

## **Build your faith with insights from WE BELIEVED**

I know how you feel. You have a promise from God. And you trust God, you do. But time is ticking. Maybe years have passed, and you haven't seen the promise of God fully active in your life yet.

So you wonder. Doubts and fears start to enter your mind, causing you to question. You are having a difficult time rectifying the faithfulness of God with your experience.

Believe me, I've been there. As told in *WE BELIEVED*, God gave me a promise about adoption. I thought it would happen quickly. Boy, was I wrong! It took ten years to see the fullness of God in my life. Along the way, I learned powerful lessons that helped my family continue to walk in faith and patience like Hebrews 6:11-12 says.

I want you to receive these lessons too. I want to help you on your journey. That's why I wrote *WE BELIEVED*. If you can't wait for the book to come out, then here are some tips on building your faith while you wait! Let's walk and learn together!

Throughout the book, I use lines from the classic Christian hymn, "'Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus" to describe the theme of each chapter. Let's take a look at some of those lines and some takeaways from each one.

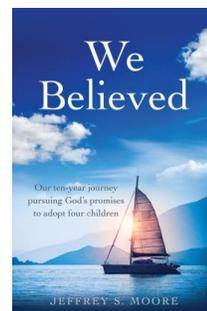
### **1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus**

Yes, it is sweet to trust in Jesus, but have you ever asked "why"? It is so sweet because He is so trustworthy! Do you know that? Have you seen it for yourself? Have you been wounded because someone that represented Jesus to you, hurt you?

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Revelation 21:5 says, “And he [Jesus] who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are *trustworthy and true*’” (ESV, emphasis added).

It has been said that trust is the easiest thing to break and the hardest thing to earn. If you feel like you are having a hard time trusting God, take a few moments and confess that to Him. Repent and ask Him for forgiveness. Confess that He is worthy of your trust because He is “trustworthy and true”. Tell Jesus that you are going to trust Him again and ask Him to help.

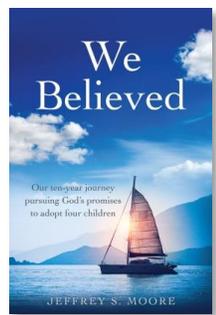
## 2. Just to take Him at His Word

Words are important. We get to know people by their words as much as their actions. It is the same between God and us.

Romans 3:3-4 says, “What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar...” (ESV).

Every word that God speaks is true. In fact, Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). He actually *IS* truth! Because of that, we really can “take Him at His word.”

Take a moment and tell Jesus that you believe His words are true and you are ready to “take Him at His word.” Ask Him to give you wisdom to understand the promises that He has spoken into your life.



### 3. Just to rest upon His promise

When God makes a promise to you, you can rest in it. It will happen just as He said! In Chapter 3 of *WE BELIEVED*, I wrote about how Abraham and Sarah did not fully rest in God's promise, but rather took matters into their own hands as described in Genesis 12.

As a result, Ishmael was born, yet God returned when Ishmael was thirteen to tell Abraham that the promised son (Isaac) was still to be born from Sarah. God's word was true, even when Abraham and Sarah didn't understand it. It was true even when it took a long time.

In the same way, God promised the Israelites that He would take them to the Promised Land. When they were backed up against the Red Sea, Moses had to remind them to rest in that promise. He says in Exodus 14:14, "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still" (NIV).

Are you resting in God's promise to you, or are you striving to make it happen? There are times when we need to partner with God to receive His promises. At other times, we need to stop "toiling" and let Him do the work. Tell God that you will let Him fight for you if necessary while you rest in His promise.

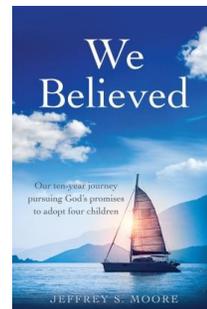
### 4. And to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"

When God says something, you can count on it! Second Corinthians 1:20 beautifully says, "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God" (NIV).

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You may not understand exactly what God means right away. You may have to puzzle it out. You may have to pray, seek His face, listen and even take that first step before you fully understand the “thus saith the Lord” in your life. But you will. You will listen, you will step out in faith, and at the right time, you will come to understand exactly what God meant from the beginning.

And guess what? It's worth it! It's worth the wait, even if it takes years. Because welcoming the promises of God into your life is one of the most wonderful and powerful things you can do. Remember this:

**God is completely faithful!**  
**You can inherit His promises**  
**by walking in faith and patience.**

**If you're ready for deeper insights,**  
**read *WE BELIEVED*.**

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus by Louisa M. R. Stead

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