



## LOOK AT IT DIFFERENTLY

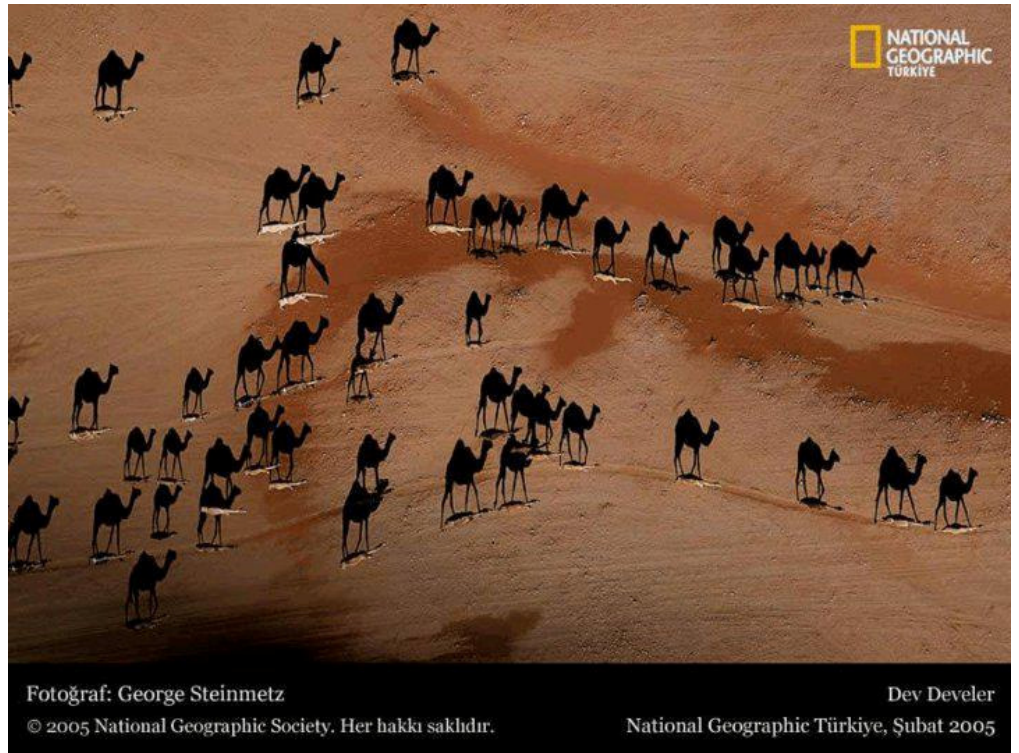
LOOK at the camels first and then read the message below.



Karen is the WA President for Baptist women. She is currently working for Willow Creek, USA as an Executive Director for GLS Asia. She has a husband and two children [22 and 19] and has a strong desire to see people live and minister out of a place of health and passion.

### Prayer For Today

When I feel discouraged Lord, remind me to look up.  
You see things differently to the way I see them.  
Give me your eyes – eyes of faith – to see how small my problems are and how big my God is.  
Amen.



This is a picture taken from directly above these camels in the desert at sunset. It is considered to be one of the best pictures of the year. When you look closely, you can see that the camels are the little white lines in the picture. The black images you see are just the shadows!

We can be staring straight at something and not see the truth. We can believe, hope, declare...do all the right things, but if we are not seeing what God sees, we are deluded.

I find in my journey of faith, there are many times I get discouraged or despairing because it seems that what I see is not the answer I am looking for. Abraham was told to climb the mountain with his son Isaac, in faith, believing God would provide. At the last minute God provided a miracle that Abraham had not seen earlier. It was there waiting...he just had to see it. We read in Genesis 22:13 that at the last minute "*Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram.*" He had to change his perspective. He had to look up!

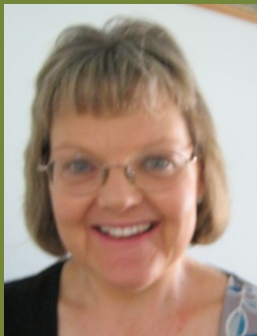
Today, whatever you are facing, remember to look up and see things as they really are. What seem like huge obstacles are really just shadows.

Love,

Karen Wilson  
Director Western Australian Baptist Women  
National Director Australian Baptist Women

## EVEN WORKS IN THE DARK

By Julie-Ann Evans



Julie-Ann is married with 2 teenage sons. She works for BaptistCare and is the team leader for "Seasons" conference held in Katanning in April. She has a passion to see women set free to love and serve Jesus in every area of their lives.

When my youngest son was about two we bought him his first torch. He was so excited as we put the batteries in and he turned it on for the first time. That night, when he went to bed, he took the torch with him. After saying prayers and kissing him good night, we left the room.

A couple of minutes later he came out with his eyes as big as saucers and said, "Mum, this torch is so amazing! It even works in the dark." The next day he came in after playing outside and informed me how "useless" his new torch was. I thought he may have left the batteries on but then he told me that he was shining it up to the sky to see where the stars had gone.

I tried to explain to him that the darker the room the brighter the torch light would work and that the light from the sun was much more powerful than his \$2 torch. It didn't sit too well with my 2 year old.

Over the years I have found that to be so true of God's Word in my life. The darker my circumstances and experiences, the brighter and more powerful God's word has become for me. Psalm 119:105 says "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path". Have you ever wondered why we need both? I have. God knew that even with a light on we would face dark and scary times.

We need to study and read God's word often and regularly but during the tough times I've found it really does shine the brightest. That's when I get the most encouragement, strength, peace, joy, security and guidance. All the things I need in the dark. Let's all get excited and tell others how well God's Word 'even works in the dark'.



Do you have a story that you would like to share?

We would love to hear from you!

Your testimony could be an inspiration or encouragement to others.

Just write your story in 250 words or less and email it to us with a photo and brief description of yourself to share in future editions of Connect.

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spirit | soul | body

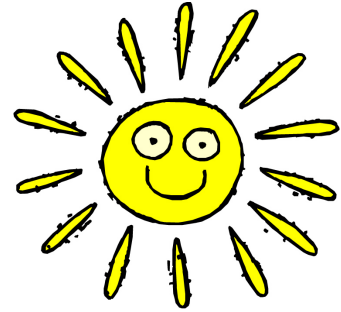


*Indulge eMagazine is an Australian Christian magazine that desires to see women become whole in spirit, soul and body. We believe that our Holy Father longs for us to be indulged (enjoying the pleasure of) His extraordinary love.*

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# 10 RULES FOR A BLESSED DAY

Author Unknown



## 1. TODAY I WILL NOT STRIKE BACK

If someone is rude, if someone is impatient, if someone is unkind, I will not respond in a like manner.

## 2. TODAY I WILL ASK GOD TO BLESS MY 'ENEMY'

If I come across someone who treats me harshly or unfairly, I will quietly ask God to bless that individual. I understand "enemy" could be a family member, neighbour, co-worker or stranger.

## 3. TODAY I WILL BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT I SAY

I will carefully choose and guard my words being certain that I do not spread gossip.

## 4. TODAY I WILL GO THE EXTRA MILE

I will find ways to help share the burden of another person.

## 5. TODAY I WILL FORGIVE

I will forgive any hurts or injuries that come my way.

## 6. TODAY I WILL DO SOMETHING KIND FOR SOMEONE (BUT I WILL DO IT IN SECRET)

I will reach out anonymously and bless the life of another.

## 7. TODAY I WILL TREAT OTHERS THE WAY I WISH TO BE TREATED

I will practice the golden rule: "Do Unto others as I would have them do unto me"- with EVERYONE I encounter.

## 8. TODAY I WILL RAISE THE SPIRITS OF SOMEONE WHO IS DISCOURAGED

My smile, my words, my expression of support, can make the difference to someone who is wrestling with life.

## 9. TODAY I WILL NURTURE MY BODY

I will eat less . . . I will eat only healthy foods. I will thank God for my body.

## 10. TODAY I WILL GROW SPIRITUALLY

I will spend a little more time in prayer today. I will begin reading something spiritual or inspirational; I will find a quiet place (at some point during this day) and listen to God's voice.

## QUOTE FOR TODAY

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

C.S. Lewis