

BLADE



See Me!

Picture Me in your mind's eye as you think of Me and praise Me. I want to be real to you. *See My* face when you speak to Me. Picture Me in your mind and heart when I speak to you.

I don't have to look the same each time. There are many pictures of Me you can use—or dream

up your own version of Me! The important thing is to know that I am right here with you. Always. Picture Me in your mind so that you truly know Me, eye to eye and face to face. That will help you to draw closer, so that I can be a very real, very close soul-mate and Friend to you. I'm looking forward to you seeing Me with the eyes of the spirit.

—See you!



Secret Messages

You don't really realize how much I love you, do you? I know it's kind of hard to grasp.—In fact, you'll never know just how much I love you until we meet face to face. Then I'll be able to dazzle you with manifestations of how special you are to Me. For now, though, I have to content Myself with sending little secret messages of love throughout the day to you. Sometimes you kind of miss them, 'cause you have to be paying attention to see them, and also to realize that they're from Me especially to you.

I show you My love through a nice letter you receive from a friend, or a phone call. I show you My love through a beautiful rose or sunset that you see. I show you My love through the hug of some cute guy (or girl), or a pat on the back from someone you look up to. I show you My love through the groovy music that you hear that makes you feel like your soul is flying high. I even show you My love through the fun laughs you get out of some joke or funny movie.

Those are some clues about what My secret messages of love look like, and if you keep your eyes open, I can show you so many more. Then, once you realize that you're getting a deluge of love messages from your greatest secret admirer—Me—you can reply to My love notes by telling Me how much you love them, or how beautiful they are.

I want to tell you so many more beautiful secrets, from My heart to yours. Open your ears and listen, and I promise that I will encourage your heart, ease your loneliness, and make life worth living.

Love always, your Man,
Jesus

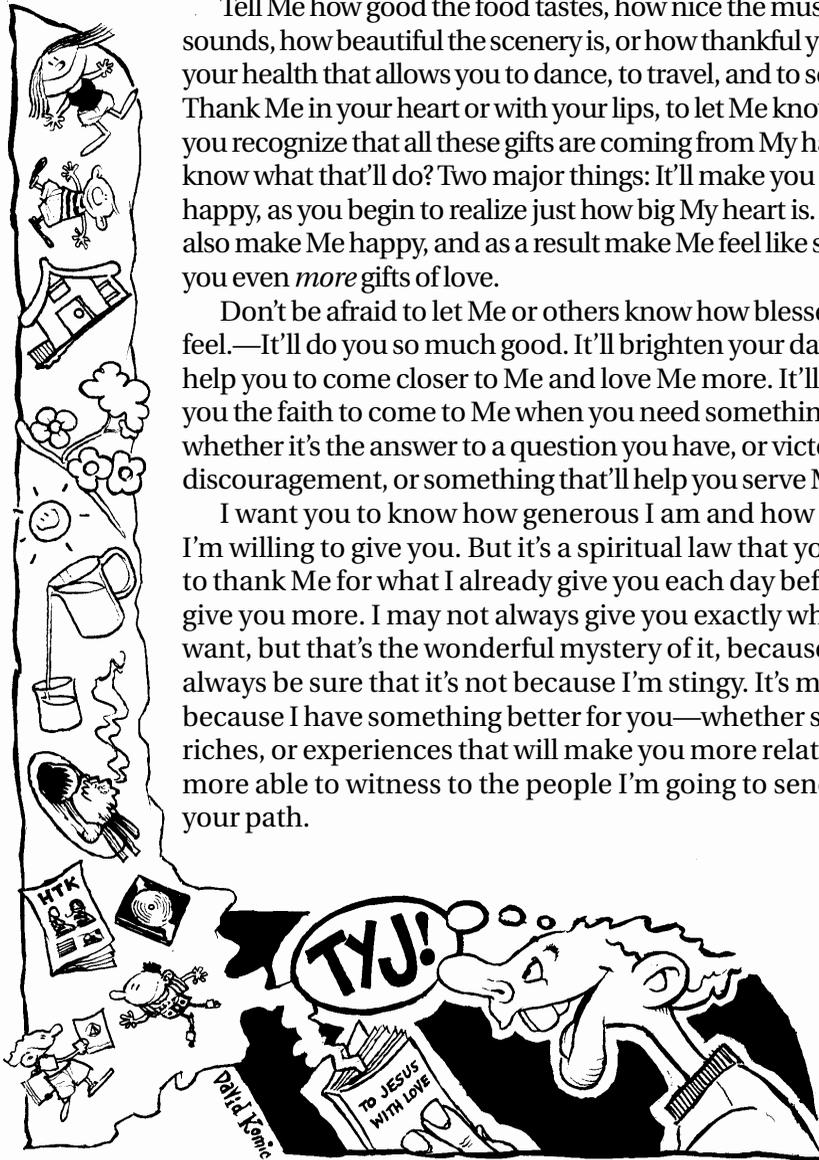


How to Make Us Both Happy

Tell Me how good the food tastes, how nice the music sounds, how beautiful the scenery is, or how thankful you are for your health that allows you to dance, to travel, and to serve Me. Thank Me in your heart or with your lips, to let Me know that you recognize that all these gifts are coming from My hand. You know what that'll do? Two major things: It'll make you more happy, as you begin to realize just how big My heart is. And it'll also make Me happy, and as a result make Me feel like sending you even *more* gifts of love.

Don't be afraid to let Me or others know how blessed you feel.—It'll do you so much good. It'll brighten your days, and help you to come closer to Me and love Me more. It'll also give you the faith to come to Me when you need something—whether it's the answer to a question you have, or victory over discouragement, or something that'll help you serve Me better.

I want you to know how generous I am and how much I'm willing to give you. But it's a spiritual law that you have to thank Me for what I already give you each day before I can give you more. I may not always give you exactly what you want, but that's the wonderful mystery of it, because you can always be sure that it's not because I'm stingy. It's merely because I have something better for you—whether spiritual riches, or experiences that will make you more relatable and more able to witness to the people I'm going to send along your path.



Be a Great Crewmate

Picture a big ship crossing the ocean. The ship has a destination to reach. That's its purpose: to go from one point to the next. When the Captain's orders are followed step by step, the crew and the entire ship make a successful journey and arrive at their journey's end.

But what if some members of the crew are not following the Captain's orders? The ship may go off course. It may not go fast enough. It may go too fast. It may turn in the wrong direction. A lot of things can happen if the crew is not working together in unity.

Help your fellow crewmates to pull up their socks, to go in the right direction. Try to encourage and help your mates to continue on in their tasks, in their chores, so that



you'll reach your destination. Don't think, "Oh well, the ship's big enough. No one will notice if we don't do our jobs." Don't fail the Captain. He picked you especially as part of His personal, trusted crew. And even if no one else happens to be looking, you can be sure that He's watching you closely to see if you can be trusted with more down the line.

The Captain needs you. That's why He has you on the crew. He needs you to make the right choices to make the journey a success.

THE BEST EQUIPMENT

Imagine that you're in the army. You've got the latest weaponry and the best equipment, you're training among the best, you're an elite trooper. Your division is communication; that's where your focus and energy goes. When you're out in the field, you're the one who makes sure messages are getting to and from your division. You're the one that has the information in your hands; the lives of your division can depend on whether communications are running well or not.

In that position you don't want to lose any time dealing with old or beat-up equipment—you want the best of the best. And so that's what is given to you—the best communication set-up available, low maintenance, portable, and with crystal-clear sound.

What are you going to do with it? Will you keep fine-tuning your radio to the right frequencies? Or are you going to hear all the cool talk about the top receptivity your radio has, but never learn how to use it?

You might think I'm speaking hypothetically, but I'm not, 'cause in the spiritual realm you are a communicator. It's your job to make sure that there's clear receptivity and that your communication equipment is running well. And that piece of equipment in the spirit is your gift of prophecy—your connection with Me. It's imperative that you learn how to use it to the full. You don't want any interference, you don't want to get on the wrong channel, 'cause it's then that you'll start receiving the wrong information and it could cause problems.

So make sure your spiritual army communication equipment is up and running, and use it frequently so you know it's reliable. That way when you're out in the middle of nowhere, you can be sure that once you push the power button, the reception will be clear, and you'll get the right information. Your life depends on it!



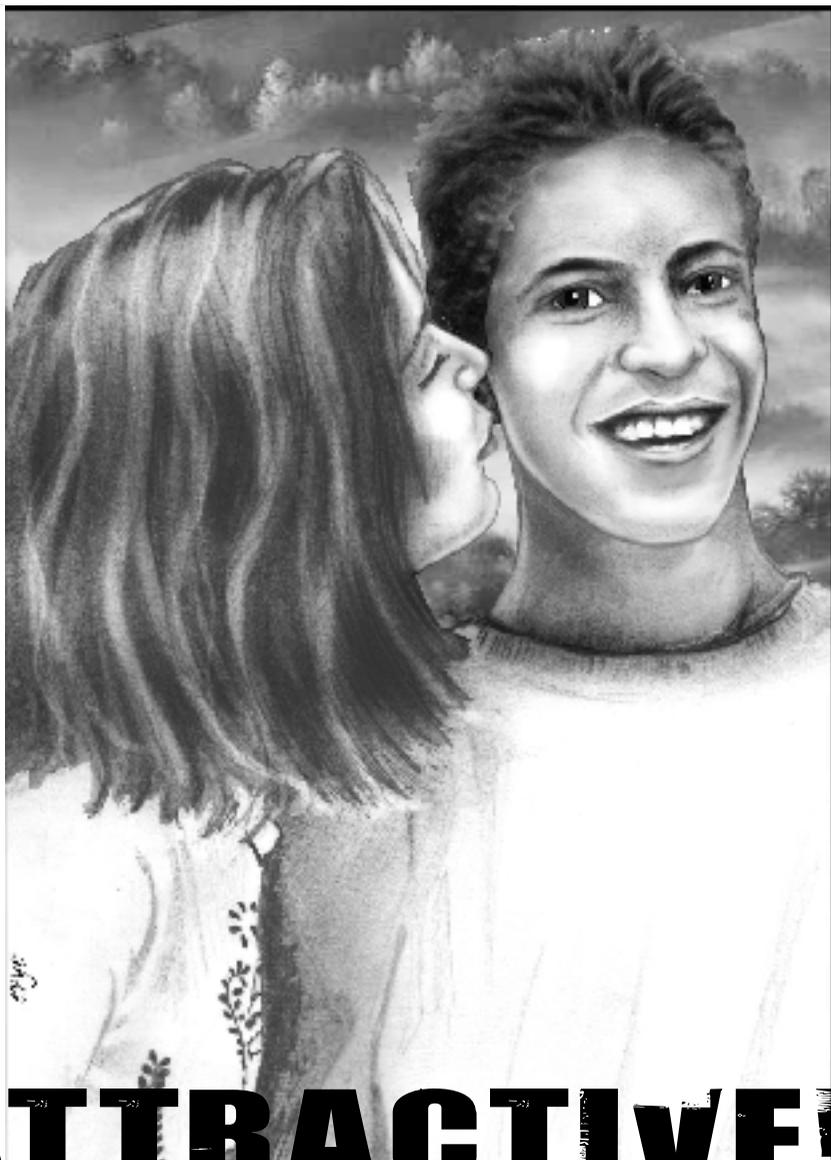


I've got a plan for everyone and I've made you just the way that I want you. I've made you the age I want you to be, with the personality that I want you to have. Sure, we can all grow and learn and progress, and we all need to be moving forward every day, but you can't rush those things. When you are always wishing you were in someone else's shoes and getting to do what they get to do, or be what they are, you can't enjoy your own shoes!

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ATTRACTIVE!

I just want you to know that you're the greatest. Thanks for your love and your loyalty, for hungering for MyWords, and for desiring the things of the spirit. Continue to give Me all the ingredients to make you the man I want you to be—willing hands, and a yielded heart full of love for Me.

I've got so many great things in store for you. I know that sometimes when you're young it seems like life goes as slow as molasses—there are so

many things that require patience. But there are wonderful things ahead as you hang on to Me and continue to drink in My Word. I've got terrific gifts of the Spirit in store for you, as you keep on tapping into My power, and tuning your ears to listen to My whispers. I'm real savvy about all the things you're going through—I can see your heart and the longings and desires you don't even know how to express.

Can I let you in on a little secret? You want to know why the girls like you so much? It's because you've drunk in My Spirit through the Word, and as a result you're more like Me. They see that in you. They see your gentle, loving spirit. You're not too loud or proud or overbearing, and I'm telling you, the more you drink in of Me, the more attractive you become to them. They can tell when someone is mature, that is, when someone has My Spirit.—Which is really the main thing that makes you mature.

I give you girlfriends as a special gift of My love for you. I had girlfriends Myself when I was your age, and even though we couldn't do much together, their company was so sweet. So I know how good it feels to have girls around you, to be able to talk with them, to fellowship, and to be affectionate with them. There are so many beautiful, sweet and loving girls out there, and whenever you get to be around one or more of them, just remember I'm right by your side, smiling and saying, "That's My man! Go get 'em!"

Thanks for being gentle and gentlemanly with them too, and for keeping the rules about your interaction with them. I know it's a little tough sometimes—believe Me, I had the same hormones that you do. But in the long run you'll be glad you stuck within My boundaries. If you really think about it, you'll realize that I give you a lot more freedom in the Family than a lot of other families will give to their kids—or if they do have so-called freedom, it's just 'cause they're doing it behind their parent's backs, and that's a bummer.

Anyway, not to get into a lecture, because I know that you want to please Me. I'm just telling you that the more you please Me, the more I can please you. The more you try your best to soak up the Word, to listen to My voice, and to grow closer to Me, the more I can pour down My blessings on you. I know just what you like the most—what floats your boat. I can't give you all your Christmases at once—you really wouldn't be able to handle it—but I do show you manifestations of My love as often and in as many ways as I can.

As you grow to realize just how much I love you and bless you, you and I will be the best buddies around. I'll be that older Brother you never had around, and that cool Guy you can hang out with. Thanks for being My man. I promise you'll never regret it.

The Course of True Love...



Some of you think that you can learn a lot about how to attract those of the opposite sex from the “tips” in the movies you’ve seen. Well, don’t bet on that, because every person is different. Just because some “cool” guy said some “cool” line to some “cool” girl in some “cool” movie and she was “his” from then on, doesn’t mean that anyone else doing the same is going to get the same results!

Life has its ups and downs, people have their ups and downs, and the storybook romances where everyone lives happily ever after without having to work at it, well, as you probably already know, that just ain’t the way it is! Nobody’s happy ever after—in the ever after of eternity—without Me!

You might think, *Well, we do have the Lord, so things should work out perfect for us.* Well, life isn’t meant to be without its struggles and

battles, because these wonderful disguised blessings are what shape your character and make you the wonderful person I've ordained you to be!

I am the One Who makes relationships work. I am the One Who puts love between two people, and My love is what keeps things alive and lasting. Without Me, love will often fall apart, break down, or else implode, because the two people involved get so wrapped up in themselves they're not doing anyone else any good.

Read the Word on the subject. Talk to your parents if you can, or your older brothers and sisters. If you like someone, or are involved with him or her and you're having some kind of problem, or you want to know what to do to help things go well, ask Me, and I'll tell you. Every person is so different, and what works for someone else might not work for you.—But I happen to know what will work for you, and for that girl or guy you like, and I'll tell you, if you'll listen.



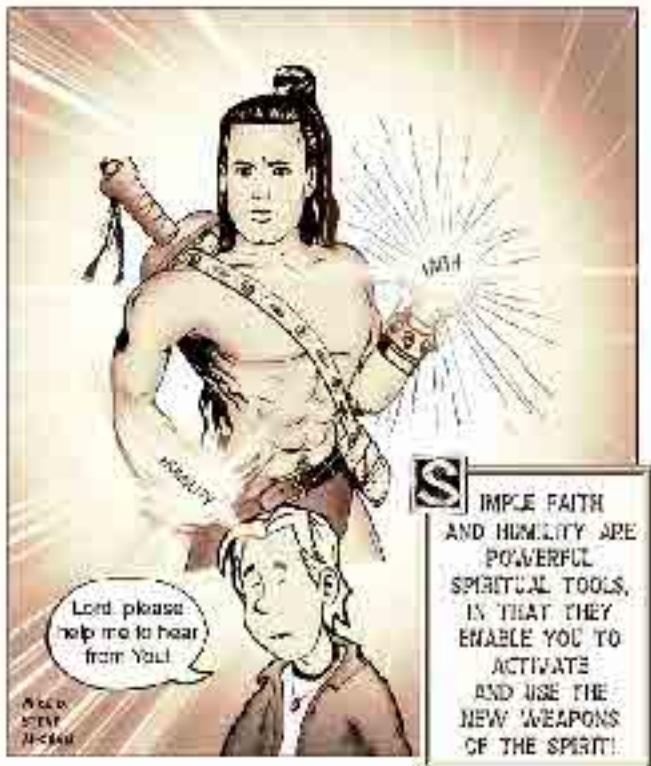
**[I am the One Who puts love between two people, and
My love is what keeps things alive and lasting.]**

Powerful Spiritual Tools—Faith and Humility!

You want to be in touch with the realm of the spirit, and you long to see physical or visible manifestations of the spirit world. You want to have an experience that will help convince you of the reality of the spirit world. Or you want to be given a magical touch of Heaven's creativity—whether through a picture, a song, a poem, or some other form of art.

These are good desires, but be sure that you call upon the right side, the Heavenly forces, to show you these things and give you these gifts. And when you receive something from My Heavenly agents, glorify Me and My Spirit through your praise and humility, so you can remain in tune.

Watch out about being tempted with pride, wanting to glorify yourself or your mind, or wanting the praise and admiration of others. Simple faith and humility are powerful spiritual tools, in that they enable you to activate and use the new weapons of the Spirit. Those new weapons will see you through in the final days, during the great climactic battle of good against evil.



Dying to Encourage Someone?

Ever been in a situation where you really wanted to encourage a friend, or one of your younger brothers or sisters, or even a parent or shepherd who you know is having a rough time, but you didn't know what to say? Sometimes you may feel sorry for someone and you want to cheer her up, but you feel like, "Well, who am I? How is my saying anything going to make her feel all that much better about herself or about what she's going through?"

Well, I've got news. Even *you* can make a world of difference to someone. Though your human words of encouragement are sometimes in-

adequate, My words are powerful and life-giving, and you can start learning to be a conduit of My Words to others. It's simple, really. Just ask Me what the person needs to hear, dictate it or write it down or type it, and then pass it on! It's the greatest gift you can give, the most precious type of encouragement.

A heart full of love and concern for others, plus a desire and desperation to help them, helps you become a clear and open channel. When you're doing something for the sake of someone else, I come through in a special way, because your love and concern is so beautiful to Me!



I Don't Look At Your Age.

I know you want to please Me, and you have pleased Me. You've put your heart and energy into being faithful with the gift I've given you, to spread happiness to others. You've stuck by Me even in the rough times, and through the times when you felt dissatisfied and restless. Thank you for wanting to follow Me closely, and for wanting to do what's right and what will make Me happy.

You do make Me happy! You bring tears of happiness to My eyes, because even though you think that you're still young and maybe not so important in the eyes of others, I'm telling you now that your age doesn't matter to Me. You're very special and important to Me.

I don't look at your age, or the fact that you have so many older brothers and sisters whom you feel you have to live up to or compare with. To Me, it's like you're the oldest one in your family, because I'm not expecting you to be like anyone else. You have very special and unique gifts, talents, and a path that I've mapped out

just for you. It's not like any other path, because you are special and there's only one of you. This path is yours to walk, and no one else's.

Thank you for wanting to serve Me, and for wanting to stay close to Me despite the temptations you often face. As you stay close to Me, I can continue to walk you down this special path I've mapped out for you.



MAKE YOUR AURA GLOW.

Thoughts propel your actions, either to do good or evil. The idleness of your mind is the Devil's workshop, because once you've allowed a negative thought to flourish, it can in turn affect other thoughts—and sooner or later your thoughts affect your actions.

Even if you think that you can restrain your tongue from saying what you think, you have to realize that your spirit is contagious. If you're thinking positively, your whole spirit will glow and your aura will be brighter. But if you're thinking negatively, either about yourself or about other people, it dims your aura and people can sense it. They can sense displeasure or negativity and this in turn affects their thoughts.

I'd like to use you more as a vessel of love; I'd like to brighten up your aura so that you can help lift others' loads instead of adding to them, but you have to help Me to do this by actively resisting negative thoughts.

As you bring yourself before Me every day in greater yieldedness and humility, I will work in your mind and purify your thoughts.



Get the Most Out of It

It's inevitable that you're going to catch a cold or flu or get sick sometimes, everybody does. The good news is, it won't last forever. The even better news is that there are so many things I can teach you during the time when you're having to rest and stay apart from others. I can speak to your heart about things you're going through, or I can reveal mysteries to you or take you on spirit trips.—And these things *will* last forever.

Even if you think you don't have the gift of prophecy, don't let that stop you from getting quiet and listening, because I can speak to you in more ways than you can imagine. Even the pictures I beam into your head, or the thoughts that I place on your heart, are My personalized Words to you. I promise that if you really want it, and ask Me with your whole heart, I'll answer you in ways I know you'll enjoy. In fact, the answers are already bubbling over, just waiting to be poured down on you.

So even though you might feel miserable when you're sick, and can't wait to be around others again, instead of pining away about it, ask Me to show you things that will help. I can turn that terrible, crummy feeling and boredom into an experience that's worthwhile. Don't waste away this special time of sickness. It's My gift to you, but it'll be over before you know it, so take advantage of the time. There are so many things you can get out of it, if you just ask.

