

# FAITH DANCING

*Conversations in good company*



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MONARCH  
BOOKS

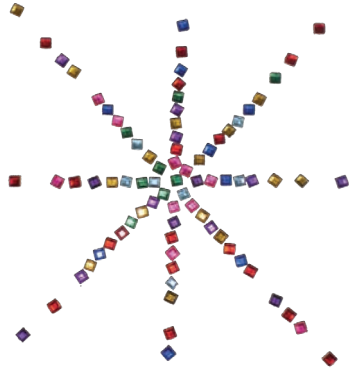
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# INTRODUCTION

Sometimes our faith is tired. It seems to have nowhere to sit down and have a rest. It's hard to hope for better things and we need a helping hand. It is at such times I go to the Deep Place where nobody goes, sit on the Steps of my Soul and breathe deeply. Through His Word help comes. Strengthened by such encounters I continue. Not just plodding, hanging on with grim determination to finish the course set before me, but with renewed joy – my faith dancing. My prayer is that this little book would encourage your faith to sit down and have a rest too. Enjoy!

Jill Briscoe



## FAITH DANCES

A misty moment in the dawn  
When faith returns and hope is born,  
Where shadowed by God's present-ness  
I celebrate and so confess  
My doubt and fear,  
My sins leave here,  
*Faith dances.*

Why wait I till my broken soul  
Despairs of ever being made whole  
And I can't see why Christ who died  
For all my sins was crucified?  
Restore my sight,  
My Lord, my Light,  
*Faith dances.*

So deep inside I find Your peace,  
A final spiritual release,  
My spirit calms, my heart stands tall,  
Renewed, refreshed, I hear Your call.  
I will believe,  
Your joy receive,  
*Faith dances!*



CALLING



## LIFE LESSONS

“TEACH US TO NUMBER OUR DAYS ARIGHT, THAT WE MAY GAIN A  
HEART OF WISDOM.”

Psalm 90:12



*I* WAS SITTING IN THE GARDEN OF GRACE outside God's Front Door. Someone had asked me to talk to a church group about some of my “life lessons”.

“That’s what happens when you get old,” I complained to the Lord. “People ask you what you’d do differently looking back on your *‘lo-o-ong life’* or some such thing!”

“Well what *are* some of your life lessons, Jill?” He asked mildly, without assuring me the question was not really appropriate.

After a talk He left for a while and I lingered, thinking about His question.

All I could think of were some verses in the Golden Book that said, “You are not your own, you are bought with a price.”

I thought of His unconditional love towards me and knew

that I had learned and must still learn to be unconditional in my response and the demands I make of God in my service for Him. So I wrote in my journal where I write important things down in case I forget them (you do, you know, when you get along in years and are asked to share your life lessons): “My submission to God must be unconditional.”

For example, the words of God to Jeremiah, “You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.” (Jeremiah 1:7)

Jeremiah was very young and so he said to God, “I am only a child. Wait till I get a bit older, God!” Similarly, when God told Moses what He wanted him to do, Moses said, “Here I am, Lord, but I’m not eloquent. Please send my brother!” Of course, these weren’t really conditions but rather refusals!

If I am asked to do something and if I am able to do it, I say “yes”. I must not say, “if they pay my way” or “if they will sell my books and CDs” or “if I only speak and don’t have to make myself available to the people afterwards”. Or “if I can stay in a hotel instead of someone’s home – even if it saves you money”. No “ifs” or “buts”.

My unselfconscious impact on others will be commensurate with the measure that I am given over to serve them and “as much as I do it to one of these, I do it unto Him”. *The fragrance of the aroma of Christ is least sensed by those who scatter the perfume of His presence abroad.* I have learned to be content that He knows this is what I am about, whether others know it or not.



Did I say what He told me to say in the power of the Spirit or did I get in the way? How I am received or perceived by others is none of my business. How I am perceived by Him is all that matters to me. I am to live only unto Him.

“Well,” I said loudly, “that will do for a start,” and I returned from the Garden of Grace and my time with the Lord to face a pile of emails asking me to speak at this, that and the other. I like to think that it was my time in the Garden with Him that determined my ready response.

*Dear Lord, You gave your life on earth unconditionally to people for Your Father's sake. And You have told me "as much as you have done it to the least of these you have done it to me". Don't let me pick and choose – You pick and choose for me! Give me insight to know who to serve – when, where, and how. For Your sake Lord, not mine.*

*For Your sake!*

*Amen*

