

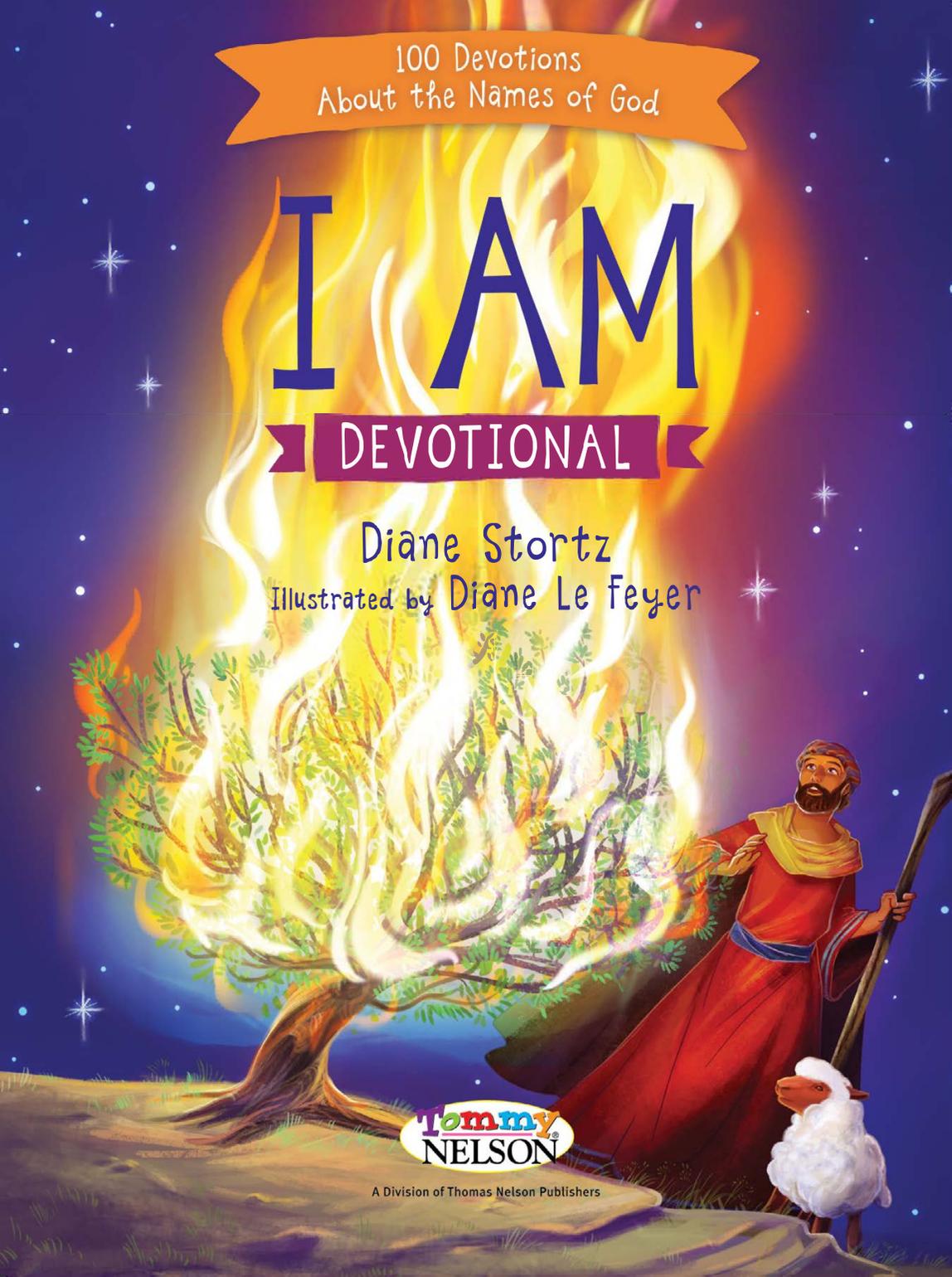
100 Devotions
About the Names of God

I AM

DEVOTIONAL

Diane Stortz

Illustrated by Diane Le Feyer



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A Letter to Parents

DEAR PARENTS,

Welcome to the *I AM Devotional*! As in all my books based on the Bible, my goal for this resource is making God's wonders known to the next generation. Like you, I want my children and grandchildren to know God through His Word. I'm convinced this is a critically important way they will come to love, obey, and trust Him—and He loves them so very much!

The devotions in this book are based on forty of the many names for God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit found in the Bible. They are written to help children develop understanding of what the names tell us about God, how we should respond, and how we can see those characteristics of God at work in our own lives. [The companion book of Bible stories about these same names of God is called *I AM: 40 Reasons to Trust God*.]

Each devotion includes discussion questions, a prayer, and a Go Deeper Bible verse to explore. Families can work through the book together, and older children can enjoy using the book for grown-up-style devotions on their own.

Either way, my prayer is for Psalm 9:10 be true for you and your children every day: "Those who know your name put their trust in you"!

Diane Stortz

Making Him known to
the next generation



Just for Kids



As I was writing this book, I was thinking about you. Yes, you! I'm so happy *you* can use this book to get to know God better by learning about His names.

Did you know that God has many different names? He does, and each one tells us something about Him—what He is like and what He does. You might even have questions about God, and His names can help you find the answers you are looking for.

More than anything, learning about God's names leads us to love and trust Him more and more. And that is always my prayer for you!

Blessings,
Diane Stortz

Hello, My Name Is _____

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. When you go to the people of Israel, tell them, I AM sent me to you.”

Exodus 3:14 ICB



At day camp or on a field trip, you have probably worn a name tag. That way teachers can call you by name. They don't have to yell, “Hey, you!”

When God spoke to Moses at the burning bush, He wanted Moses to tell the Israelites that God would save them. “But the people will want to know who sent me,” Moses replied. “When they ask, ‘What is his name?’ what should I say to them?”

“I AM WHO I AM,” God told Moses. “That is My name forever. Tell the people that I AM sent you to rescue them and bring them out of Egypt.”

The burning bush did not burn up—it stayed the same. It didn't change. God doesn't change either. He is always the same. He doesn't need anything. He had no beginning and He has no end. I AM WHO I AM means all those things.

Later on, when the Israelites began to write I AM in their language, they used just four letters—the Hebrew letters for YHWH. We don't really know how this was pronounced. Some people say Yahweh; others say Jehovah. In your Bible you might see LORD instead (with a big capital L and smaller capitals for the rest of the word). In this book, we use Jehovah and also LORD.

God doesn't want you to just know *about* Him. He wants you to know Him personally, like you know your friends. Knowing the meaning of all God's names helps us understand who He is. And getting to know God means getting to know the very best friend you will *ever* have!

Thank You, God, that You want us to know You! I want to learn about Your names and get to know You more each day. Amen.

- What's the first thing you usually ask someone new?
- Who is someone you know well? What is that person like?

GO DEEPER

What does Psalm 9:10 say we can do when we know God well—when we know God's name?

Holy Ground

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. When you go to the people of Israel, tell them, "I AM sent me to you.""

Exodus 3:14 ICB

Are there places you go that are special to you? Maybe a lake where you water ski every summer, or your grandfather's beautiful garden, or your neighborhood's soccer field? Places become special to us because of what happens there.

Something special happened in the wilderness where Moses cared for his family's sheep. Moses saw a bush on fire but not burning up—and God talked to Moses there. He had a big, important job for Moses. [You can read all about this in Exodus 3–4.]

"Take off your sandals," God told Moses, "because you are standing on holy ground."

Holy means "set apart." This place was holy because God was there to talk with Moses and because God Himself is holy—He is different from us. He is the Creator. He is always good. He never changes. He is the great I AM.

Because God is holy, He deserves our worship—our praise and our obedience—wherever we are. We can worship by the way we live every day. Have you ever felt like yelling mean, angry words at a younger child who tears apart your best Lego creation? If you remember what God wants and choose to be

kind even though you are upset, you are worshiping. You are standing on holy ground!

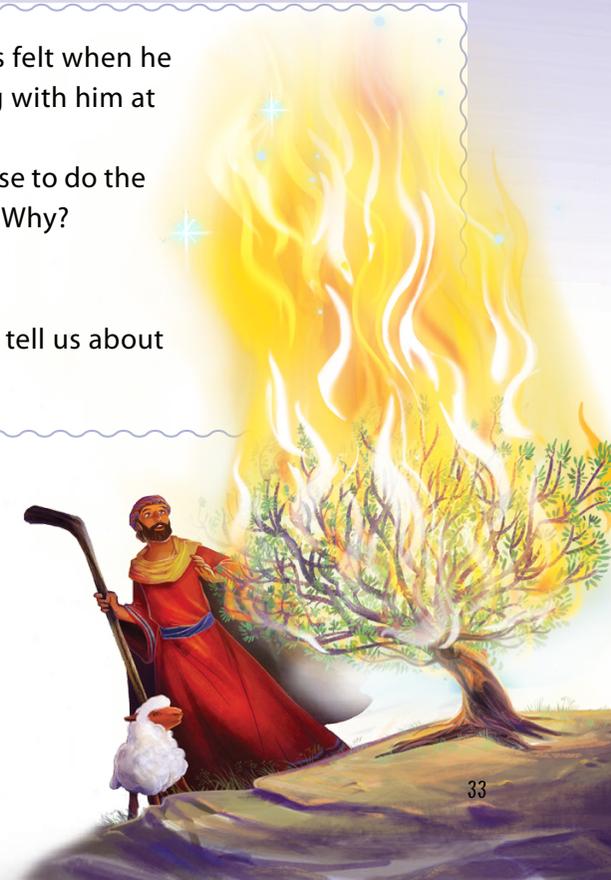
The Bible says, "Offer your lives as a living sacrifice to him. . . . This is the spiritual way for you to worship" [Romans 12:1 ICB]. How will you worship God today?

Dear God, thank You that I can worship
You every day. Help me to worship
by choosing to do what pleases You.
You are holy and good. Amen.

- How do you think Moses felt when he realized God was talking with him at the burning bush?
- Is it easy or hard to choose to do the things that please God? Why?

GO DEEPER

What does Hebrews 12:28 tell us about how to worship God?



Alive Again

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life.”

John 11:25 ICB

When your grandparents were kids, they probably watched Saturday-morning cartoons on TV. One famous cartoon series featured the characters Roadrunner and Wile E. Coyote. Wile E. Coyote frequently got into trouble—getting hit on the head with a heavy anvil, being blown away by dynamite, or tumbling off a cliff. These mishaps should have seriously hurt him or even killed him, but he always bounced right back into action.

That’s not what happens in real life. People who die don’t come back.

But Lazarus did.

Lazarus had been dead for four days when Jesus arrived in Bethany. Jesus called, “Lazarus, come out!” and the dead man walked out of his tomb, fully alive. (You can read this story in John 11:1–44).

Resurrection means that something dead comes back to life. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead to demonstrate His power over death and His power to give life. Jesus shows us how to have a good and happy life now and in the future. He said, “I came to give life—life in all its fullness” (John 10:10 ICB) and “He who believes in me will have life even if he dies” (John 11:25 ICB).

As people grow older, their bodies begin to wear out, and eventually they die. The good news is that though our bodies die, our spirits live forever. When Jesus is our Savior, we will live

forever in heaven—and the Bible tells us we can look forward to brand-new bodies there too!

When you are young, you enjoy life and look forward to the future. That’s how it should be. But when you hear about a believer who has died, old or young, remember that Jesus is The Resurrection and the Life. That person is safe with Him.

Dear God, thank You for Your promise of forever life because of Jesus. Amen.

- What are some things you enjoy most about your life?
- How do you think Lazarus felt after Jesus brought him back to life?

GO DEEPER

What kind of life does Jesus give us? Look in John 10:10 to find out.

