

# BIG STEPS

## LITTLE STEPS

Moving forward in our walk with God

M. ESTHER LOVEJOY



ST JOSEPH, MISSOURI USA

## BIG STEPS, LITTLE STEPS

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*To Peter*

*I am so thankful for the twenty-one years  
I was blessed to walk this journey with you.*



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after me to use the gift he believed God had given me. I'm so thankful for that encouragement.

## Introduction

Master storyteller and veterinarian James Herriot relates a conversation with one of the farmers he served in a remote area of the Yorkshire Dales. The farmer was accustomed to walking with long even strides through his fields or along country roads without being jostled and pushed by other people. On one occasion, after a trip to the city, he complained to Herriot that he found it difficult to walk. “There were that many people about,” he explained. “I ’ad to take big steps and little ’uns, then big steps and little ’uns again.”

That’s often a good description of our spiritual walk. We’re jostled about by the demands and worries of life; we’re pushed and shoved by the world around us and our walk becomes one of “big steps and little ’uns.” The psalmist may have been facing the same frustration when he prayed for God to enlarge his steps (Psalm 18:36 KJV).

*Big Steps, Little Steps* is comprised of devotional readings to encourage those steps of faith, whether “big ’uns or little ’uns.” In these pages you’ll find scriptural truths applied in a practical way to our daily walk with God. My prayer is God will use them to enlarge your steps in your walk with Him.

Jeremiah reminds us “it is not in man who walks to direct his steps” (Jeremiah 10:23). God has promised to guide us, whether our steps are large or small. Both lead us forward. Both lead to Him.



## Walking with Greatness



*“Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.” — Psalm 145:3*



## You Can't Exaggerate God

*“There is none like you, O LORD;  
you are great.” — Jeremiah 10:6*

**M**y dad's gentle but humorous way of correcting his children when he felt we were embellishing the truth was to say, “For the millionth time, don't exaggerate!” We got the message, even if he had to remind us a million times.

Did you know you can't exaggerate God? What a wonderful truth. The dictionary says to exaggerate is to represent something as greater than is actually the case, but God simply can't be represented as anything greater than He truly is.

Think of Him in the highest and most glorious way possible, and He is higher and more glorious. Stretch your mind to its full limit to imagine the vastness of His power, and He is even more powerful. Try to envision the depth and breadth and height of a love that is absolutely pure and perfect, and His love is broader and higher and deeper still. And His holiness is not only beyond comprehension, it is also beyond any attempt to express it.

Job describes the amazing works of God and then says, “how small a whisper we hear of him!” (Job 26:14b). All our thoughts about God are based on those whispers—whispers we find in Scripture, whispers when He meets with us in

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prayer, whispers when we look at creation. Even those whispers are enough to bring us to our knees in humble worship.

I love that God is beyond my wildest imagination, my profoundest thoughts, and my deepest longings. He is greater, higher, holier, wiser, and (thankfully) more loving than my mind can conceive. He is all I need a God for, and even if I say it a million times, it's still gloriously true—He simply cannot be exaggerated!

### Prayer

Dear great and glorious God: How wonderful to walk with a God who is beyond the scope of our greatest thoughts. I love that You are so gloriously above anything we can think or imagine. What we know about You brings us to our knees in worship, and those are just whispers of who You are. We bow in awe of Your greatness. Amen



# An Endless Journey

*“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.* — Isaiah 40:25 (NIV)

I love the vastness of God. He has no edges—no boundaries or borders. There is no limit to Him. We can know Him (how amazing!), but we can never know all of Him. What we know about God—His power, His holiness, His majesty—is enough to bring us to our knees in humble adoration and worship. But what should bring us absolutely prostrate before Him is all that remains mysterious and unknown. All that sets Him apart as God.

Imagine if someone came upon the Grand Canyon and declared, “I have just found the Grand Canyon!” and then turned around and went home. Think of all they would have missed. Imagine all that was yet to be discovered. They did find the Grand Canyon, but finding it was just the beginning of their journey. There were still endless parts yet to be explored.

Where this illustration falls short is, even with its vastness, there is an end to the Grand Canyon, but there is no end to God! Tozer states, “To have found God and still to pursue Him is the soul’s paradox of love.” Usually when something is found, the search is over, but not so with the Almighty. To find Him is just the beginning.

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There are aspects of God that are incomprehensible, aspects of His nature beyond our finite ability to grasp. And that's part of the joy of seeking Him. There simply is no end. There's no point at which we've arrived and can claim full understanding of God. It's an ongoing and soul-satisfying quest. To know God is to love and worship Him. To love and worship Him is to long to know Him better. And on and on goes this glorious and endless journey!

### Prayer

Dear great and glorious God: Thank you for the amazing privilege of knowing You. Job reminds us that what we know of You now is "but the outer fringe" of Your works. One of the joys of heaven will be spending eternity discovering more and more of the wonders of who You are. It truly is an endless journey. Amen

## The Sovereign God

*“The LORD will reign forever and ever.” — Exodus 15:18*

**W**e live in a very unsettled world with unrest between nations and unrest within the borders of many nations. We live with the threat of war and with missiles aimed in our direction. Even our own country is experiencing changes that can't help but be alarming to us as Christians.

In the midst of all of this, I find tremendous comfort and hope in the absolute sovereignty of God. Psalm 47:8 declares “God reigns over the nations.” And I love the reminder in Psalm 33 that “the LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations” (vv. 10–11 NIV).

What a wonderful reminder during unsettled days. God is in charge! He is the sovereign ruler over all! The world situation may be frightening, the changes we see in our own nation may be alarming, but God's plans will stand firm forever—the purposes of His loving heart will remain unchanged through all generations. We have the assurance that “for those who love God all things work together for good” (Romans 8:28). God isn't standing idly by. He is weaving all these threads together

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for His purposes. Nothing that happens today will alter the end of the story God has already written.

The familiar words of Jeremiah 29:11 remind us that God's plans are "for welfare and not for evil, to give...a future and a hope." That future includes a kingdom where we will live with Him for all eternity, where there will be no unrest without or within. But best of all, a kingdom where He will reign in undisputed, absolute sovereignty forever and ever!

### Prayer

Dear Father: I find great comfort in Your sovereignty. Nothing is a surprise to You and nothing will thwart Your purposes from being fulfilled. I love this truth for my own life, for our nation, and for the world. Thank You for letting us know the ending ahead of time. That helps. Amen