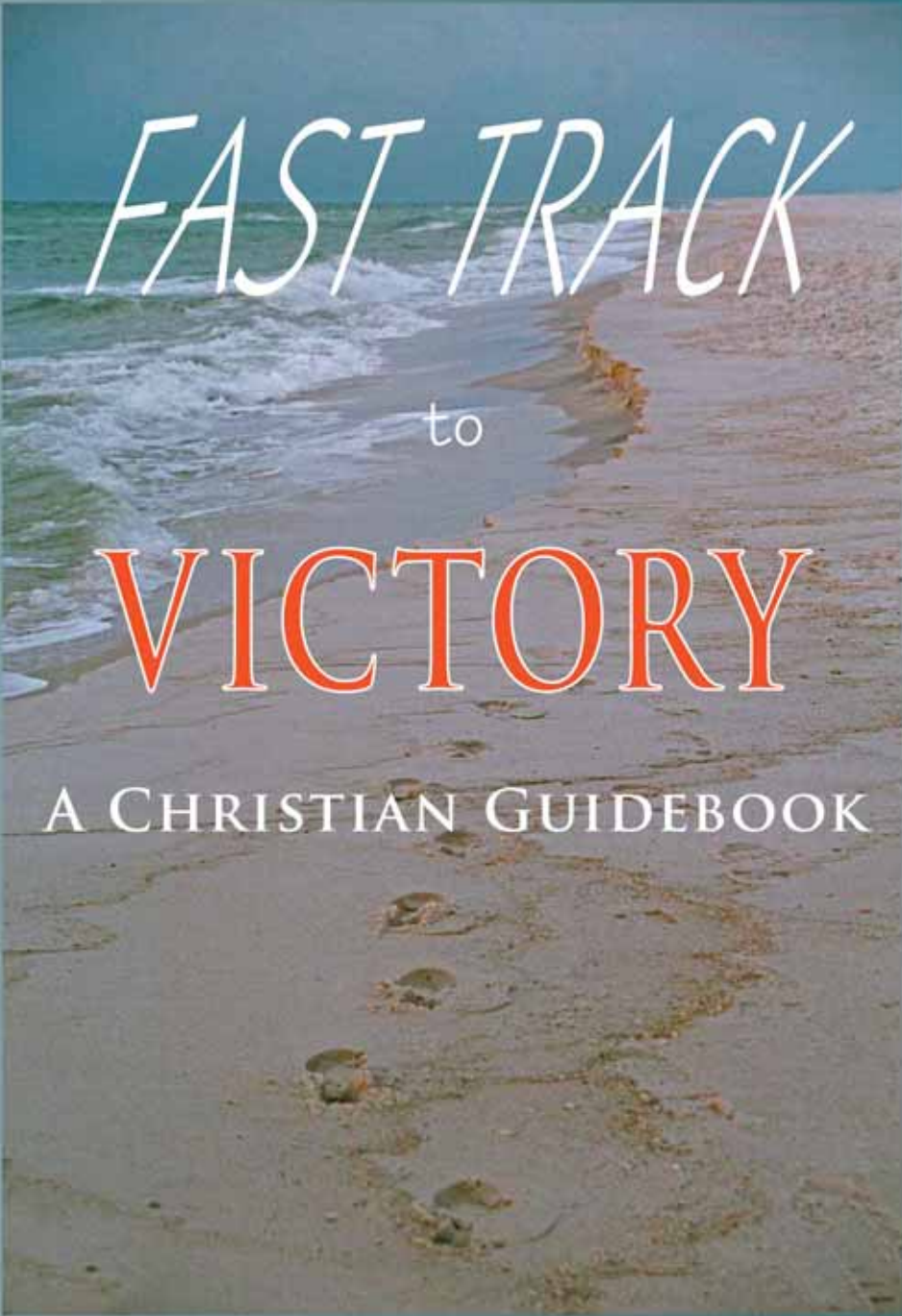




FAST TRACK

to

VICTORY

A CHRISTIAN GUIDEBOOK

By Cheryl Rogers

“Fast Track To Victory offers sound Biblical teachings and personal insight to help the reader obtain victorious living through Jesus Christ.

“This book is a perfect tool for group or individual Bible Study.”

*Pastor Curt Harrison
In His Grip Family Ministries
Tulsa, OK*

This preview of **Fast Track to Victory,
A Christian Guidebook**, may be shared freely without changes. To purchase or obtain more information, Visit Cheryl's website at <http://www.SongsfromtheWord.com>

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Section 1: Starting the Race

***“let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our
faith...” Hebrews 12:1, 2***

As with any race, the run towards victory begins with a decision ... to run!

The lessons in this section involve deciding to believe in God, seek God, know God better, and surrender our lives more completely to him.

These lessons can be used during private time with God as a starting point for reflection, prayer, and meditation upon his word.

God Lives and Heals Today

This lesson, about how God miraculously healed me from Environmental Illness, is intended to bolster your faith, encourage you to seek the one who made you, and put him first in your life.

“ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13

I have a confession.

I used to have doubts about God's existence. I would pray and I wouldn't always get an answer, so it felt like a one-sided conversation.

Then one day when I was very, very sick and out of options, I surrendered my life to God. I didn't know what else to do.

Guess what? HE heard me.

It was late 1996 and I was suffering from severe immune dysfunction. Basically, I was super sensitive to everything in my environment and I was getting worse.

I had already prayed. I had already seen the doctors. I took their pills. I took their allergy shots. I took *out* my mercury fillings. I did deep-heat detoxification in a sauna. I tried to avoid my stressors.

And still, I got worse.

At first, it was better and worse. Then, it was much, much worse. So much so, I didn't know where I could live.

Now that seemed like a problem of God-size proportions. I told him I had done all I could. If he could do something with my life, he could have it.

Well, that's not much of a salvation prayer, but God seemed satisfied with it. He got me a new place to stay within a few hours. He filled me with faith in him and a desire to be obedient to his wishes. (I previously had relied pretty much on my own judgment.)

For two weeks, he tested me. I rotated sleeping places at his discretion -- kind of like the Israelites following the cloud in their wanderings.

“And when the cloud was taken up from over the

tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys:

“But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up.” Exodus 40:36, 37

And then, my mother sought prayer for me from Messianic Vision radio show by Sid Roth, a Georgia pastor. They drew my name by lottery on the show and prayed for me.

I didn't even know my mom had put my name in for prayer, but I sure knew someone prayed for me. I became more optimistic and resolved to make the most of my situation.

The folks on the show declared me healed.

Indeed, as I later learned, I had received the Holy Spirit. My body became stronger and stronger as each day passed.

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.” Romans 8:11

Well, it was (and is) true.

The Holy Spirit led me to seek prayer wherever and whenever I could. I had people lay hands on me and pray, just as they describe in the Bible.

About six months later, God led me to a statewide charismatic prayer conference. It was there I received a physical healing from Environmental Illness.

My life has never been the same since.

I found being the boss isn't what it's cracked up to be. I just don't have all the answers, as much as I'd like to ... It's sure been a weight off my shoulders.

I have to admit that, deep inside, I was running scared. It wasn't a good feeling.

Now, I can rely on the one who made me to do what's best.

“In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid of what man can do unto me.

“Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

“For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt thou not deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?” Psalm 56:11-13

Father, I pray you will reveal yourself to me and enable me to walk in a faith that moves mountains. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scripture Songs: A Positive Note

Is memorizing Scripture a chore? Start listening to Scripture songs. Singing and praying them over your life will bring you closer to God and help you come into agreement with his plans for your life!

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” Psalm 119:105

I never was very good at memorizing chunks of text. So remembering Scripture didn't come easily for me -- at least not until God began giving me Scripture songs!

It happened in the aftermath of the tragic World Trade Center attacks in 2001.

On December 18, the anniversary of my earthly father's death, God gave me my first melody. My dad had always encouraged my sister and I to write songs, so it piqued my interest, to say the least.

The songs came slowly at first, but after I sang one of the songs in my church's talent show, God gave me so many melodies I put together a CD. The songs kept coming, so I put together some more CDs.

Do you know what I discovered? Well, it's what other folks have learned, too. Committing things to music makes them easy to remember.

While it had been hard for me to remember Scriptures before, now I got many chunks of Scripture memorized, without really trying. Just developing the songs, I went through a phase of repetition. I would sing the song over and over again working up the melody and practicing the singing. I would work on an arrangement, then I'd practice the song some more.

By the time the song was recorded, I had memorized most, if not all, of the Scriptures.

I consider the songs prayers and began praying God's promises in them over my life. Sometimes the truth of God's word would manifest itself as I sang the song, or played the CD.

One day I was walking along the beach and there was this piece of glass in my path -- just as I sang “no weapon formed against you shall prosper,” a song lyric from Isaiah 54:17. Another day, I was

driving down the interstate and there was garbage in the road. I saw it kind of late, but successfully swerved out of the way in our Miata as my Victory! CD was playing “no weapon formed against you shall prosper!”

Another time I was driving near our home when a sheriff’s deputy pulled in front of me. He was going slow; I had to use my brakes because I was traveling a bit over the speed limit. Meanwhile, on the CD player, the words of my song “God Will Hear Me” were playing: “I will bear the indignation of the Lord for I have sinned,” from Micah 7.

I followed the deputy at what seemed like a snail’s pace, grateful this time I did not get a ticket.

A few days later, I was in nearly the same spot, with the same song playing in my CD player, and there was a gorgeous rainbow!

Another interesting time was when I sang “I Will Give Thanks to You” from Psalm 30 in my church’s talent show. Gosh, they gave us all thank you certificates for participating in the talent show, when I should have thanked them for giving me a chance to sing my song.

At the show, I proclaimed healing from a goiter. (God is healing me from a failed business I started in 1990. I closed the business when I became too sick to run it.)

God has used the songs to communicate with me, to heal me, and to teach me Scriptures I probably couldn’t, or wouldn’t, have memorized.

As I was well into the recording of my second and third CDs, which I did in tandem, I realized the songs had given me a much better grip on the Scriptures than I had ever had before. I would try to explain a biblical lesson and realize I had done a song on it!

Others have had similar experiences with Bible songs.

“One of the coolest things Scripture songs have done for me is that I have actually heard the Holy Spirit bring these songs to my head/heart when going through various trials and temptations in life,” says Timothy Harris, a partner with Ted Warren in WordSong Entertainment.

WordSong produces Scripture songs in a cinematic style.

“I believe in the power of God’s word. If we can slip our music

or rock opera into the mainstream entertainment machinery, many lives will be transformed by the hearing of God's word," says Lionel De Leon, president and founder of Messenger Project, a non-profit corporation promoting the Bible through music.

Father, please see I am able to pray promises from your word for myself and my loved ones. Help me remember and meditate upon your word, so I can be blessed through it, in Jesus' name, Amen.