



Exercises for Using Writing as an Expression of Faith, Part 3

By Kristen Clark, 2010

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Welcome back! In August, I shared with you my keys for success - *start writing and don't stop writing, and write about God and His Kingdom* – neither of which is easily accomplished without some intentional discipline and fun writing exercises.

I also shared about how I found a great list of writing exercises in an old issue of *Poets & Writers Magazine*, (a reminder to never throw away old magazines because some articles are timeless) and how I tweaked the author's suggested exercises in my effort to create activities that would allow me to practice writing about God's Kingdom.

I also shared with you my first two exercises:

1. Every day for one week, read and meditate on verses John 3:19-21 and John 8:12.
2. Starting one week later, each day for fifteen days, spend five minutes listing every word you can think of that starts with a letter in the title, Light of the World.

Last month, I shared with you the following additional exercise:

3. Spend fifteen minutes writing a scene that begins with this sentence: "It was plain to see that all he had done had been done through God". Remember to spend no more than fifteen minutes on this step.
4. One week later, spend fifteen minutes listing every adjective you can think of that describes eternal light. Again, spend no more than fifteen minutes on this step.
5. Finally, one week later, spend twenty minutes writing a scene that describes what it feels like to walk out of darkness and into the Light of Life, and use ten of the words you listed in exercise #4. Describe smells, sights, sounds, and any/all emotions and feelings you imagine might be present. And write.

This month, I want to share one last exercise:

6. Spend twenty minutes writing a dialogue (or monologue) between you and someone you are coaching out of the darkness. (The monologue should be from the perspective of the one in the darkness). Consider that person's perspective, experience, history, etc.

Writing exercises are productive because there's usually no pressure to please anyone; you aren't working to meet a deadline, you don't have to please an editor, and you're not getting paid for it. This is when writing is fun!

So, after you have completed these exercises, I want to hear about how you have been inspired and what additional writings were born as a result! Actually, I would LOVE to see your personal real-live results. Send me an email and a sample of your writings, and I'll publish them here as a source of inspiration for other Christian writers. Oh, and happy writing!