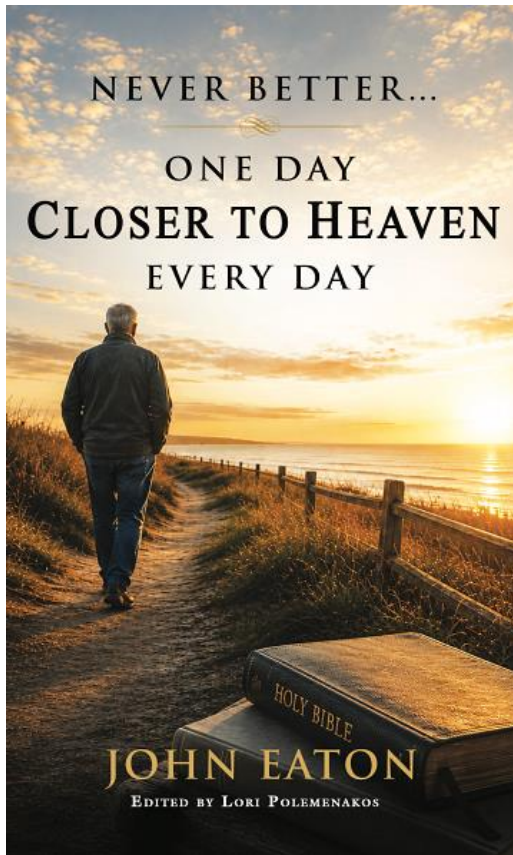




John Eaton has recorded a collection of his thoughts about life, faith, spirituality and heaven. From the honest musings of a long-time believer and recovering alcoholic, you will find someone to walk alongside you on your journey.

Never Better...One Day Closer to Heaven Every Day
By John Eaton

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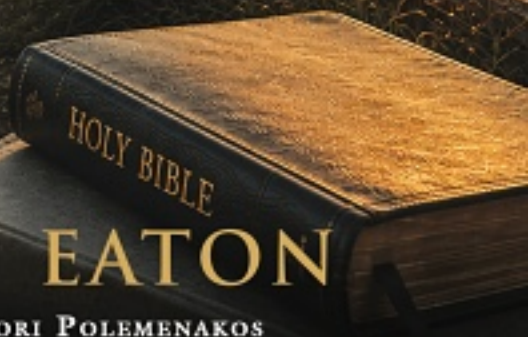
NEVER BETTER...



ONE DAY

CLOSER TO HEAVEN

EVERY DAY



JOHN EATON

EDITED BY LORI POLEMENAKOS

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Gratitude, Joy, and Contentment



Gratitude

I feel my thanks to God are so inadequately expressed.

It is hard to describe my gratitude to Jesus who saves me, the Holy Spirit who lives in me, and to the Ancient of Days, my Creator, who sent His only begotten Son to save me. Searching my heart tells me that gratitude to God is best expressed in acts of love and kindness to all who God places in my path. Lord, please change my heart and my mind to that of your servant so that I may be the man you created me to be, loving like you do.

Thank you lord.

Love Always

“Gratitude goes beyond the ‘mine’ and ‘thine’ and claims the truth that all of life is a pure gift.” Henri Nouwen

More Gratitude

In my experience, the essential element in the cure for everything that ails us is gratitude. Without it, very little ever changes for the better.

Father, forgive my lack of gratitude for the blessings I've experienced as they are beyond my ability to count.

Always

"Gratitude is the beginning of all civility, of decency, of generosity, of empathy, and of love." H.W. Beecher

Gratitude Again

It is much better to express gratitude through actions rather than simply words.

The same goes for expressing love. Action carries much more weight than simply words.

My old daddy used to say talking about gratitude sucks—show me you're grateful.

He was the wisest man I ever knew and his words come to mind every day.

Thank you Lord for giving me my mom and dad.

Always

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."
William Ward

Never Better,

One day closer to Heaven...

This has consistently been my response when asked: How's it going?

Everyone who knows me expects it, and those who don't are often curious as to why I say that. I often add, "If you can't say that, then we need to talk." This has become my trademark, and I'm eternally grateful God gave it to me many years ago. And I get to feel good about witnessing to everyone I meet, whether friend or stranger. Sometimes I get a response: "Well I hope so," to which I usually respond, "Hell, you know where you're going when you leave here."

Many ask, "How can you say that?" I explain that I started my journey to Heaven many years ago, and every day, I'm one day closer.

Sometimes I'll reply, "I'm one of those nuts that believe all that stuff."

I read the verse many years ago that says something like, "If you're ashamed of me before men, I'll be ashamed of you before my father." That went right through me. I'd rather my dad beat me rather than shake his head like he was disappointed in me. I have lived 74 years, and it has been my goal to immediately shift the focus of every encounter with my fellow man from how bad things are to

where are you going when you leave here. The most important question ever asked.

I could go on, but I believe you get the point.

I'm just an old drunk God loves, and I am only here to be a witness for a loving God who wants to save everyone without exception.

Thank you Father for my witness, please protect it 'til you take me home.

Let it be today!!!

Amen

Joy

When the love of God, gratitude, and grace, fill our spirits and overflow, the resulting tears energize us and lift us to a place beyond earthly experience to taste the goodness of God.

"We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness." Alcoholics Anonymous

Colossians 3:15

"Let the peace of Christ [the inner calm of one who walks daily with Him] be the controlling factor in your hearts [deciding and settling questions that arise]. To this peace indeed you were called as members in one body [of believers]. And be thankful [to God always]."

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Always

"The Bible is not an end in itself, but a means to bring people to an intimate and satisfying knowledge of God." A. W. Tozer

Romans 15:13

"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."

Always

Celebrate God Every Day

Philippians 4:4-7:

"Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute! Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life."

Always

“God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.” John Piper

“I will bless the Lord at all times...” Psalm 118:24

Dependable

God is always dependable and is with you everywhere you go. He is always willing to help you, guide you, and provide all you need as you continuously acknowledge Him with praise and an attitude of gratitude...

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

“Faith does not depend on what we feel, but on what God has promised.” J.I. Packer

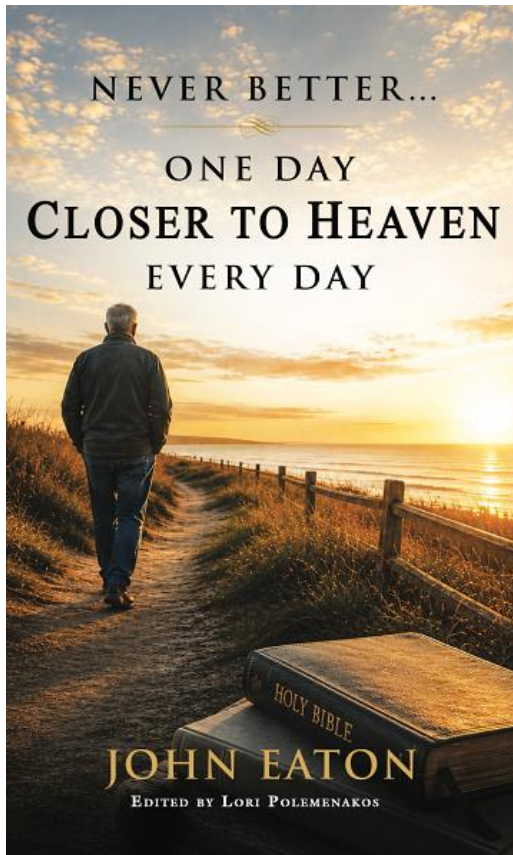
Grateful

My gracious and kind Heavenly Father, I pray that grateful might be my new name. That way, when you bring me to mind, your first thought is simply “grateful.” I have spent entirely too many hours begging you for what you have already given me. You know what I need before I ask and then fulfill it, because you love me more than I will ever be able to imagine. As small as the word “thankful” seems, please let it shape every thought and action as I attempt to navigate this human experience. Give me a smile to share with my fellow travelers that expresses my gratitude. Help me be a witness to the unending grace

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and mercy which I receive from you during every minute of every day.

Grateful



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