

6-Step Blueprint:

How to Write a Book in 30 Days

for Faith-Based Authors

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to all the faith-based authors who are going to write a book. May each word you read inspire you to take action.

Acknowledgment

All glory and honor be to God. It is a pleasure to be given the ability to write and be called an author.

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2 NKJV

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Introduction

When writing this book, I became very emotional because I could just feel the Holy Spirit getting ready to pour through me. You see, I'm a vessel available for God to do his good works. Before I sat down to write this book, God had been speaking to me and encouraging me to go for it in this new endeavor of helping women to write their books. As in all things, I questioned God. I needed confirmation because I knew I just love to write. I knew that writing was a part of my destiny, my life calling what I wanted to be known for when I die. I knew that I wanted to give my gift of writing back to God and to help lead people to Christ. I knew that was a part of my story, but how could I use it to further help other women? Then TahiraGift Consulting was born.

You see, now it is not just about me doing the work of ministry but about finding other women who are also called to bring others to Christ or to a deeper level of relationship through their faith-based books. What a way to honor God, which is to share my process to help women write a book as fast as possible so they too can make an impact, so someone can find their book and get closer to Jesus. What a mighty calling and a gift.

How Did It Start?

I didn't know then, but in 2019, when I wrote three books, each taking me a month to write, God was preparing me to help other women learn the same process to get out their 120-page book in 30 days. While writing this book I began to weep as I recognized this season of preparation was getting me ready for bigger things. I relaunched my business

TahiraGift, from an inspirational wellness brand into TahiraGift Consulting, to help you write your book. God was preparing my mindset. God was telling me what to do, what the blueprint was, with the exact steps I used to become a published author. God encouraged me during prayer walks. God had me focusing on my stamina and my health and speaking promises over my life. God started to talk to me about my self-discipline. God started to tell me to write the blog, even when I didn't know what to say. God started to ask me to lean on the Holy Spirit week by week, day by day, and he started to reveal things to me as they came. I didn't always know what was going to happen, but I put one foot in front of the other. I trusted God, and he led me to complete this book.

You Can Do It

All glory be to God that if you're reading this book right now, I am on Divine assignment. I am assigned to you. To help you to produce the book that is in you. It is possible to go for your dreams. God wants you to know it is possible. Trust God, you can write a book sooner than you think, with the right mindset and blueprint. The steps in this book will help you to put one foot in front of the other until you have complete victory.

I am here to help you realign to the dream God has given you. This book is more than an instructional blueprint. It's a calling forth! For you to not give up, to put that pen to paper and write that book in you. If you identify yourself as someone who has had a dream of becoming an author for as long as you can remember, then you are an author. Start speaking it.

You are a blessed author, and the book that you want to write is going to be a blessing to someone. You see, you show up differently when you know you are on assignment. I work for God, and it's a pleasure to serve you with the gifts he has given me, and the skills and talents I have learned along my life experiences.

About This Book

In this book, I will tell you everything I know about writing a book. You're getting my six years of experience concisely written into the necessary steps needed. I wrote this book in 30 days. I did it for you, to show you what is possible. Use the six steps and know that you can do the same. Let's get you to become that self-published author that you dream of. This book is for first-time aspiring authors of faith.

Do you dream of becoming an author?

Do you dream of being a best-selling author?

Do you have a dream of making an impact and making additional income?

Do you have a dream of making a difference?

Do you have a dream of blessing people and leaving a legacy?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, then this book is for you. This book will show you the fastest way to get it done while focusing on market research, and quality over quantity. It comes with a checklist to keep you on track as you go from idea to self-publishing. Lastly, I present you with a marketing plan to help sell your new book.

The Inner Battle

I didn't want to write this book, but I had to write this book. I remember six weeks before I decided to prepare myself for writing, God gave me a vision. It was a vision of me helping women to write their books. I literally saw chains being broken off women's lives through my obedience. It was like God knocking, saying, "Will you go?" I had to answer the call. In this vision God showed me that there are things to do on Earth that need to be done in the written form. Will I debate with God? He said, "I've given you a gift, and it's time that you replicate that gift on Earth." Yes, it felt scary and too big for me to fill. Good! There is a saying, "If your dream doesn't scare you, it's not big enough." Well, your girl was scared. Now armed with a bigger vision, the only thing that brought me comfort is knowing God and the angels had my back. I

knew if I asked the Holy Spirit for help it would be granted to me. I had been given purpose, so I moved forward, shaking but courageously.

Don't be surprised if you face your own inner battle when deciding and starting to write a book. The distractions and negative thoughts of perfectionism or thoughts of “Is this book good enough?” have a way of emerging in your mind. However, you will be victorious in the name of Jesus. The inner struggle is real, writers overcome it, and so can you. Keep showing up for yourself and the people assigned to you.

A Calling Forth

So, this book is for you, and I'm putting everything in this book that God told me to help you manifest your dream, because someone is waiting on your book. This is my “why”, a strong conviction. God

wouldn't let me sit on my gifts any longer. I decided to walk by faith and obedience. Writing this book I got many God winks, alignment and daily encouragement to keep going. "You got this" is what I kept hearing in my spirit. I will help you with the flow and with Divine Revelations.

By flow I mean, there were times when I looked up and realized I had written a whole chapter. God was telling me to take this out, put this here, and put that there. This book is orchestrated by God for you. When God gives you a gift it's not just for you, it's for the world. This book is for the child of God who wants to write a book right now. I know God has given you a heart's desire to write a book or you would not have picked up this book. Be encouraged as it's not by accident that this book found you. I have prayed that this book would reach the right person at the right

time, and they would be blessed enough to write and complete their book.

I will give you a 6-Step Blueprint to complete your book in 30 days. This book gives you the motivation, confidence, and clear path to finally get that book done. However, I am not about to encourage you to write nonstop to accomplish your goal of becoming a published author. I believe in rest, balance, and enjoying the process of writing. Writing does take consistent effort, but it can also be very rewarding, as you accomplish your writing goal. I'm going to challenge you to write five days a week, Monday through Friday, and rest on weekends.

Why is rest important? Rest is divine. God set the foundation from the beginning. In Genesis God took rest as an example that we get to follow. You see clearly when you're not burnt out or stressed. I know

many of us have other responsibilities: children, work, household duties. The reality is you want to give yourself room for life and not all this pressure when writing your book. I believe God can give you ease and flow during this writing process. I'll break down in detail the writing process in step three of this book. To be clear, 30 days comes out to six weeks if you follow this process. I have personally used this blueprint over the past six years, as a writer of several books. You are getting proven steps, the exact steps I take my consulting clients through.

What To Expect From This Book

This book will address these main questions below.

1. Where do you start when writing a book?
2. How do you plan a book?
3. How do you write a book?
4. How do you edit a book?

5. How do you protect your book?
6. How do you self-publish and market a book?

The Breakdown

Each chapter is preceded by a prayer and a scripture. Prayer is a great way to set the tone and invite the Holy Spirit into the writing process. I believe when God is involved it gives you supernatural acceleration to get things done in less time because you are leaning on him. This may be hard to believe, but I've seen it happen during virtual or weekend intensives, where people write their rough drafts in three days or three hours. That's the power of acceleration, especially if you have a master plan.

Each chapter also dives into my author story, which is broken into six parts. I share my story to show you what is possible. Sure, your exact life experience may not look like mine; however, knowing that someone

else has achieved what you want-in this case to be a published author- lets you see beyond your current circumstances to what is possible.

You will have a clear solution as I go deeper into each step of the 6-Step Blueprint. You will see infographics, lists, and pictures throughout the book to break down key concepts. A pro-tip, key points, and key reflection questions wrap up each chapter.

Bonuses! Who doesn't love a good surprise? Well, you're in for a treat because this book comes with a 30-Day Challenge Checklist, 30 FAQs of how to write a book, and 30-Day Devotional.

Believe In Yourself

I remember being on Instagram following one of my favorite influencers in her stories and loving one of her daily devotionals. I remember being so

impacted by that devotional that I asked her “what's that devotional?” I even went to Barnes and Noble, in search of the devotional, and then God started to speak to me about writing a devotional. God said the same way that you were impacted by this devotional is the same way that someone else is going to be impacted by your writing. I want to say the same thing to you if you've ever read a book that has blessed you, if you've ever picked up a devotional, if you've ever picked up T.D. Jakes, Joel Osteen, Joyce Meyer, or any other faith-based author. What if you are the next person that is supposed to be a blessing to someone? That is why you picked up this book today. *How to Write your Book in 30 Days for Faith-Based Authors* is so that you can get out that book that is going to be a blessing to someone. Believe in yourself, you have the steps here. I am rooting for you.

The Hard Truth

Some people don't take the steps needed to accomplish their dreams. Research shows that 80 percent of people want to write a book. But only 1 percent do it. When it comes to faith-based books, the number is even smaller. Why do you think this is? Why do people say, "I want to publish a book but could never get through the writing process?" It comes down to lack of confidence, conviction, and lack of consistency. I want you to build up your confidence. You can do this. One way to build up your confidence is through the word of God. The 30-Day Devotional is specifically for that. These scriptures are handpicked to help you to build confidence and stay consistent. I'm here to help, and I'll show you at the end of this book, if you need individualized support, how TahiraGift Consulting is here to serve you in a

greater way. I'm on a mission to get that 1 percent number up, especially within the faith-based ministry of people who want to be a vessel for God's goodness. If you are taking the steps in this book, you will get to the other side. So, hold on to these truths. . .

Someone out there is waiting for your book.

You can make a lot of money as a writer.

Anyone who has a clear direction can write a book.

You can become a better writer.

Here's the secret to writing -you get better as you do it. Don't get tripped up by thinking you need to know how to do it all. You just need to be willing to get guidance. This book will be your guide. And no one is meant to be an island, it's okay to get support from editors, book cover designers, etc. We will talk about different levels of support you will need as a

writer later. Moral of the story is don't let anything stop you from accomplishing your dream. Next, in the first step we dive into the importance of having a vision and a way to move you forward.

Key Points

1. Believe in yourself
2. Take faith-based action
3. Trust the process
4. Remain consistent
5. Have conviction
6. Stay in prayer

Key Reflection Question

Are you ready to be consistent and join the 1 percent of people who accomplish their dream of becoming a published author?

On the next page is a 6-Step Blueprint Checklist.
Come back to this checklist as you go through the
process of completing your book.

6-Step Blueprint Checklist

- Vision and Your Why
- Decide Type of Book and Create Outline
- Set Writing Goals and Start the Writing Process
- Rough Draft and Proofreading
- Approve Final Draft and Copyright
- Create E-book and Self-Publish Your Book

Prayer for you

Dear God,

I thank you for this day and for the beautiful child of God going for their dream. Father God you know the book that is already in them. I asked that you help them as they take faith in action to write their book during this 30 Days. Father God give them the energy, focus, and perseverance to remain faithful and complete their rough draft book. Father God I'm excited for the person they are becoming in the process. May they learn to lean more on you, trust the process, obey the Holy Spirit to guide and lead them. Let this creative mind you have given them work in their favor. God I ask that you bless them in only the way that you can in Jesus name I pray amen.

Mahabina Samdani



“Before I formed you in the
womb I knew you,
before you were born
I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet
to the nations.”

Jeremiah 1:5 NIV



STEP 1

Vision and Your “Why”

Writing was my first love. For as long as I can remember I have been in love with the pen and paper and writing in my journal. I enjoyed the creativity of writing your own thoughts down into a sequence of stories. I remember as a child, reciting stories and letting my imagination run free... telling stories about the fairy godmother and the tooth fairy and how I would captivate people with my words at the dinner table. My mom said it started as young as four, but I

can remember writing my first book at the age of twelve.

I remember the excitement I felt when I wrote my first book in my journal, then talking about it to all my friends. I would read it to whomever would listen, and I had an audience of captivated readers. I loved to write and excelled in English. What I loved most was how words could make people feel good after reading a book. I remember being bold then. As a teenager going to the local Barnes & Noble, reading a series of books, and thinking “I want to do this”-And yes, I loved reading, but writing truly made my heart smile. At age nineteen I even thought of writing as a career, but something happened in 2001 that altered the course of my dream. To make a long story short, there were a lot of deaths in my life that year. In my grieving I became angry with God, and my dream of becoming an author was aborted. I walked away from my

Christian faith at nineteen and for many years I
believed the lies that the enemy told me.

Lies...

You can't be successful as a writer.

You can't write as a career; it's not a real job.

You need to have a traditional publisher.

You're not successful enough.

You're not a celebrity.

People like you don't write books.

So even though I had a desire to be a published author, it still took me years to act. I stayed stuck, other than constantly writing in my journals. I had journals of stories that never got published. At age twenty-two I rededicated my life back to the Lord and

started my journey back to the truth. The truth is, God called me to be an author. That is why it never left me.

Fast forward, it was 2010, almost nine years since giving up on my dream when I got the courage to write a book. I did all the research, wrote a ten-chapter book and tried to go the traditional publishing route of submitting my manuscript to a Christian publishing house. They accepted and approved my manuscript and wanted to move forward with publishing my book. Then at the age of twenty-eight I had another life blow. This one hit me differently. By this time, I was a wife and young mom to my two-year-old daughter and five weeks pregnant with my son. It was January 2011, and my heart was broken as my life took a drastic turn.

A Clear Solution

If God has told you to write a book that means that he has already ordained you to do it. That means there is a message he wants you to get out and only in the way that you can do it. It doesn't matter whether someone else has done a prayer journal or a devotional, or whatever book God has put in someone's heart to write. No one will ever have your unique perspective or your personal experiences. The way that you write it is yours alone, and someone is waiting for your version. And Jeremiah 1:5 confirms that God already knew you would write the book. You just needed the steps and the clear path to do it. I want you to go forth in confidence, believing in yourself, and that you have in your hands what you need to move forward. Take the step of faith and put one foot in front of the other until your dream of becoming a published author is realized.

Where To Start When Writing A Book

I know a lot of people think writing is the first step. They even get discouraged or hard on themselves for not being able to write. Let me tell you it takes more than putting words together to make your dream of becoming a published author a reality. First, get a clear vision and have a strong "why". You already have the vision-it's your dream; are what I call a God-vision because God put the dream in your heart for a purpose. Your job is to write down the dream and put it where you can see it. Something as simple as keeping your vision in front of you makes a difference; it's a subtle reminder to your subconscious. Many of us are visual creatures, so picturing your book as you work on it can be a motivator and fix your focus when you start writing. I recommend placing your vision and your "why" somewhere you'll see it daily like your refrigerator, your bathroom mirror, or your writing

desk. Now let's get clear on the why. A "why" is defined as the driving force or conviction that propels you forward.

Why Some People Never Finish A Book

Not understanding your vision or having a strong enough "why" is the reason many don't finish their book. Awareness is key, but here is the good part. One of my gifts as a visionary is the ability to maximize others' potential and help them to find their deeper "why". This "why" will motivate you to finally get that book done. Most people think they have a "why", on the surface. Over the years I have heard many statements. . .

"Well, I've always wanted to write a book." Many people want to write a book and still don't. This statement is not deep enough.

or

"I think I can help a lot of people with my story." This is true, but that won't move you to actually write.

or

"I want to create an additional income stream."

Money is a resource or tool; it will not be enough to motivate you when things don't go your way.

All these reasons above are valid; however, they're not truly your "why." Once you dig deep and discover it, this conviction will help you complete the next 5 steps.

The Power Of Reflection

Taking the time to think deeply and reflect is a valuable skill in our fast-paced society. We don't engage in reflection enough, if at all. Take time to be above the noise and think about your book. Now it's

your turn to go deeper and discover your “why”. This is something I help my clients do. I work with them one-on-one to discover their deeper “why.” But here is an exercise you can use to get started. Get into a quiet space and ask yourself this question- Why do I want to write this book? Usually, your first answer is not your “why.” I want you to set a timer for at least seven minutes and ask yourself the question repeatedly. If you begin to hit an emotional core, meaning tears are flowing as you write, then you have tapped into your “why.” If you definitely have your “why” then now you can start your first chapter. Yes, after reading this chapter you are going to take your “why” and put it to work.

Begin Your Free Write

Sit down and either write in your journal, type on your computer, audio record yourself, or my favorite

video record yourself answering this question: Why do I have to write this book? Guess what! The answer to this question is what connects you to your reader. Your authentic self comes out when you talk about your “why.” Will you allow yourself to freely write without judgment and without worrying about grammar? We will get to how to edit your book in step 4. Your only focus in this step is to get still with God and allow the truth of who you are to surface. The truth is you are a gift. When you write your light keeps giving. Shine your light and get to writing.

Pro Tip:

Your “why” will be the conviction you need that will propel you forward to complete your book. The good news is it’s already within you.

Key Points

1. Without a vision you will not have a strong enough reason to write a book. Have a vision and write it down, place it where you can see it, read it out loud, and take action toward it.
2. Without a reason you will not have a strong enough conviction to finish your book. Keep your “why” in front of you so you stay consistent until completion of your book.

Key Reflection Questions

“Why do I have to write this book?”

What are some ways you will focus on your vision?

Once you have completed this section, make sure to check off step 1. Celebrate yourself because you're making progress with your dream. Next, it is time to move on to step 2. Good job! Let's keep going.

Prayer for you

***Dear God,
Let the dreams of this child of
God be reignited. May the
dreams that you have put in
them shine brightly for the
world to see. Let them know that
their voice, unique beauty, and
presence is needed. Father,
thank you for the grace that is
upon them. Let them keep being
all you have called them to be,
and may it bring glory and
honor to the Kingdom.
In Jesus' name I pray, amen.***

Shalima Gandhi



Then he said to his disciples,
"The harvest is plentiful but the
workers are few. Ask the Lord of
the harvest, therefore, to send out
workers into his harvest field."

Matthew 9:37-38 NIV



Step 2

Decide on the Type of Book and Create an Outline

In 2011 I separated from my husband and began the process of getting a divorce. My heart was shattered, so I once again put my dream of becoming an author aside. Separating and becoming a single mom became too much. Another three years passed, and I still did not write a book. In 2014, I remember feeling like life had hit rock bottom too many times. I prayed earnestly to God to help me. The next day I ran

into a guardian angel in disguise who gifted me a free registration to a leadership group program.

This group encouraged me to really go for my dreams.

I will never forget that I told them something that had been in my heart for years: “I want to be a published author.”

Armed with a team of support, I accepted their challenge to write my book within ninety days. I didn't write my first book in ninety days, but I started the process of really believing that I could do it. In 2015, with the help of an illustrator, I wrote and self-published my first two children's books. Then, in 2017, my first nonfiction book, *52 Weeks of Abundance*, sold one hundred copies within the first year. I don't know what I did to sell my first one hundred copies; I didn't know how to market a book at that time. I just knew I was so excited that I talked about my book all the time, blogged about my book

weekly, and had a community of support in which I was allowed to share my book and make real connections. These things still work today, and I will talk more about marketing later in step six.

A Clear Solution

Deciding on the type of book you want to write comes before writing the outline, because the type of book will provide a framework upon which to model your book after. If you want to write your book in thirty days, I recommend the six types of books shown in the easy-to-read infograph below. Based on my research and years of experience, these types of books also sell. You can pick one and get started right now.

BOOKTYPE

EASY TO WRITE IN 30 DAYS

DEVOTIONAL

30-Day
60-Day
90-Day

JOURNAL

Prayer
Gratitude
Guided

PERSONAL STORY

Testimony time! Have you overcome or accomplished something extraordinary that will help others? You can include your personal story in your book.

SHORT STORIES

7 Stories
12 Stories
21 Stories

STEP-BY-STEP

Easy-to-follow steps on how to do something.

INSPIRATIONAL SAYINGS

Quotes
Affirmations
Unique word definitions
Acronyms

POETRY

Depends on how long the poem is, the type of font used, and the feel. Highly recommend you include an audiobook combo.

What type of book did you decide to write?

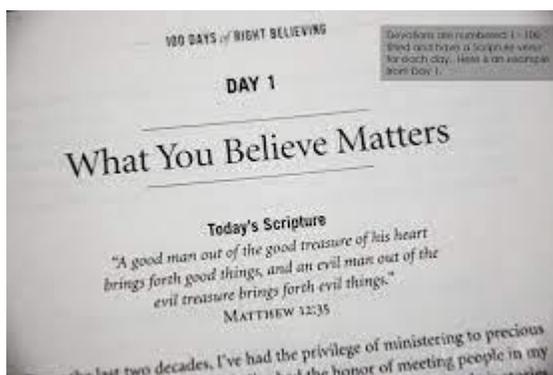
Will it be a . . .

1. Devotional or journal—prayer, gratitude, or guided
2. Personal story
3. Short stories (fiction or nonfiction)
4. Step-by-step
5. Inspirational sayings
6. Poetry

Some people already know what type of book God has put in their hearts to write, and if that's you—great. However, I'm going to assume you are brand new to the writing process and give you a quick guide for completing these thirty-day books. Okay, let's break down each type of book.

Devotional or journal—Devotionals or journals are the quickest to write because you do not need as many

words. For a prayer journal, gratitude journal, or guided journal, there will be more writing space than words because you will leave a place for readers to write their reflections. For devotionals, you will need several scriptures and your own Holy Spirit–led interpretation to help the reader grow deeper in God. In this book, I have included a thirty-day devotional as a bonus. As a first-time author, you can start with a thirty, sixty, or ninety-day devotional. Below is a picture of how you can structure a devotional.



Personal story—This is a popular style of writing, and I would say the easiest; however, it can be

challenging for those who are emotional. As you write your testimony, undealt-with emotions may surface. Ensure you have fully healed from and are ready to talk about the stories you share. Additionally, remember to keep your reader in mind. This is not a journal entry for you but a story your reader can benefit from. Questions to consider when writing a personal story book:

- How can the reader learn from your story?
- What did you overcome?
- What did you learn most from the experience?
- What words of wisdom do you have for the reader?

Short stories—If you write a lot of stories, consider doing a book of short stories. Depending on the length of each story, it's great to start with seven, twelve, or twenty-one stories as these numbers grab readers

attention. Short stories are a type of book that could be a great market for a younger age demographic. Short stories can be fiction or nonfiction. If your heart really wants to write it, and there is a central theme of, for example, courage or perseverance go for it. Do market research to find similar books to model your book after—the sky's the limit.

Step-by-step—You create a step-by-step book to show your readers how to do something that you have done or explain a solution you have found. These are great nonfiction books that can be structured easily by making each step a chapter and breaking down each step within its chapter. This type of book is best for readers if it is practical and allows readers to apply the steps to their day-to-day lives.

Inspirational sayings—This type of book was my first nonfiction writing. It contained fewer than one hundred pages. Never believe the hype that inspiration does not sell. If that is true, why are there so many little books full of quotes? There are so many because there is a market for them. Additionally, they make great gifts for all ages. That was the whole point of my first inspirational book; I wanted it to be a gift to someone. Think of each word you write as a gift to the reader.

Poetry—You can structure the book with the title on one side of the page and the poem on the other side. I do recommend including an audio book with poetry because the spoken word is best heard from the artist. If you are a spoken-word artist, please believe there is a market for you. Amazon has categories just for poetry, so that tells you there is a market. I personally

know of a spoken-word artist who won a million dollars on America's Got Talent in 2020. He is an example that you can go for your dream and must never put a limit on what is possible for you.

A Word about Novels

A novel is not typically something I would recommend writing in thirty days, due to the average novel being around ninety thousand words. If you have a dream of writing a fiction book, try starting with short stories. Then, build up an audience of devoted readers awaiting the release of your first novel.

What Is Your Book Topic?

Do you have an idea of the topic of your book? Knowing your topic will make it easier to create an outline. The topic should be something that you are

passionate about and have a lot of knowledge and expertise in. If it is your personal story, your experience makes you the ideal person to write the book.

What do you do if you have a lot of book ideas? Take a long sheet of paper and take time to write down all your ideas without judgment; get everything out of your head. When you are finished, go back, and circle the ideas you are most passionate about or those that a lot of people ask you for help with. If you still cannot decide, ask a trusted community member, writing coach, or consultant.

Plan Your Book

What is an outline? An outline is your plan for how to structure your book. It includes the way you will present the information—exactly what to write and in what order. Another way of thinking about it is as a

framework. I highly recommend having an outline before starting to write the book. An outline will keep you focused and give you a specific plan of action.

Without an outline, you have no direction. Helpful outlines you can create:

1. A simple outline—an overview or bullet points of keywords or phrases you will cover in your book (quick and easy to focus your idea)
2. A content page outline—based on market research or questions people are searching for
3. A chapter outline—specific to what will be in each chapter
4. A detailed outline—everything you will write about, including the structure of each point in a logical order

Once you have your outline, always keep it available, —on your phone, in Google or Word docs, or printed out and placed on your writing desk.

Keeping your outline where you can see it will help you stay on track when writing.

How to Write a **Chapter Outline** *for a Book*

1. Chapter Hook
2. Main Idea
3. Supporting Content
4. Chapter Takeaway
5. Tie Back & Transition



Word Wise at www.notaprofessionalwriter.com

Basics Parts of a Book

Below is a list of the general things you will find in a book; however, you do not have to include everything in your first book. Knowing the parts of a book can help you structure your outline. Some parts of a book are optional, but the main body, which is

also known as the body matter, is important. One thing I love about being an author is the freedom of creative decision-making, especially when self-publishing. You get to decide how your book will flow because you are the writer. I will give you more writing tips in the next step.

1. **Cover**—Provide the title of your book, subtitle, and author’s name, at the very least. The spine usually contains the title or author’s last name and publisher’s logo. The back cover includes a book summary, testimonials, author bio, and author photo.
2. **Front matter**—All of the pages of a book that come before the first chapter begins are typically parts of the book’s front matter
 - a. Title page (include title, author name, affiliations)

- b. Copyright page (include year of publication, ISBN)
- c. Copyright acknowledgements (include permissioned material)
- d. Dedications (optional)
- e. Table of contents (optional)
- f. Forward (optional and usually written by someone other than the author)
- g. Preface (optional and usually includes why the author wrote the book)
- h. Acknowledgements (optional)
- i. Introduction (optional)
- 3. **Body matter**—Chapters that put topics in order
- 4. **End matter**—Materials that come at the end of a book
 - a. About the author

- b. Acknowledgements (if not included in the front matter)
- c. Other books written and links to social media and website etc.
- d. Glossary (optional)
- e. Bibliography (optional)
- f. Index (optional)

Market Research

One way to create an outline is by conducting market research to gather information about the readers' needs and preferences. What are people actively seeking help for? What problem does your book solve? Your book is the solution to someone's problem. If your book outline addresses questions that are already in the marketplace, it will make your book easier to find, especially on Google. It's important to add the right keywords in your book

description. We will talk more about marketing in the last step and how to use Amazon keywords in your book description. However, in this step you want to think about who your book is ultimately for. It's important to have an audience in mind before you write the book. Some might call this your "target market," but the point is that you're writing for someone else who will benefit from your book. The best way to write is by thinking about your reader. Here are some places to conduct your initial book idea search/market research:

- **Google**—if people are asking questions about it
- **YouTube**—if people are making videos about it
- **Amazon**—if people have written books about it
- **Social media**—if people are talking about it on social media

Don't feel discouraged when you see many other authors and books about the topic you want to write

about. This should be used as encouragement because there is a market, and your unique voice is needed. If God puts a dream in your heart, it's because your unique perspective is needed in the marketplace. You may be able to reach someone when others cannot.

Pro Tip

Take your simple outline and create a checklist. Start offering it to your audience as a free opt-in to grow your email list.

Key Points

1. Decide on the type of book.
2. Choose a topic you're passionate about.
3. Know your target market.
4. Create an outline.

Key Reflection Questions

What is the topic of my book?

Who is the book for?

Pick three books that you would like to model your book after. Analyze the structure and format and how the authors break up their paragraphs. It's okay to model after other authors; you're not copying them. Your book will contain your own words, but you're using their outlines as an inspiration to get started.

Prayer for you

***Dear God,
I pray for this child of God -
that they will receive the
promises and blessings over
their writing and that they will
believe and speak good over
their lives. May they take the
word of God and apply it to their
lives, moving forward by faith.
Like you encourage us to write
the law of God on our hearts,
Father, may they write words
with clarity that will help the
people they are assigned to.
In Jesus' name I pray, amen.***

Shalima Gandhi



"So shall my Word be that goeth
forth out of my mouth: it shall not
return unto me void, but it shall
accomplish that which I please,
and it shall prosper in the thing
whereto I sent it."

Isaiah 55:11 NIV



Step 3

Set Writing Goals and Start the Writing Process

I decided to challenge myself. I wanted to write a chapter book, but I knew I would need help. I hired my first writing coach and learned about something called a launch plan. It took me three months, and in October 2018, *Freedom For Today: A Newbie's Guide to Creating a Life You Love* was born. While I was writing *Freedom For Today*, God provided me with a vision: this was just the start of a series of books I would write called Giving Inspiration For Today. I

didn't know how I would write all these books; I just knew the vision seemed too big for me to accomplish.

When I launched *Freedom for Today*, I remember sitting at my desk at work (I was a manager at the time) and making over \$300 on the first day my book launched. I had also made money preselling it in the weeks before. I was super-excited that I had learned a system that worked. I really saw what was possible: that I could make money as an author. I decided on that day, October 10, 2018, that I wanted to change careers and become a full-time writer. I was ready to take the leap of faith, so I prayed to God. In 2019, I embarked on my dream and became a full-time entrepreneur and author, what you might call an “author-preneur.”

In 2019, I began to hone my craft and found my writing rhythm; I discovered my secret sauce. I wrote book after book that year for a total of three; each

took me one month to write, and they were all 100 pages. When I had self-published more than two books, God gave me the idea of starting to sell book bundles. In March of that year, I sold book bundles for thirty dollars each and had my first four-figure month.

A Clear Solution

Before you begin this third step, you should understand there are three attributes you will need to finish your book in thirty days: you will need to be fearless, determined, and unstoppable. There is no limit to what is possible when you use these attributes, along with prayer and faith action; you will see the impossible become possible.

For a first-time author, I recommend writing no more than a 120-page book to start. Quick-read books are in. People have limited time these days and want a quick win. If you can give a solution in 120 pages,

your reader will feel accomplished when finishing your book. Remember, your book doesn't have to be filled with fluff, just give the reader what they need to succeed. You want to provide quality over quantity. You can double space your paragraphs, and 12-point font size is the standard used in books. There are many fonts you can use but make sure it is clear for the reader.

Set Writing Goals

The three main goals to set when writing your book are simple:

1. Writing, writing, and more writing!
2. Staying consistent
3. Completing your rough draft

How to Write a Book

I know some people will tell you to write every day, and that's fine if you're journaling or really enjoy

writing. I personally love gratitude journaling for five minutes each day. However, when it comes to writing a book, it's good to incorporate rest into your schedule. Time away gives you a fresh perspective; never try to write when you're tired because writing is a mental sport.

I am going to share with you my “Write Your Book in 30 Days Challenge” method. I want you to commit to writing five days a week for at least thirty minutes per day to finish your book in thirty days. I recommend writing Monday through Friday and taking weekends off. You can definitely get into a rhythm, and I understand that some people don't want to stop writing. If you feel on fire, then go right ahead. The good thing about having the weekends off is that if you miss a day during the week, you can choose to make up that day on the weekend. This process helps to give yourself some grace.

I want you to choose an accountability partner. Tell them you are writing a book and that you want to check in twice a week to ensure you're meeting your goals. Set up a writing desk and set your calendar for a reward day on Fridays. Make sure you choose a reward that you will look forward to as a way to motivate yourself to write.

- Do you have a favorite show? You can watch it only after writing.
- Do you have a favorite treat? You can reward yourself on Fridays.
- Do you have a favorite place to go? You can go there after meeting your writing goal for the week.

Use Your Story

Always consider sharing stories in your book, even if your book is not a personal story. People learn from storytelling, and your personal experiences are what

make the book unique and interesting to read. You want the reader to not only learn but also get to know you personally as the writer. Only share what you are comfortable with. Transparency also makes for a great best-selling book.

Writing Strategy

The first week you start writing, focus on completing one thing toward finishing your rough draft. This week, just write and move forward; do not get stuck on trying to complete a perfect chapter. Get all your ideas down and write. Celebrate yourself if you wrote five days this week. You will want to start small and build on your success. Small wins give you the motivation to enjoy the writing process until you accomplish the big win of self-publishing your book. Here are some examples of what to focus on, based on the type of book you may be writing:

- If you're writing a personal story or a step-by-step chapter book, the goal is to focus on completing at least one chapter in the first week.
- If you're writing a prayer journal, self-care guide, devotional, or an inspirational thirty days of affirmation, focus on completing your first thirty pages in the first week.
- If you're writing short stories or poetry, focus on completing one poem or short story per day.

In the second week, focus on getting your book done quickly by using these ideas to help fill up your 120-page book. Use reflection questions, journaling space, quotes, scriptures, prayers, pictures, or graphics. This also breaks up the page and helps your reader get through your book. It makes the information your reader is acquiring more digestible.

You can gather in bulk, and then place these items throughout your book. Of course, make sure the materials relate to your book topic. For example, you can gather the following:

- Ten scriptures or prayers
- Ten quotes or affirmations
- Ten pictures or graphics
- Ten reflection questions

In the third week, focus on finding your writing flow. If you have been writing only by hand, putting pen to paper, or typing on the laptop or your phone, here's how to accelerate the writing process. Consider doing talk-to-text, a feature you can find using Google Docs. You can also record yourself (also known as dictation) or video record yourself, following the outline of your book, and have the recording transcribed into a word document. To save time, there

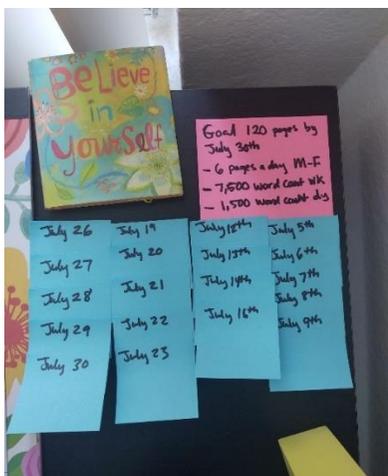
are many people you can hire, or even software that can do transcription.

In the fourth week, focus on reviewing, adding, or filling in gaps as needed. This will be the focus up to day twenty of the Write Your Book in 30 Days Challenge to complete your rough draft. As a bonus, you will see the Write Your Book in 30 Days Challenge Checklist toward the end of this book. Follow this checklist to motivate yourself to complete your book.

Using Visuals to Stay Focused

What you focus on can expand. One way to stay focused during the thirty days is to use the visual strategy I used to complete my books. Take Post-it Notes and place them on your wall for the number of days you will commit to writing your book. Then, when you complete each day, move a Post-it Note to your writing desk to see your progress. Show your visual progress to your accountability partner or

group as an extra motivation to stay the course. Below is a picture of notes I completed in July 2021 when I started writing this book.



Top 30 Writing Tips for First-Time Authors

1. Set up your writing desk or another area where you feel inspired to write.
2. Schedule time to write. I recommend at least thirty minutes a day during the thirty-day writing challenge or two hours and thirty minutes a week.

3. Take a break from the first chapter and move forward. Don't get stuck in perfectionism. Take one day or one week if needed, then go back to revise chapters.
4. Don't be afraid to skip around. Some people write the introduction last.
5. Get a notebook or small journal and keep it with you. I call this a writer's journal because you never know when inspiration will hit.
6. Push through the urge to procrastinate. Change your environment if needed to get inspiration. Visit a bookstore or library and write.
7. Check in with your accountability partner twice a week when writing a book. Yes, you need accountability, first to God and yourself but also to someone else. If you have a community, that helps as well.

8. Set a start date and completion date for your book.
9. Use Google Docs on your phone to add to your book when you are not home or in front of your laptop.
10. Start before you're ready; do it scared.
11. Move forward to the next chapter. Do not get stuck on finishing or perfecting and remember it's a rough draft.
12. If you can take time off or write during the summer, that's the best time.
13. Freewriting is your best friend. Just write and get it out.
14. Think about your reader and put yourself in your reader's shoes.
15. Write the beginning, middle, and end. The beginning is the hook, and the middle is the main solution to the problem you solve, at the

end is the time to give readers next steps and congratulate them for finishing.

16. Reward yourself for progress. I recommend doing this at least once a week. If you start with Monday through Friday, go ahead and have fun Fridays.
17. Use prayer.
18. Let the Holy Spirit have its way. I know when I started this book, I had my plan, but then the Holy Spirit took over.
19. Use your personal story. Be vulnerable but authentic.
20. Get your book edited. Please don't try to do this yourself.
21. Presell your book.
22. Create a marketing plan and be willing to promote your book for the first one hundred days after self-publishing.

23. Set a goal to sell your first one hundred copies.
24. Talk about your “why.” People want to know why you wrote the book. Keep your “why” somewhere in a visual form, so you can see it.
25. Use Canva for photos and easy templates for your book. You can create a whole journal or book using Canva.
26. Never write when you’re sleepy. Take a nap and start again when you’re fresh.
27. Remember: quality over quantity.
28. Great writers are great readers. Don’t be afraid to read more books.
29. Give yourself three drafts, then move on.
Progress over perfection. Remember: you will get better as you continue to write.
30. Write when the kids are asleep.

Pro Tip:

Don't be afraid to take time to step away from your book; even a twenty-minute prayer walk can give you clarity and a new perspective.

Key Points

1. Be fearless, determined, unstoppable.
2. Plan to write a 120-page book.
3. Use the writing tips.
4. Use visual aids to help yourself stay consistent.
5. Use accountability.

Key Reflection Questions

What technique will you use to write your book?

- By hand (from pen to paper)
- Typing (laptop or cell phone)

- Talk-to-text (dictation)
- Video recording (have transcribed)

List your start and completion date for the Write Your Book in 30 Days Challenge

Start date _____

Completion date _____

List six writing tips you will use.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

After you have completed this section, make sure to check off Step 3. Celebrate yourself because you're making progress toward achieving your dream. Woo hoo! You're halfway toward completing your book. Next, it is time to move on to Step 4. Good job! Let's keep going.

Prayer for you

***Dear God,
May this child of God never dim
their light but instead keep
shining. May they have courage
to do what they love, and may
they recognize what you have
called them to do. May they be
filled up with words of
encouragement and empowered
on this journey. Father God, I
pray a special blessing over
them, that they will feel deeply
cared for and that they will
know, Heavenly Father, that you
are with them and that they can
expect good things to come.
In Jesus' name I pray, amen.***

Sharma Gandhi



“There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity
under the heavens.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIV



Step 4

Rough Draft and Proofreading

This time I knew how to make four figures in one month as an author-preneur. I blogged weekly, went live on social media, built a community, and sold books. This time my success was not about luck or chance; I had a strategy. I was committed to learning and invested in myself. I studied the use of funnels when launching your book. It was a lot for me to implement on my own and after only six months as a full-time author-preneur, your girl was burnt out.

Even though I loved writing and being an author, the business side of things—marketing, creating content for social media, sending out emails, shipping books, and customer service became too much for me. I know now what I didn't know then: this happened because I was doing 100 percent of the work myself instead of getting more help. Because of my experience with burnout in 2019, I pivoted my author vision and started wellness coaching. I set out to heal my own self-care deficit and teach other women how to prevent burnout. The idea of helping women avoid burnout came from a place of good intentions; however, I started to detour from my dream of being an author. God had called me to be an author. I just needed to learn to balance it all. By November of 2019, I took a break from entrepreneurship and accepted a long-term substitute teaching position at my kids' school teaching kindergarten.

I had every intention of restarting my business in March of 2020 when the pandemic hit. We all know how 2020 went. For me, it was an emotional roller-coaster, and my anxiety hit an all-time high. My writing once again took a back seat to the circumstances around me. Now I understand that God was teaching me how to rest in 2020 and lean heavily on him as my source of comfort, peace, and provision. I learned, most importantly, how to serve others in a way that does not harm myself.

A Clear Solution

It's okay to have multiple rough drafts during this part of the book-writing process. Remember, your final rough draft does not have to be polished; that's what editing is for. I am a big fan of getting support when it comes to step four of writing your book. Once you complete your rough draft, I recommend reading it over and trying to edit it yourself—but no more than

three times. Then you want to hand your rough draft over to a professional editor.

It doesn't matter if you feel confident in your grammar and spelling skills; you still want to have other eyes on your book besides your own. Often people can catch things you may have missed because they're looking at it from a different perspective. As an author, it's easy to become attached to your writing as if it were your baby. You are creating something that will go out into the world. Have at least three people including yourself edit your book before you go to print. While your book is being edited, if you haven't already, finalize your book title and work on getting your book cover done. You can design your book cover yourself using Canva or hire someone to design it for you. Remember the more you edit the better you will become. Give yourself time to develop this skill as a writer or be open to getting help.

How to Edit Your Book

There are different types of editors you can use, but a proofreader is important. A proofreader checks and edits written documents, articles, and books before they are published. They are great with attention to detail and have good spelling, punctuation, and grammar skills. I highly recommend you use a proofreader before publishing your book.

When editing it yourself you want to look mostly for words to take out (e.g., repetitive words you use a lot) and ways to make your sentences concise and to the point. Ask yourself “Do I need this word?” Does my sentence get straight to the point? The more you write, the better you will become at catching overused words and condensing. Words I commonly use and need to be mindful to not overuse are “so,” “that,” “like,” and “actually.”

Where to Get Help with Book Cover, Editing, and Proofreading

The cost to hire help for book cover design and proofreading depends on who you choose to do your work. On the low end, proofreading can cost between \$60 and \$300, and you will be charged per word count. The fewer words there are to edit, the cheaper the cost will be. If your book is over 10,000 words, it can become expensive to edit, so make sure to have money set aside for this expense. That is why I recommend no more than a 120-page book to start for first-time authors.

- Fiverr: Get a book cover designed and find editors, proofreaders, and more starting at \$5+/hr.
- Upwork: Get illustrators, book cover design, proofreading, and more starting at \$20+/hr.

- **Canva:** You can design a book cover for free, or for as little as \$12 a month with pro features. Get book cover dimensions from Kindle Direct Publishing with Amazon.
- **ProofreadingPal:** They can be expensive, but they have a fast turnaround option of 24 hours to 3 days. They will give you a free quote for your manuscript, as well.

Formatting

You can also find someone to help you with formatting, and some proofreaders help with this as well. You can choose to do it yourself, but make sure you're following your self-publishing platform's formatting guidelines.

Tools To Help You

Technology can be helpful when editing your book. Here are a few tools that can help. Microsoft Word is

very compatible when sending your draft to editors.

Also consider these three:

1. Google Docs is great for using the talk-to-text feature.
2. Grammarly helps with your spelling, grammar, and even the tone of your writing.
3. The Hemingway app looks at readability, sentence structure, word usage, passive voice, and adverbs.

Start Preselling

While you're waiting for your book to be edited, this is a great time to start preselling and testing the market. Be willing to put yourself out there before the book is ready. We will talk more about preselling in the final step of the book.

There will always be room for improvement, and you will never feel that your book is 100 percent ready. Don't obsess about it. If you feel your book is at

least at 80 percent, then move forward in trust. You can spend months stuck in fear if you let your mind convince you it's not good enough. Does the book offer a solution? Does it offer quality over quantity? Is there a person who would benefit from the information? If you answer yes, then go forth and remember what a blessing it is to get an answer to your prayers in the form of a book. Yes, your book will be someone's answered prayer. Do not let self-doubt stop you.

Pro Tip:

Send a small portion of your book to the editor to see if you like their work before committing to sending your entire manuscript.

Key Points

1. Get your rough draft edited by at least two additional people.
2. Get a proofreader before your book goes to print.

Key Reflection Questions

Who will you use to help edit your book?

What additional support are you willing to get for your book?

Once you have completed this section, make sure to check off step 4. Celebrate yourself because you're making progress with your dream. Next, it is time to move on to step 5. Good job! Let's keep going.

Prayer for you

***Dear God,
I pray this day that this child of
God would know how much you
love them. Let there be an
overwhelming presence of
goodness surrounding them at
this moment. May peace, joy,
love, and hope be with them at
every turn. Father God, may you
keep them in all their ways. Let
them keep believing and thriving
in everything you have before
them. Let it be well in their soul.
In Jesus' name I pray, amen.***

Mahatma Gandhi



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV



Step 5

Approve Final Draft and Copyright

In 2020, I learned a valuable lesson about rest. Rest is biblical, as we can see an example of God resting on the seventh day. I believe it is also supernatural, allowing you to complete your assignment in accelerated time. Therefore, you can write a book in 30 days. I teach during the “Write Your Book 30-Day Challenge” not to write every day. Instead, I suggest incorporating rest in the form of observing the Sabbath or practicing self-care at least one day a week. The process of writing Monday

through Friday and resting on weekends sets a great balance between staying disciplined and avoiding burnout. Thirty days of work takes six weeks if you do it this way.

In 2021, God started to speak to me about rebranding and reinvigorated my first love of writing. TahiraGift Consulting was born, and I began to help aspiring authors who were paralyzed by fear become inspired to write, helping them realize that this time, they didn't need to take years to write their books. Starting TahiraGift Consulting was the obvious choice, but I just never saw myself doing it.

A Clear Solution

Most of the work you have done in step four makes step five quick to accomplish. When you get your final rough draft back from the proofreaders, they will have recommended changes, and it is normal for them to have suggestions. Give yourself ample time to review

these changes. This can take anywhere from a few days to an entire week depending on the amount of changes you wish to make. Once you have made the suggested improvements and approved the changes, you have a final draft. I recommend even at this stage that you reread your final draft several times before going to print.

Resist Perfectionism

Once you have made the necessary changes and have a final draft, resist the urge to keep adding. Pray to God and ask, “Is my book complete?” If the answer is yes, then move forward. There is a difference between operating in excellence and being stuck in perfectionism. It's best to publish a book that you feel is your best work with the understanding that you can always revise or release another version in the future if you feel led to do so.

How to Protect Your Book

The very next step is to protect your work. Please get your book copyrighted because it is your intellectual property—an asset. You should respect your book’s value even before it is available to the public. US copyright law states that copyright exists from the moment the work is created, “without any action taken by the author, the moment it is fixed in a tangible form so that it is perceptible either directly or with the aid of a machine or device.” You can copyright your book yourself in less than one hour. The current copyright fee is \$65 to register online. If you are in the United States, just visit <https://www.copyright.gov>.

Beta Readers

A beta reader typically reads your manuscript and gives you feedback before you send it out into the

world. They read your manuscript exactly as your audience would before you self-publish. A beta reader will generally read your work for free or for a small fee. It's a good idea to have two or three beta readers. Make sure your beta reader is a member of the target audience for your book. You can also ask for direct feedback such as, "how would they rate your book's cover and contents on a scale of 1–10"? If you get 8/10 or above, then move forward toward publication.

Pro Tip:

You can register works of visual arts, performance arts, sound recordings, and single serials on the same website.

Key Points

1. Complete your final draft.
2. Resist perfectionism.
3. Copyright your book.

Key Reflection Questions

1. Did you copyright your book?

- Yes
- Not yet

2. Who will you use to beta read your book?

Once you have completed this section, make sure to check off step 5. Celebrate yourself because you're making progress and almost to the finish line. Next, it is time to move on to step 6. Good job! Let's keep going.

Prayer for you

Dear God,

I pray that this child of God would see unlimited possibilities as they grow in their capacity to receive everything that you have for them to be, to do, and to receive. Let them experience an overflow of love, guidance, and financial harvest. May they step fully into new realms of entrepreneurship with supernatural wisdom and creativity.

In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Saharima Gandhi



“Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.”

Romans 12:12 NIV



Step 6

Create and Self-Publish an E-book

Now I feel more closely aligned with my true self because writing and being an author are significant parts of who I am. My books will be my legacy. One of my goals is to write 40 books; I know that I am meant to make an impact. What better way to accomplish that than to help others communicate their messages? It has been a privilege and an honor to share my story with you. I hope that you learn from my years of being stuck and finally breaking through to become the

author of several books and discover my ability to walk in purpose.

Go for your dream; it doesn't matter how old you are or where you started from. If you take these steps, you can write a book of your own. I am sharing my story to show you that no matter what ups and downs you may face, it is still possible for God to use you for His Will and for you to accomplish your dream. I am rooting for you.

A Clear Solution

You have reached the final step. Now that your book is copyrighted, it is time to create a portable document format (PDF) file and start selling your e-book. If you have already started preselling, you can send the e-book out to those who have preordered it. There are many different formats you can use when creating an e-book, depending on whether you want to make your e-book available as a Kindle edition.

However, the fastest way to get your e-book up and selling quickly is to upload that PDF to a sales platform such as Payhip, Samcart, or your own website to sell your e-book straight to customers. You will get the most profit selling e-books because there is no physical book to ship, and your readers will receive an instant download. Now I will move on to self-publishing and turning your e-book into a print book.

How to Self-Publish and Market Your Book

You can self-publish in as little as a few hours—thanks to modern technology, it has become much more accessible for anyone to become an author. It's as simple as uploading your PDF and cover, adding your book's description using key words, selecting your book's categories, setting your price, and ordering proofs of your book. The biggest retailers are

Amazon, Barnes & Noble, the Apple Bookstore, and Kobo. I recommend you upload your book to all four of these retailers. The largest print-on-demand retailers are Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) with Amazon and Ingram Spark. Here are the direct links to self-publish:

1. Amazon (known as KDP):

<http://kdp.amazon.com>

2. Barnes & Noble: <http://nookpress.com>

3. Apple Bookstore:

<https://www.apple.com/ibooks/>

4. Kobo Writing Life: <http://kobowritinglife.com>

Publishing on these platforms is free; however, in exchange for using their large platforms, the companies require a percentage of your book's sales. You will receive royalties up to 60 or 70 percent per book. I recommend setting up a separate bank account to have your royalties directly deposited into.

Don't rely solely on Amazon; have your own way to sell your book. This can be through your own website or using a sales platform, such as Samcart. Don't forget to place the shipping burden on the customer because this expense can eat into your profit margins. A rookie mistake is selling your book at too low a price and failing to consider the cost to print and ship your book when selling from your own website. These expenses will be around \$3 for black and white 120-page book. If you have a color book it will increase the cost of printing. You can order author copies of your book at wholesale price from Amazon. Standard shipping in the United States is about \$4 and can run up to \$14.99 internationally. The rest of the sale price will be your book's profit. Here is an example breakdown: \$15 (book price) – \$3 (cost to print) = \$12 (profit) Remember: the customer pays for shipping.

If you're self-publishing, you may want to consider getting an International Standard Book Number (ISBN). An ISBN is the unique identifier needed to distribute your book. You can get a free ISBN through KDP with Amazon; however, that will require you to make your book accessible only to Amazon. To purchase your own ISBN will cost \$125 at the time I am writing this book. In the United States, you can acquire an ISBN from Bowker at the following link: <https://www.myidentifiers.com/>

Marketing Your Book

Marketing is the action or business of promoting and selling your book, including the tasks involved in market research and advertising. Marketing starts before your book is complete and self-published. There is a difference between writing your book and launching and marketing your book. A book launch is a combination of activities conducted to build

visibility and awareness of your book to bring in sales. Even after you complete your book, you may choose to launch it weeks or even months later. People should hear about your book long before it actually comes to market.

Be proud of your book and excited to promote it. You have accomplished something that 80 percent of people who want to write a book never will. Writing a book requires consistency, but promoting it takes courage. Don't be afraid to talk about your book—and talk about it often. If you think you're bringing up your book too often, I bet you it's still not enough. Nowadays, with people having busier lives and so much information through the internet and social media, it takes anywhere from seven to fifteen times for someone to see your book before deciding to buy it. The best time to mention that you're writing a book

is when you have set a launch date. Get comfortable talking about your book.

When it comes to your marketing plan, make sure to have one! There's more to marketing your book than telling people it's now available on Amazon. That won't get you many copies sold. Here is what to do instead as a first-time author:

1. Start by telling people you're doing the Write Your Book 30-Day Challenge covered in this book. Bring people along with you on the journey.
2. Have at least a six-month commitment to marketing your book. This includes having a goal to sell your first 100 copies.
3. Amazon will do a lot of the marketing for you—if you use the right key words in your description and pick the proper categories for your book.

4. Blog and use Pinterest. You will definitely want to have a blog.
5. Develop an email list by providing something of value around the topic of your book to your target audience. Simple ideas you can try in thirty minutes are: creating a newsletter, preparing a checklist, providing a book preview, recording an instructional video, or developing downloadable tips.
6. Use social media to post content related to your book. Don't forget to use video, and if you're brave, you can try a livestream.
7. Participate in podcasts and interviews to expand your reach. Collaboration is key, so network and get out there. Enjoy the benefits of using other people's platforms.

8. Be authentic and present your true self. The people you're meant to reach will be attracted to your vibe.
9. Build a community.
10. Research which questions are being asked about your topic on Google.
11. Have an information hub to which you can point readers, such as YouTube, your website, and/or your blog.
12. Be willing to serve and test different marketing ideas for at least 100 days. Do not get discouraged because marketing a book or launching an author career takes stamina. Slow and steady wins the race.
13. Speak the word over your book and your business endeavors. God wants you to increase in profit. (Deuteronomy 8:18)

14. Be willing to adapt and try new things. When you find something that works to bring in profit, replicate it.
15. Study biblical foundation in Genesis to achieve revelation regarding your marketing plan. Some insights can come only from the Holy Spirit.
16. Don't feel like you need to do everything alone. Teamwork makes the dream work.

Pro Tip:

Give yourself at least six weeks to market and build up an audience before launching your book.

Key Points

1. Create an e-book and sell it directly to consumers.

2. Self-publish your book to the following four major platforms: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, the Apple Bookstore, and Kobo.
3. Build a community
4. Create a marketing plan and stick to it for at least 100 days

Key Reflection Questions

Will you . . .

- Buy an ISBN?
- Use a free ISBN from Amazon?

Did you tell at least six people that you're writing a book?

- Yes
- Not yet

Where do your readers hang out? Make a list of all the places where you can market your book.

What marketing ideas are you willing to use? List at least six below.

Once you have completed this section, make sure to check off Step 6. Celebrate your hard work because you have accomplished your dream. You did it!

Final Word

Congratulations, you have reached the end of the book. Remember you're not alone. God can empower you to write a book. Writing a book can be compared to the birthing process. There can be a lot of emotions and mental shifts that you must overcome to release that book. Trust the book will reach the people it's supposed to reach.

It was a joy to write this book for you. I love working on things behind the scenes and then seeing the final product. It can be quite a thrill—like a new baby, something you love. I'll be honest: I got bit by the book bug. You may too after writing a book and following these steps. You never know; after this, you may be on to book number two. Whatever you decide, know that I'm rooting for you. You can do it; your dreams are possible. Do you see how possible it is to write a book? Welcome to the author community.

Take these steps, put faith in action, and get to work. I can't wait to read your book.

Wow, I know you learned a six-step blueprint and more. I would love for you to share your key takeaways with me or send me a book review at info@Tahiragift.com.

Schedule a Book Phone Consultation Today!

Would you like one-on-one support with any of the steps in this book? Let's create a success plan for the writing and self-publishing of your book. Book me now at Tahiragiftconsulting.com/calendar.

More Resources by Tahira Neckles

Blog Posts

How to Write a Book: A 6-Step Blueprint

(Detailed Step-by-Step)

How Do You Write a Book If You're Not a Writer?

Writing Tips for Beginners

How Long Does It Take to Write a Book?

The Easiest Way to Self-Publish a Book

Dreaming of Becoming an Author?

Don't Let Fear Stop You!

How Do You Make Money from Your Book?

Journals

Writer's Journal

Vision Journal

Video Training

Write Your Book Mini-Training



About the Author

Tahira Neckles is a dream activator, kingdom builder, inspirational author, writer, and book consultant at TahiraGift Consulting. Tahira is called to build up women of faith to go from idea to possibility and produce the book within them. Tahira is on a mission to help aspiring authors of faith write and self-publish their books and make an impact—and income while doing so.

Tahira has a gift of using words to uplift and move people into purpose. A gifted teacher and anointed vessel for God, Tahira has been given a vision to write

a series of books, *Giving Inspiration for Today*, to support women of faith as they build stronger lives through reliance on Jesus Christ. Tahira publishes a weekly blog to support aspiring authors and push women into purpose.

Tahira is a blessed mother of two. Her greatest joy is parenting Vivian and Josiah Neckles. Tahira is passionate about purpose, motherhood, self-care, and kingdom entrepreneurship. During her free time, you can see her relaxing on the beach, reading a good book, or traveling for fun adventures with her spouse and children.

Learn more at TahiraGiftConsulting.com

Bonuses

Who doesn't love a good surprise? Because you purchased this book, you now have access to an exclusive Facebook community of blessed authors.

Go to **Facebook.com/groups/blessedauthor** and enter the password "blessed."

Once you're in the exclusive community, feel free to ask me questions, get accountability reminders, and join in the fun.

Write Your Book 30 Day Challenge Checklist

30 FAQ- How to Write a Book

30-Day Devotional

WRITE YOUR BOOK 30 DAY CHALLENGE CHECKLIST

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 1- Discover Your Why | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 11- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 21- Writing & Reward Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 2- Type of Book & Outline | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 12- Writing & Check in & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 22- Writing & Check in & Reward Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 3- Set Writing Goals and Start Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 13- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 23- Submit Draft to Proofreader/Editing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 4- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 14- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 24- Get Book Cover Designed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 5- Writing & Check in | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 15- Writing & Check in & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 25- Start Presell/Marketing Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 6- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 16- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 26- Reread Draft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 7- Writing & Check in & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 17- Writing & Check in & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 27- Finalize Draft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 8- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 18- Writing & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 28- Get Copyright |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 9- Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 19- Writing & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 29- Create Ebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 10- Writing & Check in | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 20- Writing & Check in & Reward Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 30- Self-Publish & Market Your Book |

Goals: Write a 120-page book, write Monday-Friday at least 30 minutes per day, check in twice a week for accountability, reward yourself for progress, and stay consistent. You can do it!

30 FAQ—How to Write a Book

1. Can I write a book? Yes, anyone who wants to write a book can do so. I've heard of kids as young as seven writing and publishing a book. The question is, are you willing to get the help needed to succeed?
2. How did you write a book? I used the exact six-step blueprint you have read.
3. Is it difficult to self-publish? Nowadays, with modern technology and Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) with Amazon, you can self-publish in hours.
4. Why did you choose to self-publish over traditional publishing? I like the freedom of creativity, so I chose self-publishing.

5. What do you recommend aspiring authors do?
Have a plan of action, stay consistent, and get support.
6. I'm thinking of writing a book; where do I start? You start by getting clear about why you want to write a book.
7. I'm dreaming of writing a book, but I'm not a writer. How can I proceed? You don't need to be the best writer to write a book; you can use tools and software and get writing tips from an expert to help you finish your book.
8. Can you make money from writing a book? Yes.
9. What do you say to someone who has always dreamed of being an author? I understand, and it's not an accident that you desire to be an author. If God has given you a dream, it's possible. Don't allow fear to make you doubt your dream.

10. I've written the book—now what? After the book is published, you must have a marketing plan to sell it.
11. Should I presell my book? Yes. I'm a firm believer in talking about your book before it becomes available.
12. Why should I presell? Preselling is a way to test the market and also obtain the funds needed to help you with the extra expenses of self-publishing. Also, preselling will give you a boost of confidence that someone wants your book.
13. What is a launch plan? During a launch plan you spend several weeks promoting and marketing your book for when it goes to market and your readers are ready to buy.
14. How do I become an Amazon bestseller? It's easier than you think. If you grow an audience,

get presales, have everyone buy your book on the day it comes out, and place it in the right category, you can make the 100 Bestseller Amazon List.

15. Where did you self-publish? I used Amazon KDP because it is the biggest, but there are also Barnes & Noble, Kobo, and more.
16. What step in the writing process is vital to do? Always make sure to copyright and protect your book's intellectual property.
17. How do I market my book? You market it by being authentic; building community; having action steps; and being willing to do it for days, weeks, and months. Increase your visibility and keep going until you sell at least your first one hundred copies and get great reviews. Repeat what works and be willing to try new things. Be generous with your content, blog, offer book

previews or excerpts from your book, start and join book clubs, become a guest on podcasts, and share your book testimonials.

18. What should I do if I have a lot of book ideas?

Do a brain dump. Write down all your ideas without judgment to get them out of your head. Then, focus on the one or two ideas that you are most passionate about and that are the most marketable.

19. How do I grow a social media audience for my

book? Put out authentic, consistent content and engage others, and you will attract the right people.

20. Any advice for busy people? I work, and my

schedule is already busy. When can I find time to write? It's a mindset trick; you have plenty of time to do the things you set as priorities.

Discipline yourself and schedule the time you will commit to writing.

21. What tricks that no one tells you can I use to write faster? Do voice to text or hire a ghostwriter or someone else to put your words on paper. Basically, get help if you're willing to pay. There are so many people who can help you accelerate your writing journey.
22. I know I need help and accountability. Do you help? Yes, I offer a premium "Done-For-You" service. I can get your book done in six weeks. Book your one-hour consultation if you need accountability and help marketing or selling your book.
23. Do I need a business account? Yes, you are an author and have a product business as a sole proprietor. I recommend you keep your finances separate.

24. What's your favorite thing about being an author? Being able to make a difference and affect lives.
25. Why is market research important?
Understanding your market will help you sell your book. Make sure to use key words from Amazon or Google within your book description.
26. What is a reasonable price for my book? It's up to you, but \$15 is an average price.
27. What would you advise for first-time authors who are discouraged? Be careful not to be detoured by people's opinions. If God told you to write a book, He knows you have the potential to complete it. Trust God and stay the course.
28. How do I create social media content for my book? Use the content you have already written

in your book and turn it into video, tips, infographics, and so on.

29. Can I edit my own book? Yes, but even if you're excellent at grammar and spelling, I still recommend having at least two proofreaders double-check your writing.

30. When is a good time to write? Write whenever you are rested. Discover whether you are a morning person or night person or write best after a nap. Never write when you are tired. Writing takes dedication and focus.



DAY 1

Consistency is Key

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58 NKJV

You have the key to unlock success in your life. Every time you remain consistent you're planting the seed for your dream to materialize. Don't get discouraged if you don't see fruit quickly, your labor is not in vain.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 2

Steady Wins the Race

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23

If God has given you a dream hold fast to it, knowing that God will help you to fulfill it. Speak your dream as if it is already done, and work toward it until it is realized.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 3

Stay the Course

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

It's so easy to be tempted to change before
giving yourself time to see results. Don't go off
course, stick to the plan. You have been given
divine instruction.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 4

Cool, Calm, and Steady

But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever,
the purposes of his heart through all
generations. Psalms 33:11 NIV

The actions you take today make a big
difference in your tomorrow. Continue to
remain steady. God will counsel you so you
can remain calm in pursuit of your purpose.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 5

Be Fearless

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 1 John 4:18 NIV

You can do anything that God has purposed for you to do. Do what you love and don't let fear hold you back, keep moving forward.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 6

Determination

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.
Colossians 3:23 NIV

You will see success when you stay determined. Remember to work not for man's approval, because you have already been approved by God.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 7

Unstoppable

I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of jacob, are not destroyed.

Malachi 3:6 NIV

When you know that God has your back you can move forward with confidence. Nothing can stop you but your unbelief.

Be a magnet for good to flow with an unstoppable belief in God.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 8

You Got This

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the Gospel.

Philippians 1:27 NIV

Keep working, God and the angels see you and you are divinely supported.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 9

Braveheart

God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind.

Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise enough to feel?

Numbers 23:19 NIV

You can rely on God if he told you to do it move forward consistently. You will become brave the more you dwell in the Spirit.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 10

Believe in Yourself

God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have led to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged.

Hebrews 6:18 NIV

You heard the vision right. God is clear and can not lie. If you are moving toward the vision God has given you it will materialize.

Believe that you can do it.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 11

You Can Do It

God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you. Exodus 3:14 NIV

**When you know that God has sent you, you can move forward confidently.
You are the best person for the job because God has appointed you.**

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 12

Time to Thrive

As a prisoner for the lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Ephesians 4:11 NIV

Despite challenges continue to move in excellence knowing God has called you worthy. As a child of God you are meant to thrive.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 13

Courageous

Be on guard stand firm in the faith be
courageous. Be strong
1 Corinthians 16:13 NIV

**Courage is required on this journey but the
good news is it's already within you.
When faced with discouragement
stand firm in your faith.**

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 14

Empowered

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word
was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1 NIV

The same way the word has been here from
the very beginning is the same way that God
can empower you to accomplish your dream.
You have the same power right now with the
word of God. Use it.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 15

Find Your Flow

For all of you who are baptized into Christ
have clothed yourself with Christ.

Galatians 3:27 NIV

**You have been given favor, love, overflow,
and worthy of every good thing. Embrace
these things and let it flow to you.**

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 16

Champion Mindset

For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:13 NIV

Serve with a champion mindset. Remember you win and in the end you will see Heaven.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 17

Self-discipline

For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is. Colossians 2:5 NIV

When you exercise self-discipline you honor the Christ within you. Ask the Holy Spirit for an increase in the fruit of self-discipline to accomplish your goals.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 18

Work For a Purpose

For as in Adam all die,
so in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:22 NIV

**You have been made alive in Christ, therefore
fear must take a backseat. Tell your mind
"I'm alive for a purpose and I'm moving
forward."**

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 19

Steadfast

You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the rock eternal.

Isaiah 26: 3-4 NIV

The peace of God is yours, everyday you can allow this peace to guide you in the steady pursuit of the things of God.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 20

Keep Going

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 NIV

Grace, truth, and the glory of God will be among you. Keep moving forward.
You can do it.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 21

You Got the Victory

So I know the plans I have for you, declares the lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

You have the victory in the end. So work with a victorious attitude until you are prosperous.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 22

Goodness is Coming

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the Nations.
Jeremiah 1:5 NIV

You have been set apart for goodness and
mercy to follow you. God's love is with you as
you move forward today.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 23

Never Give Up

The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: you are a priest forever,
in the order of Melchizedek.
Psalms 110:4 NIV

When you know who you are in Christ Jesus
your true identity cannot be stifled. Keep
shining and never stop doing what God said.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 24

Success Is Yours

Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. Genesis 28:14 NIV

Your success is not just for you. You are building to leave a legacy for those who will come after you.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 25

You're in the Home Stretch

If I testify about myself,
my testimony is not true.

John 5:31 NIV

People need to hear your testimony.
Remember everything that you go through is
not just for you. As you get closer to your
dream others will need to be encouraged
along the way.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 26

Eyes to the Horizon

My food, said Jesus, is to do the will of him
who sent me and to finish his work.

John 4:34 NIV

Jesus is our example if he can finish what he
was here to do, so can you.

Keep first things first and complete the task
before you today.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.

Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 27

Grateful Thankful Blessed

For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith, and this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8 NIV

Walk in gratitude for all that you have is a gift
from God. When you show thanksgiving you
bring more blessings into your life.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 28

It's Bigger Than You

I will not violate my covenant
or alter what my lips have uttered.

Psalms 89:34 NIV

**Make a covenant with yourself right now to
speak only good over your life and your
business. You are who God says you are.**

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 29

You're a Blessing

"and through your offspring all nations on
earth will be blessed,
because you have obeyed me."
Genesis 22:18 NIV

**You are blessed to be a blessing and
obedience will yield you much success.**

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.



DAY 30

You Did It

Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised,
he confirmed it with an oath.

Hebrews 6:17 NIV

God is faithful and knew you could do everything he has called you to do. Celebrate yourself today for remaining consistent.

Reflect

Take two minutes to reflect on the scripture above.
Ask God to help you apply it to your life.