



A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



“Keep Your Eyes On Jesus”

Writing a monthly newsletter article can be very difficult. The hardest part is knowing what to write. Above all, I want to write something relevant that will relate to all who struggle with the challenges of

life.

But how can one short article cover all that life throws at us? Each person has their own unique challenges, so to cover them all, I would need to write a series of books, not an article, and for sure, that's not going to happen! As I was praying about this, God seemed to impress on me that it is possible in one article to write something that will help everyone, no matter what they are going through. And what might that be?

Keep your eyes on Jesus!

I know that sounds like a cliché because, far too often, we treat it like one. No matter what someone is going through, our stock answer is, "Keep your eyes on Jesus." That may sound right, but to the person needing help, it seems shallow because it doesn't include what that looks like. Jesus is in heaven, we can't see Him, and yet we flippantly tell people, "Keep your eyes on Jesus." We need to put some meat on that bone if our counsel is to have meaning that will actually help.

What specific things does the Bible tell us we should look for when we turn our eyes toward Him? Get ready to be blessed, encouraged, and filled with faith because I am about to answer that question. I will start in Hebrews.

Hebrews 4:15-16 Amplified Bible

15 For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize and understand our weaknesses and temptations, but One who has been tempted [knowing exactly how it feels to be human] in every respect as we are, yet without [committing any] sin. 16 Therefore let us [with privilege] approach the throne of grace [that is, the throne of God's gracious favor] with confidence and without fear, **so that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find [His amazing] grace to help in time of need** [an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment].

One of the things common to our human experience is that we all struggle with condemnation. This is exacerbated by the fact that Satan is the accuser of the brethren, and he tries to make us feel like the problems we are dealing with are happening because of our own failures and flaws. While this may be true, it does not mean we are on our own and can expect no help from God. Turn your eyes to Him, and you will find a God of mercy and grace who tells us that if we turn to Him in our time of need, we will find help. This is one of the things I am talking about when I say, "Keep your eyes on Jesus."

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What else can I tell you about the One you should look to? I can tell you that He is eternal, supreme, and all-powerful.

Psalm 90:2 Amplified Bible

2 Before the mountains were born,
Or before You had given birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are [the eternal] God.

Revelation 1:8 KJV

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

He has been with you from the beginning and will be with you when time is no more. He has never lost a battle, and He never will. He is with you, He is for you, and nothing will ever change that. He does not sleep or slumber, and His eyes are always upon you.

There is one more thing I want to tell you about my Jesus. He loves you! He loves you more than you can ever imagine. He loves you more than any human can possibly love another. Take the love of a mother for her child and multiply it a million times, and you will still not reach the depths of His love for you.

John 15:13 KJV

13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

1 John 3:1 KJV

1 "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

So, no matter what your situation may be, I can confidently tell you to keep your eyes on Jesus. But don't treat that like a cliché. Rather, keep your eyes fixed on His mercy, His power, and His love. There is a song that says what I am trying to

help you see. Here are some of the lyrics.

"I SPEAK JESUS"

I just want to speak the name of Jesus,
Over every heart and every mind.
'Cause I know there is peace within Your presence,
I speak Jesus.
I just want to speak the name of Jesus,
Til' every dark addiction starts to break.
Declaring there is hope and there is freedom,
I speak Jesus.
I just want to speak the name of Jesus,
Over fear and all anxiety.
To every soul held captive by depression,
I speak Jesus.
Your name is power,
Your name is healing,
Your name is life.
Break every stronghold,
Shine through the shadows,
Burn like the fire!
I speak Jesus!

KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS!

