

## Star Word: Wonder

When I received my Star Word, “wonder,” my first thought was the definition used to describe something awe-inspiring, astounding, or surprising. I immediately got a nostalgic feeling thinking about how much I loved the look of wonder on my children’s faces when they were younger. I loved watching them experience things for the first time. I thought about how I had seemed to have lost the tendency to marvel at the world around me, and perhaps that’s one of the reasons I enjoyed experiencing my children’s discoveries with them, to see a fresh perspective of things that had become ordinary to me. My Star Word is a reminder to recognize everyday miracles, to marvel at God’s creation, and to appreciate the countless blessings He has given. Psalms 105:2 (BBE) reminds me, “Let your voice be sounding in songs and melody; let all your thoughts be of the wonder of his works.”

The word “wonder” also means to think or speculate curiously. I am, by nature, a very inquisitive person, and this definition seems to fit my personality. Yet, this word hasn’t always held a positive connotation for me. I’ve often said, “I hate waiting and wondering” whenever I allow uncertainty to manifest as stress. In this sense, my Star Word is a reminder to let go of my anxiety and trust that God is in control. I may not know what the future holds, but I can leave it in God’s hands and know that I should not be anxious. Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV) reminds me, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

I “wonder” where next year’s Star Word will lead me. Which scriptures will it prompt me to contemplate? What shortcomings will it challenge me to correct? In what ways might it provide comfort? I look forward to discovering the answers to these and perhaps some unexpected questions as I pray for understanding in the message God has for me through my Star Word.