

This Women's Devotional Book is funny, direct, and powerful. True stories of everyday life will make you laugh out loud. The authors demonstrate God's presence in life's most difficult situations, and point the way to God with insight, candor, and laughter.

Giggles in the Garden

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Giggles in the Garden

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Introduction 1

Phyllis and I have been friends for over 25 years and have experienced a lot of life together. We attended the same church, and we laughed, loved, cried, served, comforted, praised, raised children, worked on projects, and worshipped together. We know each other pretty well! Some might say that's a *scary thing*. We are very thankful for these many years of life in each other's company.

Throughout the years we have learned that, regardless of our circumstances or situations, **God has always been faithful**. He has helped us maintain our balance and our sense of humor about life. We have giggled and laughed and enjoyed the ride.

Not long ago, I walked into Phyllis' kitchen and said to her, "*Phyllis, why don't you co-write a book with me?*"

She turned around and looked at me as if I were from outer space, slanted her eyes, and responded in a tight voice, "*Why did you ask me that?*"

It was not the answer I expected. I began to explain the type of book I had in mind. Not knowing what she was thinking, I quickly said, "*Well, just pray about it.*"

It was not long before we had our two heads together, planning, and writing to put together this book. I found out that God had been telling Phyllis to write for quite some time. Having already written a couple of books, I know how it can be to take that first step and write those first lines.

We have had a wonderful time telling tales, remembering events, and writing stories about things that happened in our lives, the people in our lives, and situations that had an impact on our lives and on the lives of others.

We want you to have as much fun reading our antidotes as we had writing them. Everything in this book is true. We did not change any

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names, not even our own, to protect anybody. We just told the story the way it happened.

Our hearts' desire is to point others to God so that they will know the awesome joy that He brings. Yes, life does have problems, but it is the peace and love of our Savior that keeps us laughing.

God showers us with the giggles. It is contagious!

Come join us in the Garden!

With Love,

Linda Felker

Introduction 2

Ladies filled the garden with beauty and giggles. What a fun time we had. We were having a wedding shower brunch for my close friend. Ladies were wearing hats of all shapes and sizes and smiles to match. What a beautiful combination. It was a scene right out of *Southern Living Magazine*. There are events in our lives that should never come to an end. This was one of them.

My long-time friend, Linda, was in the garden that day and was inspired to ask me if I would co-author this book with her. I was flattered to say the least. Our first title was *Hats in the Garden*. The title soon changed to *Giggles in the Garden*. Why? Because as we were writing, we would giggle. We hope you will too. Fiction is exciting and sometimes funny, but nothing is better than truth. The stories in this book are from our lives: lives as big as two southern gals can live it!

With every new day, life holds possibilities that are new, fresh, and all just for you. God holds our lives in His hands. He knows our yesterday, today, and even our tomorrows. Why wouldn't we spend time with Him at the beginning of each new day since He knows what it holds for us?

I feel that if I give Him the first part of my day, everything just "fits" better. There are four ingredients to time spent with our Heavenly Father:

1. COFFEE – Coffee has to be first! I can't even find my socks or anything else until I've had my coffee!
2. BIBLE – Do not let anything take the place of spending time in God's Word. He wrote this book just for you. My pastor gave me a plan years ago that I try to follow. Proverbs has 31 chapters. Read a chapter for each day of the month. Some months, you'll have one extra!

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3. PRAYER – Talking to the only One who can and will fix it, make it go away, heal it, change it, and if He doesn't, then give us peace about it! Whatever the "IT" is in our lives.
4. DEVOTIONAL BOOK – You need a feel-good book: *Giggles in the Garden*.

Keep the corners turned up!

Phyllis Spence

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