

NO
PRISSY
SHOES



Trusting God to Walk You Through
Your Cancer Journey

LINDA GRABEMAN

No Prissy Shoes: Trusting God to Walk You Through Your Breast Cancer Journey

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DEDICATION



God has truly been the inspiration, composer, compiler, and editor of *No Prissy Shoes*. Any mistakes in this text are not in His speaking, but in my hearing. Therefore, I humbly dedicate this work to its Maker.

“God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, His Spirit deeply and gently within us.”

(Ephesians 3:20)

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INTRODUCTION



If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well.

(3 John 6 NKJV)

Those words were my marching orders. The instant I read them, I knew they were my divine directive and that realization excited and humbled me at the same time. While each of our walks takes a precise route, the manner in which we travel those roads is of the utmost importance to God.

As I traveled my cancer journey these last few years, I wanted to make sure that I was at least pretty on the inside, by His grace. So staying in the Word and near to my Lord served many purposes. It not only lessened my fears, but it also heightened my joy in Him, which, ultimately, showed on my face.

The strength and grace that we need to walk this journey will only come by spending time in His presence. Regardless of our prognosis, or even of the ultimate outcome, His desire is for all of us to walk in faith, trusting Him to give us the shoes that we will need for the path He

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has prepared for us. It is my prayer that *No Prissy Shoes* will encourage, console, and inspire you as you walk your cancer journey “in a manner worthy of God.”

Linda Grabeman

NO PRISSY SHOES



I love pretty shoes that are utterly gorgeous and totally impractical—what I call *prissy shoes*. If they have a bow, a flower, or glitter on them, great! If they are pink, even better! These shoes are fine for short periods, sunny days, and smoothly paved roads. I would love it if I could wear my prissy shoes for my whole life’s journey—no stones on my path, no difficult cracks or crevices; just nice, smooth, straight highways of life.

But sometimes the course we are called to travel is neither smooth nor straight. Prissy shoes won’t work there. If you are reading this devotional, you are walking a difficult road right now because of cancer.

In August 2006, I was also diagnosed with fairly advanced breast cancer. But God has been so faithful. Whenever my path has been hard, He has provided me with strong spiritual shoes, and that is the message of this book. Deuteronomy 29:5 says, “And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out on your feet.” (NKJV).

God has always been willing to provide for His people in adversity. He did it for the Israelites, and He will do it for you, if you will allow Him. He will gently take off your prissy shoes that served you well

on the well-paved roads of prosperity, and replace them with strong, spiritual shoes for your grieving, uphill roads. And His shoes won't wear out on you!

Many years ago, I chose 1 Peter 3:15 to be the guiding verse for my life. "But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you" (NKJV). That verse is the passion for my life and the foundation for this book. It contains thirty-one devotions, one for each day of the month if you choose to read it that way. It is my prayer that as you read it you will experience God as the daily provider of strong spiritual shoes for your feet—victory shoes, overcoming shoes—for whatever stony paths you face.



You are on a new journey, and it is scary. Take some time right now and remember other frightening situations in your life where God provided just the right shoes you needed for your difficult road. He will be faithful to do that again. Together, let's walk this cancer journey with hope—the hope that is found by sitting at the feet of Jesus and letting Him dress us with His choice shoes.

"If I were in your shoes, I'd go straight to God. I'd throw myself on the mercy of God. After all, he's famous for great and unexpected acts; there's no end to his surprises. He raises up the down-and-out, gives firm footing to those sinking in grief."

(Job 5:8-9, 11)

"He lifted me out of the ditch, pulled me from the deep mud. He stood me up on a solid rock to make sure I wouldn't slip."

(Psalm 40:2)

God is strong, and he wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to

stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet.
(Ephesians 6:10-13)