



CHRONIC JOY® DEVOTIONAL

IF GOD HAD A FRIDGE

By Kara Plett

THE GALLERY ON THE FRIDGE

Recently, I was at a friend's house for coffee (or tea, in my case). As I sat in her kitchen, I noticed her fridge, covered with pictures. I couldn't help but go over and stand in front of it, looking at each one. I recognized some people and wondered who the others were. There were school pictures, a wedding photo with a thank you note, and other prints that must have been from years ago (based on the clothing and hairstyles).

As I scanned the gallery on the fridge, I was reminded of a quote I recently saw on a church sign in my neighborhood. (This church changes the sign regularly to catch people's attention as they drive by.) This week, the sign read:

"IF GOD HAD A FRIDGE, YOUR PICTURE WOULD BE ON IT."

I loved the image created in my mind as I drove by.

Now, here I was, standing in front of my friend's fridge, which had pictures of her loved ones scattered all over it. I reflected again: What if God had a fridge?

Glance at the pictures on your fridge.

How do you feel about the people there? Maybe as you look at the photos on your fridge, you feel pride and deep love, or you are missing someone. Perhaps you're wondering how they are today, or maybe you're worrying about them. How incredible is it that God, in His omniscience, knows exactly where they are right now, how they feel, and what needs they have!

Maybe you need some encouragement today – a reminder of how God looks at you and thinks about you with such love. All of us are on "God's fridge."

Here are some reminders from His word:

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love, he will no longer rebuke you but will rejoice over you with singing. (Zephaniah 3:17)

- He delights in us.
- He rejoices over us.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

- He has a plan for us.
- He wants to give us hope.

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

- We are not alone.
- He holds us up.

It's helpful for me to picture God standing in front of a photo of me and thinking these things about me.

Oh, how He loves us! May we step into today knowing that He cherishes us and knows just what we need.

INVITATION

Chronic Joy has a wonderful resource (*Who Does God Say You Are?*) to remind us of many more things God says about us in His word. Print the page and let it guide you in exploring these truths. As you read each one, imagine God looking at your picture.

PRAYER

Father, thank You for giving us people to love. As we look at the pictures on our fridge, prompt us to pray for those we see there. Help us to remember that You look at us with love, too. You are for us. May we walk in confidence with You today. In Jesus' name, amen.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Which verse do you find most powerful today and why?
- How can you pray for the people on your fridge (or wherever you have pictures in your home) today?
- What would you write on a sign outside a church to tell others how much God loves them?