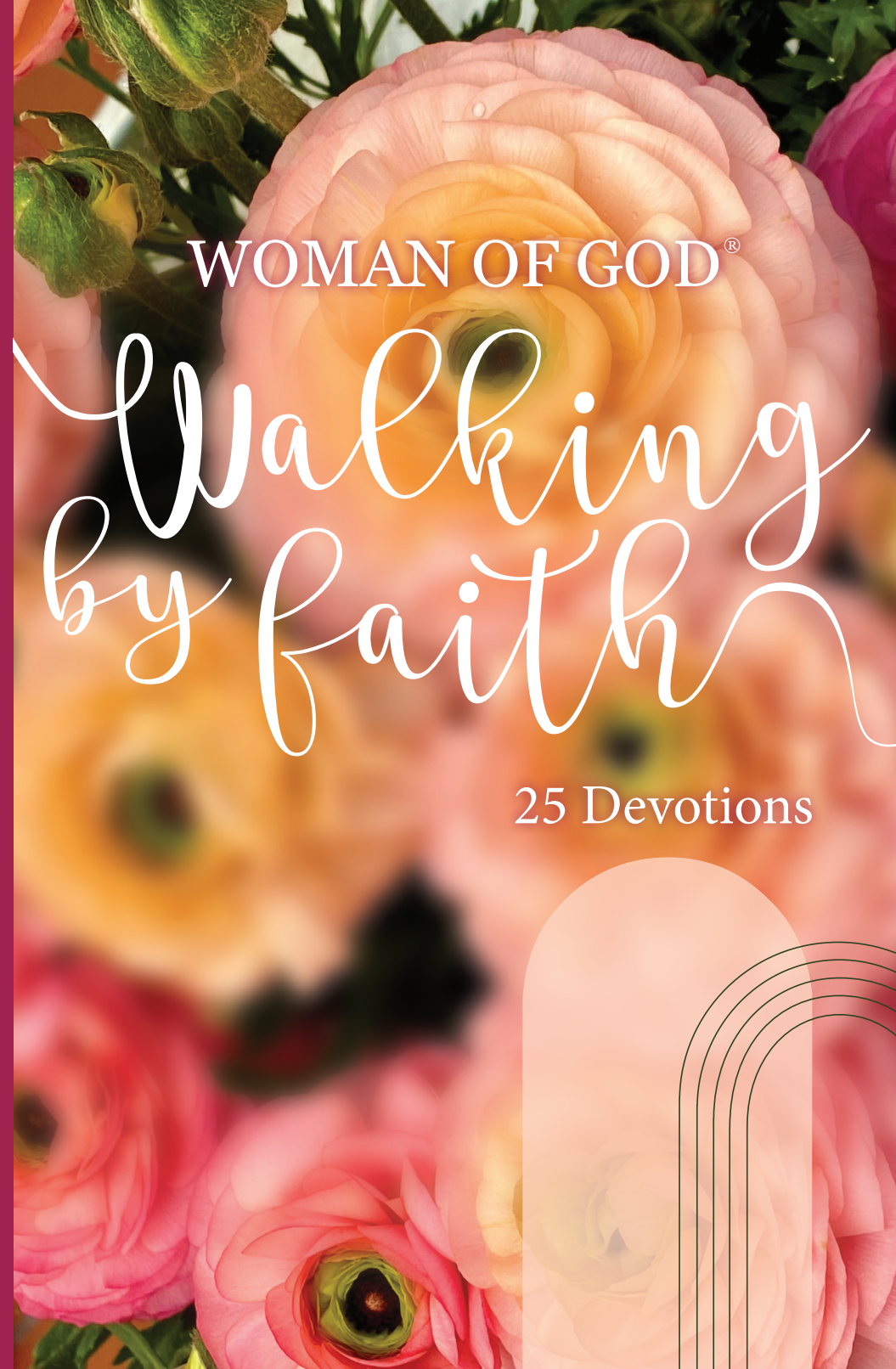
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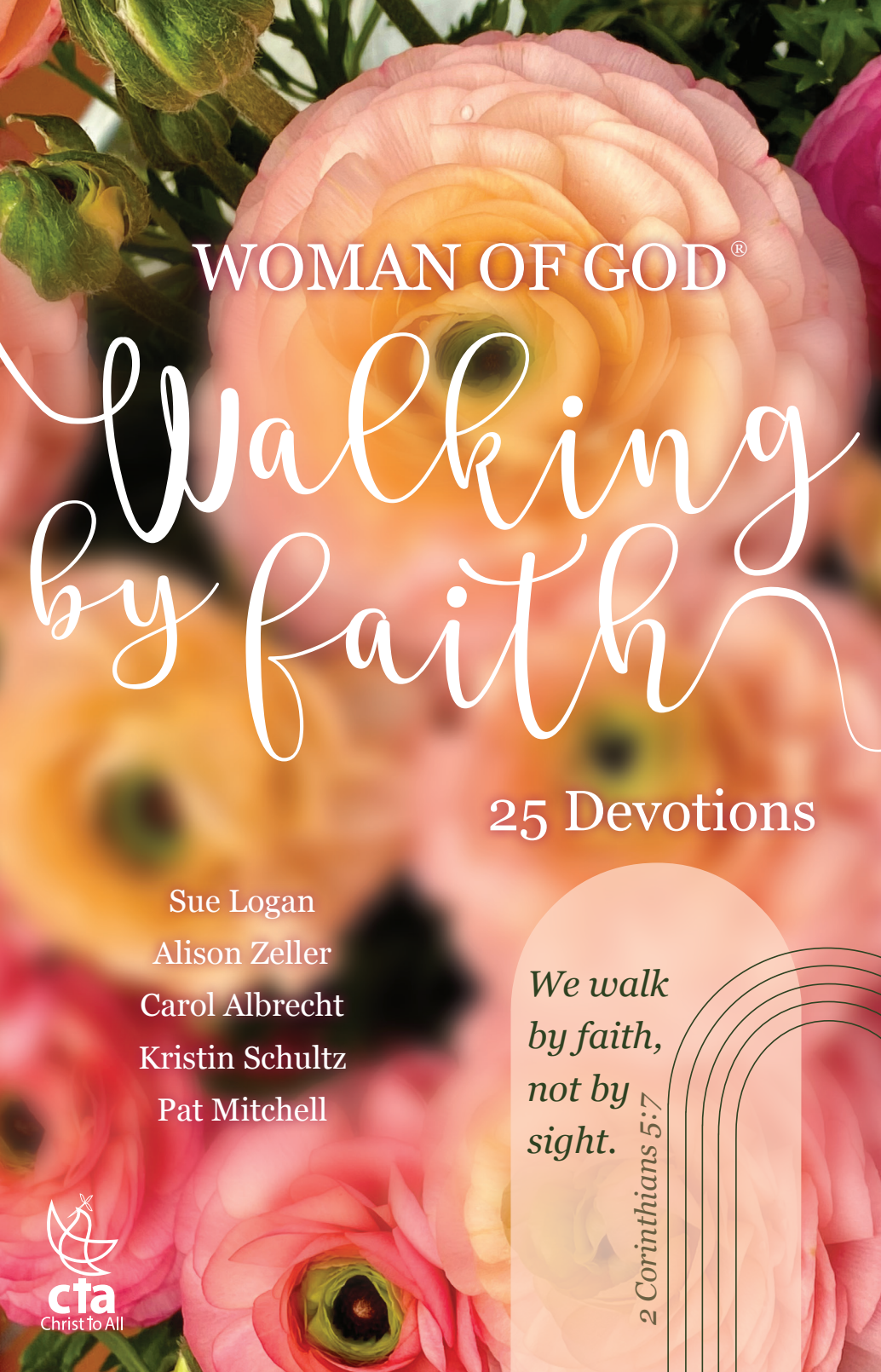
25 Devotions


WOMAN OF GOD®
Walking by faith
25 Devotions
Sue Logan
Alison Zeller
Carol Albrecht
Kristin Schultz
Pat Mitchell
We walk by faith, not by sight.
2 Corinthians 5:7
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WOMAN OF GOD®

Walking by Faith

**By Sue Logan, Alison Zeller, Carol Albrecht,
Kristin Schultz, Pat Mitchell**

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Sarah:

A Journey of Faith

Sarah is portrayed in the Bible's book of Hebrews as a woman of God, not because of what she accomplished but because of what God accomplished through her. Sarah struggled and failed, just like you and I do at times, but God graciously lifted Sarah's eyes past her circumstances and toward his unfailing Word of promise.

This week, as you read about Sarah remember this: the God who loved and brought Sarah through her doubt and failure is the same God who calls you by name!

May you hear God's invitation to walk this path that is charted by faith, trusting in the God who is always with you.

DAY 1:
MOVING IN FAITH

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Hebrews 11:8

Imagine a wife getting a call from her husband, telling her he's been named sole heir of a fabulous estate. They are to take possession immediately. He encourages her to start packing right away and advises her to take along a variety of clothing, since he's not sure what the weather will be like in their new location. In fact, he is not really sure where they are headed! How would you respond if you were that wife, with doubt or faith?

As Genesis 12 opens, Sarai and Abram set out on a lengthy trip. Neither of them knows for sure where they will end up. You may like surprises, but I check the Weather Channel two or three times just to make sure I pack the right clothes for a weekend getaway. Bear in mind that Abram was 75 years old and Sarai was 60 when they left home. I can't imagine where these two found the faith to move forward.

If we take a closer look, though, we see they relied on GPS—God's Promise of Salvation. God supplied the faith they needed time and time again through his good Word of promise. Every time the Lord speaks to one or both of them in Genesis, he adds more details to his promise. Eventually, the picture grows very clear. One of their descendants will be the Savior, first promised long centuries before in the Garden of Eden!

The Bible tells us one other important thing about this couple. Sarai was barren. Genesis 11:30 says it plainly: Sarai "had no child." Abram and Sarai continue childless year after year, chapter after chapter in Genesis. They lost hope more than once, but God reminded them over and over and over they could rely on his sure promises.

You can rely on God's promises, too, and especially on God's Plan of Salvation. In Jesus, you are God's beloved, forgiven child. A glorious inheritance awaits you, an inheritance Jesus won for you through his death on the cross.

All this is certain. Even so, your journey is bound to hold a few surprises. So don't forget to pack the promises!

PRAYER STARTER:

Dear Jesus, fill me with the faith and peace that come from believing that you travel with me, today and forever . . .

DAY 2:
STEP-BY-STEP IN FAITH

By faith [Abram] went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Hebrews 11:9–10

Sarai was barren. For years she and Abram had waited and prayed for a child. In that culture, having many children was a symbol of the Lord's favor, while a closed womb was considered a punishment for one's sins. How devastated Sarai must have been as, month after month, she failed yet again to conceive.

But now God had promised a new land. The journey away from Haran would provide an escape from all the haughty and accusatory looks Sarai must have received in the marketplace. The move provided new hope, a fresh start for Sarai and Abram. God even gave them new names: Abraham, "father of many nations," and Sarah, "princess"!

Still, Sarah waited. She waited another 25 years! She went through menopause, maybe even holding her breath when decreasing hormone levels interrupted her monthly cycle. Still, no baby. Little by little, her trust in God's promise seeped away.

What threatens to steal your trust in God's promises? Do echoes from the past whisper your name? That hope dashed—again? And again and again? The lie you told that did irreparable damage? The worry that your kids will never heal from your divorce? The fear that abortion is an unforgivable sin? The angry words you spoke yesterday that are keeping you at arm's length from your husband or sister today?

God was faithful to the promises he made to Sarah, and he is faithful to the promises he has given to you, especially the precious promises of the forgiveness and healing won for you by Jesus through his death on the cross.

When you're tempted to look at your circumstances through the eyes of fear and doubt, when you're tempted to listen to lies that call you to account for past mistakes and failures, be encouraged by remembering who you are in Christ Jesus by his grace. Remember the new name God has given you: *Woman of God*. Remember the forgiveness he has given, forgiveness that frees you to walk by faith.

PRAYER STARTER:

Dear Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross to take away all my sins. Help me to forgive myself and to live today faithfully in your love . . .