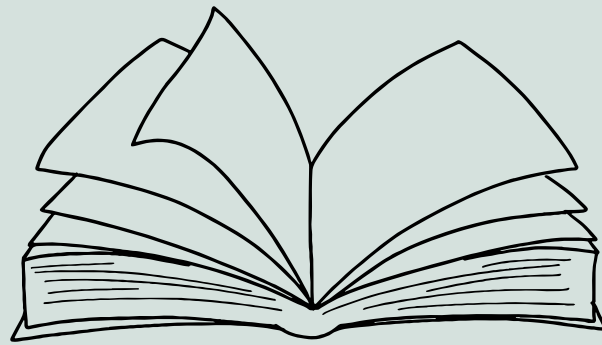


Kentucky
WMU



IT BECAME TO ME A JOY

WHEN GOD SHINES BRIGHTLY
THROUGH THE BROKEN PLACES

BY CONNIE DIXON

BOOK CLUB

KYWMU.ORG

**SUMMER
2026**

ABOUT OUR PICK

IT BECAME TO ME A JOY:

*When God Shines Brightly
through the Broken Places*



In *It Became to Me a Joy: When God Shines Brightly through the Broken Places* by former national WMU president Connie Dixon, you will learn a real and vulnerable account that includes hardships and challenges. Connie shares her struggles with her self-worth, which include battling an eating disorder, and how the Lord specifically used the difficult things in her life to bring about His glory. For anyone who feels not good enough, learn from a woman who found God is good enough and how He uses the broken places in life to shine His glory all the more brightly, bringing abundant, everlasting joy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

CONNIE DIXON

Connie Dixon has served the Lord through WMU in a variety of roles, including executive director of New Mexico WMU (2007-20) and as president of New Mexico WMU (2003-07). She was elected as the 24th president of national WMU in June 2021. Connie is passionate about serving and encouraging others through Christian Women's Job Corps/Christian Men's Job Corps for which she served as a national trainer. Connie can be summarized as someone who loves Jesus, loves her family, and is passionate about missions.





READING SCHEDULE

This is our suggested flow of chapters per book club meeting based on the way we've arranged discussion questions. Feel free to alter the schedule to better suit the needs of your group.

WEEK 01

Chapters 1-2

WEEK 02

Chapters 3-4

WEEK 03

Chapters 5-6

WEEK 04

Chapters 7-8

WEEK 05

Chapters 9-10

WEEK 06

Chapters 11-12

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 1

- 1 What are you struggling with today?
- 2 How have you allowed the struggles in life to rob you of joy?
- 3 Reflect on the promises that God has fulfilled in the past and the ways He is with you now.

Chapter 2

- 1 How have you gotten to where you are today?
- 2 What mountains are you facing today?
- 3 What do you do when you feel overwhelmed?
- 4 What are your strengths?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 3

- 1 What are the things that make you think you aren't good enough?
- 2 What do you think happened to you to make you think you aren't good enough?
- 3 In what ways do you feel broken - or incomplete - today?
- 4 How can you use your brokenness for Christ today?

Chapter 4

- 1 How have you gotten to where you are today?
- 2 What mountains are you facing today?
- 3 What do you do when you feel overwhelmed?
- 4 What are your strengths?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 5

- 1 In what ways have you ever felt worthless?
- 2 Where do you find your identity?
- 3 In what ways do you understand the Great Commission is for you?
- 4 Are you ready to say, “God, I’m Your woman”?

Chapter 6

- 1 In what ways do you feel guilt or shame?
- 2 What do you think about this question: I don’t value myself; how could God value me?
- 3 How did/do you see God using you today?
- 4 If obedience is linked to experiencing the joy of the Lord in our lives, what steps of obedience can you take today?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 7

- 1 In what ways do you compare yourself to others?
- 2 How easy is it for you to see other people's good attributes and only your flaws?
- 3 When have you followed the crowd? When have you followed the cloud?
- 4 What are some ways you can show compassion to the world today?

Chapter 8

- 1 What is something you struggle with that is out of your control?
- 2 In what ways do you wish you were like someone else?
- 3 Where do you go when you need to be alone?
- 4 What are the strengths God has uniquely given to you?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 9

- 1 When have you asked yourself, “Why me?”
- 2 What troubles do you see in the world today?
- 3 What difficulties are you facing?
- 4 What is your battle plan for facing what the future holds?

Chapter 10

- 1 How have you seen yourself grow after a tragedy?
- 2 How have you seen other people turn tragedy into joy?
- 3 How can you face tragedy and not be afraid?
- 4 Does God cause tragedy?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 11

- 1 Can you think of a person you have looked at and thought his or her life must be perfect?
- 2 Who are your close friends? Who is part of your community?
- 3 Who has shown himself or herself to be your friend? Who have you shown friendship to?
- 4 In what ways has someone influenced you for good? In what ways has someone been a bad influence for you?

Chapter 12

- 1 Have you had a Damascus road experience?
- 2 What is your two-minute testimony?
- 3 What makes it hard to share your testimony?
- 4 How would you describe your relationship with God today?

SUGGESTED GROUP ACTIVITIES

Want to add interactive activities to your meetings? Check out some of the activities we've come up with below. Feel free to use as few or many as you want to better suit the needs of your group.

Savory, Bitter, & Sweet Truth Snacks

Invite each person to bring a snack to share to build a snack board

1. Savory snacks to symbolize steady joy and sustaining faith
 - Sharp cheeses
 - Crackers or flatbread
 - Olives
 - Hummus or savory spreads
 - Nuts
 - Roasted vegetables
2. Bitter snacks to symbolize sorrow, obedience, and waiting
 - Dark chocolate
 - Citrus
3. Sweet to symbolize joy that comes alongside or after bitterness
 - Honey
 - Small pastries
 - Dried fruit
 - Jam

Daily Bread Board

Ask each person to bring a form of bread, homemade or store-bought.

Set out butter, honey, olive oil, jam, etc. for the bread.

Some questions to ask while everyone is enjoying their bread:

- What Scriptures have been daily bread for you in a hard season?
- What spiritual discipline/practice has sustained you?

Letter to Your Future Self

Provide each person with a blank greeting card or a blank sheet of paper.

- Invite participants to write a letter to themselves in a future hard season that reminds themselves of what true joy really is.
- Seal the letters and suggest opening them in 6-12 months.

Joy Jars

Provide each person with a small jar to decorate and small strips of paper.

Ask each person to fill their jar with:

- Scriptures that have sustained them
- Truths to cling to when joy feels thin
- Reminders of God's faithfulness



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

This section offers resources your group can use to promote or make better use of your book.

Here's what you'll find:

BOOK REVIEW

This blank worksheet is here to help you and your group make sense of what you're reading. It's meant to spark discussions by encouraging everyone to jot down their thoughts. As a leader, you can also use it to check in on how your members are doing spiritually.

POSTER

This 8.5x11 poster/flyer is designed to help you promote your book in your church/ community. Simply fill in the blank meeting info and they are ready to use!

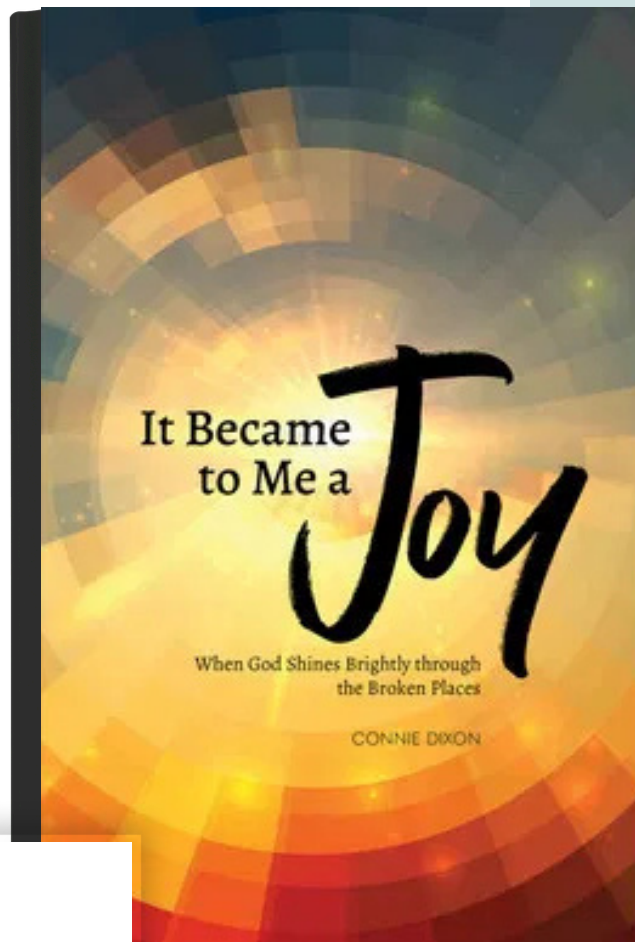
BULLETIN INSERT

Like the poster these half-page "bulletin insert" size sheets are designed to help you promote your book in your church/ community. Once again, Fill in the blank meeting info and they are ready to use!

KentuckyWMU PRESENTS

BOOK CLUB

Join us as we read and discuss
*It Became to Me a Joy: When
God Shines Brightly through the
Broken Places* by Connie Dixon.



DATE



TIME



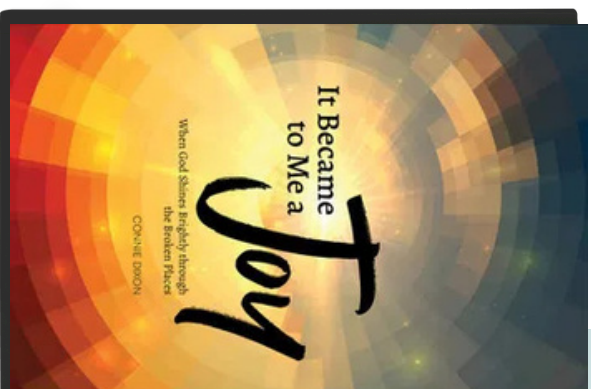
LOCATION

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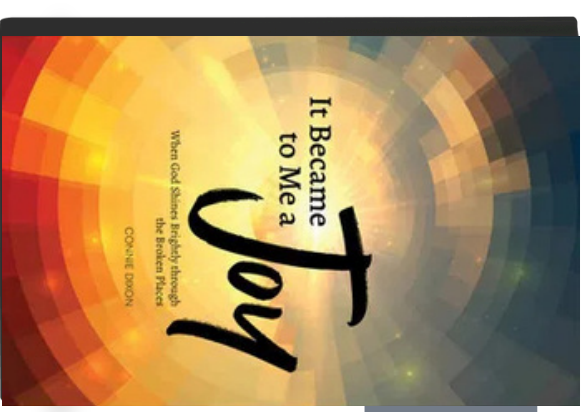


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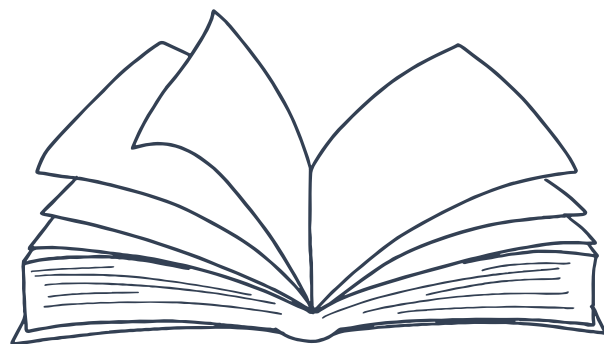


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BOOK REVIEW

BOOK TITLE:

AUTHOR:

SUBJECT:

MY FEELINGS ABOUT THIS BOOK:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ☐ BEST BOOK I'VE EVER READ | ☐ I DID NOT LIKE IT AT ALL | ☐ MUST READ |
| ☐ READ BETTER ONES | ☐ THIS BOOK MADE ME CRY | ☐ WISH I HADN'T READ THIS |
| ☐ I COULD NOT FINISH | ☐ SO BORING | |

BEST MOMENTS:

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

LEAST FAVORITE MOMENTS:

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

FAVORITE QUOTES:

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

HOW WOULD I RECCOMEND (OR ARGUE AGAINST) THIS BOOK TO A FRIEND:

-
-
-
-
-

Yay!

Woo-hoo! You're wrapping up your book club session, or maybe you're still right in the middle of it—either way, we're thrilled! Share your book club adventures with us by tagging us on social media or sending us an email. Your stories could inspire others to start their own book clubs. Keep an eye on our socials for future book club materials, and if there's a book you'd love to see us include, let us know! We're excited to support you every step of the way.



Keep the *Conversation* going

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