” Acts 2:7 NET

“**Rescue** everyone you can of those being taken away and killed, and hold on to those innocent souls staggering toward their own slaughter. If you excuse yourself, saying, “Look, we didn’t know anything about this,” doesn’t God, who knows what you are really thinking,

understand your motives? Isn't your Protector aware of why you aren't protecting the innocent? Will He not repay you in kind?" Proverbs 24:11-12

"God, hurry to help me. Run to my rescue! For you're my Savior and my **only hope!**"
Psalm 38:22 TPT

"**Children, obey your parents** in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may **live long** on the earth." Ephesians 6:1-3

"**Submit** to one another out of reverence to God." Ephesians 5:21

"If she is displeasing in the eyes of her master who designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed. He does not have authority to sell her to a foreign people, because of his **unfairness** to her." Exodus 21:8

"**Children, obey your parents** in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may **live long on the earth.**" Ephesians 6:1-3

"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it **for good** in order to bring about his present result, to preserve **many people alive.**" Genesis 50:20

"God is opposed to the **proud** but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you at the proper time." 1Pet. 5:5-6.

"**Pride** comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit **before a fall.**" Proverbs 16:18

"And we know that God causes **all things to work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28

"The One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and **creating calamity; I am the LORD** who does all these." Isaiah 45:7

"There's another witness standing in My corner who is greater than John or any other man. The **mission** that brings Me here, and the things I am called to do, demonstrate the authenticity of My **calling which comes directly from the Father.**" John 5:36 Voice

"Now faith is the **assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**" Heb. 11:1.

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD and whose **trust IS the LORD.**” Jeremiah 17:7

About the Author

Erin Thiele is a wife and mother of four boys, Dallas, Axel, Easton, and Cooper, and three girls, Tyler, Tara, and Macy. In addition, Erin is the grandmother, Mimi, of more than a dozen grandchildren—eight granddaughters, including a set of twins.

Restore Ministries began when Erin wrote a book filled with God’s Word and His promises to show His faithfulness.

If you have access to the Internet, be sure to visit Restore Ministries Encouraging Women website at: RMIEW.com. On our website you’ll be able to read powerful testimonies of restored marriages, join our Restoration Fellowship, and find out more about our other resources such as a Wise Woman Bible Studies and other Online Courses and in our bookstore EncouragingBookstore.com

If you would like to be trained how to minister, please visit our website to find out more about RMIOU “Restore Ministries International Online University” RMIOU.com

“They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces will never be ashamed”—Psalm 34:5

Erin has written other books with her distinctive style of using the Scriptures to minister to the brokenhearted and the spiritual captives. “He sent **His Word** and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions” (Ps. 107:20). You will find all of her books on one of the RMI websites:

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