



**Whether it’s starting a new job, graduating from school, welcoming a new baby, experiencing an empty nest, or simply facing the daily battles of life and faith, it’s comforting when someone comes along and says, “I’ve been here before.”**

It’s even more comforting when they share their lessons learned!

This beautiful gift book offers just that—fresh perspective from those who have braved all sorts of seasons, gathering some lessons and laughs along the way. With more than twenty-five years of experience in work, marriage,

parenting, faith, and music, the GRAMMY-nominated and Dove Award winning ladies of Point of Grace—beloved and longtime CCM artists—share the lessons God has taught them in these areas and many more:

- Faith
- Marriage
- Parenting
- Graduation
- New Jobs
- In-Laws
- Preparing for an Empty Nest
- Priorities and Routines
- Gratitude
- Worry
- Boundaries

**BONUS:** A journaling section is offered in the back of this book so you can record your own lessons learned! Use this writing space to remind yourself of God’s great grace in your life, or use it as a perfectly giftable way to pass on your insights and advice to a loved one who might need your wisdom in a season of transition or celebration.

## **Book information**

- **Jacketed Hardcover:** 192 pages
- **Publisher:** B&H Books (October 27, 2020)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 1535984732
- **ISBN-13:** 9781535984737
- **Product Dimensions:** 8 x 9.125 x 0.5 inches

## **Why Point of Grace?**

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**Publicity requests:** Please direct media requests for Point of Grace to Jenaye White, [Jenaye.white@lifeway.com](mailto:Jenaye.white@lifeway.com), who can provide high-resolution images and other publicity assets and discuss interview availability and content ideas.

- Point of Grace is widely recognized as one of the top Contemporary Christian groups in the United States. They have sold over 8 million records, received 3 GRAMMY® nominations and won multiple Dove awards. This book accompanies their award-winning song of the same name.
- Point of Grace has been featured in outlets such as TBN, Huckabee, Fox and Friends, and more. They have also completed 12 successful tours and written 10 other books.
- “How You Live” gives women who have loved and followed Point of Grace for decades glimpses into their lives and wisdom for any season of life in which they find themselves.
- “How You Live” gives readers the opportunity to not only learn from the women of Point of Grace, but also to journal their own thoughts and wisdom and pass the book down to following generations.



## About Point of Grace

The women of **Point of Grace** have provided a soundtrack to our lives for over two decades. With faith-filled, and passionate lyrics, their memorable melodies and soaring harmonies have inspired generations to live boldly and keep God's love as the foundation of their lives. With over 8 million recordings sold, 3 GRAMMY® nominations, multiple Dove awards, and countless accolades, the story of a few gifted college girls with a simple passion to unite and share their musical gifts for the glory of God continues to evolve and engage thousands of fans, both old and new. Their unique ability to affect audiences with heartfelt song and story is stronger than ever. Each new season of life seems to challenge the trio to reach even higher and dig deeper into their craft, as seen in the musical and lyrical depth of their more recent projects. One can only think that the days ahead are like a burst of light on the horizon, ready to yield even more of the heavenly and timeless artistry we have come to know and love.

## Q&A with Point of Grace

**Why did you write this book? What inspired you to write this book?**

**Shelley:** We had just come off of a two-record “marathon,” basically recording a Christmas record followed very quickly by a worship and hymns project. We were struggling to find inspiration for the next recording, but we were all in agreement that it might be time for us to pen another book.

Throughout the years, we have written devotional books, girls' Bible studies and even a cookbook. The girls and I always enjoy the process of writing, as it is a creative break from our norm. We began to brainstorm topic ideas, and it became very clear that each one of us has a heart for passing along the things that God has taught us (through these 25 years of life and ministry) on to the next generation.

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The “older” teaching the “younger” and preserving the story of Christ from generation to generation are becoming more and more important to us the older that we get. Our own children were probably the biggest inspiration for writing this book.

**Denise:** For so many years, we have loved being allowed to record and sing music that we have prayed would encourage and inspire the listener, but it felt like it was time to share from a much more personal place than just a concert setting. God has been so gracious to us through the years with wonderful people who have shown us what it looks like to live life abundantly here on earth. None of their lives has been perfect either, but they have influenced us in ways that we hope we can share with others.

**Leigh:** Learning from others’ experiences has been beneficial throughout history. This fact still remains, and we believe in its value and importance. In addition to our experiences of growth, we’ve also gained an enormous amount of godly counsel by looking through the lens of our family, friends and mentors’ lives. We hope by “passing it down,” this exercise will stay in motion and benefit readers and their journeys.

### **Who did you write this book for?**

**Shelley:** In our book, we each share vulnerable situations and lessons from our own lives. We wrote this for anyone who would like an honest account of how we have found God and his grace in our personal highs and lows. The stories from our personal journeys are what we have to testify of his work in our day-to-day living, and we want to give him the glory for all of it. I personally see this book in the hands of a bride-to-be, a young girl graduating from high school, a new mom— it’s truly for a wide variety of readers.

**Denise:** For anyone who is experiencing a situation that they need a friend to come alongside them and say, “I get it. I’ve been there. Here are some things I learned through my personal journey and maybe it can help you in yours.” We definitely don’t claim to have all of the answers, but it is nice to know that we don’t walk alone. Every season of life is full of highs and lows, change and growth. Our prayer is that through these changes, the reader can find peace in hearing about our personal seasons.

### **Talk about the process of writing a book together. How is it similar to singing together and making records? How is it different?**

**Shelley:** In writing this book, we each chose topics that we felt we could share something personal about. So it was definitely different from a record where we are together all the time. A lot of work was done on our own, and we would get together from time to time to check in. Honestly, I wasn’t able to really focus and go through Denise’s and Leigh’s essays (as a reader would) until the final edit came to us. I have to admit I was touched by their vulnerability and was immensely proud of what they had written. I told them both I learned a lot by their work, and as a mom and wife, I took away some valuable lessons. I even shed some tears!

**Denise:** If I’m being honest, writing is not my favorite thing to do. I enjoy the process of making music. It’s fun, more relaxed and comes more natural to me. A book can feel more like writing a term paper. It brings about a vulnerability that I’m not always comfortable with. I love singing in a group because the pressure doesn’t feel like it’s on me. In working through these essays, I had to work out my own insecurities of whether it was good enough or would be relevant to others. However, God really met me in this process, and I found myself just writing like I was talking to a friend about the goodness of God and his graciousness in the mistakes I’ve made in my own life. The fun thing about writing separately from Shelley and Leigh is when I had the chance to read their essays it was such an unexpected joy to hear

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what God was doing in their own lives. We are so comfortable with each other that we just assume we know everything about one another, but I learned so much.

**Leigh:** I guess if I chose one similarity between writing this book and recording a record, it would be accountability. I knew Denise and Shelley were going to give it their VERY best, thus I had to, too! We had to dig deep; some topics peeled back layers of great vulnerability. And once we finally read the book

together (each essay out loud), I could see its true worth. Accountability and sisterhood are crucial in this life's narrative. We are the sum of the parts, each bringing her individuality but when combined, it's harmonious.

**How did you decide the topics for the book? How did you decide who would write which essay?**

**Denise:** As we sat in front of a huge dry erase board at the Lifeway office, we wrote all types of topics on the board with thoughts on every scenario in life that we felt like we could relate to. With the help of others, we weeded out some and came up with a big list of topics. The three of us took that list home and went through each topic to pray and ask God to show us a story or experience in our lives that might relate to that topic. Over a few weeks, Shelley, Leigh and I sat together and talked through the topics sharing reasons we could talk about each one. Some were really obvious to who they should go to. Other topics we had to just conquer and divide to the best we knew and trust that God would use us to speak about. If none of us felt like we had something to say, it didn't make the cut.

**Which essay is your favorite or most meaningful? Why?**

**Shelley:** I love the essay I wrote on “Integrity.” In it I get to talk about my husband David and what he has taught me about integrity over the long haul. It's easy to take for granted that your spouse knows what you admire in them, but I'm excited for him to read it for the first time when the book comes out.

**Denise:** I think I love the essay that I wrote on “God's Tone of Voice.” It was such a clear picture I had of how God spoke to me personally through a silly correspondence I had with my son over text. I don't always recognize quickly what I'm hearing from God, so this one feels super authentic and something most readers will be able to relate to.

**Leigh:** My favorite, “Regrets,” wouldn't be the essay itself as much as the message within: each of us has our secrets, some of those are full of paralyzing shame and guilt for things we've done or things that were done to us. But until we recognize and believe God's death on the cross paid the price for your sin, my sin, ALL sin, we won't benefit from his boundless grace and forgiveness. Christ has redeemed us. It's his wonderful gift that is ours! This is why I love this essay, so many of us are still bound up by our past, and we don't look forward to the future. But we can; I'm living proof!

**The book has a unique structure with journal prompts and a space for the reader to respond at the back. Why did you decide to do this? How has journaling been significant in your own lives throughout the years?**

**Denise:** We want this book to be more than just a cute little devotional. We hope that our stories can prompt readers to look deeper into their own personal stories and ask themselves questions that provide space for thought. Journaling is a way to put down in a safe space deepest desires, thoughts and questions. When you write these down, it gives you something tangible to look at and be able to take to God. It's also a way to look back at some point and see how prayers were answered or not answered in

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the way you had thought you wanted, but how God has taken care of you. Our favorite part about the book is that when the readers have something to share, they will be able to give this book to someone else and pass along their own experiences in the back of the book. That's how we pass along our faith!

**What one or two major “life lessons” has God worked in your life so far? How have you grown and changed as a result of those?**

**Shelley:** I am definitely a control freak, and God has very slowly and graciously released my tight grip on life, one “finger” and one situation at a time. I have grown to trust him so much more as he has shown me through each thing I have ever stressed out about that he has me, no matter what the outcome. I am definitely more carefree and less of a worrier than I used to be, but God still has a few fingers to go. Ha!

**Denise:** I have underestimated how God is and has been truly with me in every step of my life. I am a girl who enjoys being secure. I don't like having my boat rocked, but God has allowed me to see that he is the one who has been inside my boat all along and in control of the storm around me. I wish I could say I don't still freak out sometimes when things get rocky, but I know that I'm starting to recognize his presence much quicker and find my security in him.

**Leigh:** God has gently taught me so many amazing lessons. When one receives God's grace in their lives, it's much easier to give grace to others—in EVERY aspect. Being a mom allows me to extend this gift more often than not. LOL. Another life lesson has been praying for a heart of compassion. This has been so rewarding and has often helped me not respond in a negative manner with others' differences. Instead, a heart of compassion helps incorporate a bigger picture of understanding.

Lastly, one I'm still learning is to allow my kids to fail. It's hard to trust God with what he can do during those times of disappointment. Life will always have its challenges, so if we try to prevent our kids from failing, they won't be able to exercise their own faith and trust in Christ. This is a vital part of training them; it just might be a bit more difficult to watch as a parent.

**How can this book encourage readers during these strange times we've been living through in 2020?**

**Denise:** It has been a very unique time of life for all of us. We had the opportunity to actually put one more devotional at the end of the book because we felt that it was important to address. Each of us has been affected in different ways. Hopefully our different perspectives can help the reader to connect with us and point them to the one who is certain in very uncertain times.

**What do you hope readers take away from this book?**

**Denise:** Ultimately we want them to find their hope in God in any and every situation that they go through. We don't have all of the answers, but we do know that God does. It is our responsibility to help each other remember that God is good. He cares about our every need. I pray that our own stories can bring him glory and point someone else to his abundant life, making how we live our lives worthy of his amazing grace.