

Writing from a Deep Well: So Your Stories Bear God's Fingerprints—Even When His Name Isn't Spoken

Christian Writer Con '26 – Michelle Nezat

Handout with answers

If you never mention Jesus... would a reader still see God's *fingerprints* on your work?

THE CALLING — One Life, One Flow

As followers of Christ, we are called to be **ambassadors** for Christ.
God is making His appeal to the world **through** us.

There aren't two buckets—
there's **one life**.
And from that life in Christ, everything **flows**.

Your goal is not to **insert** Jesus,
but to be so **filled** with Him that He **spills** out.

THE PROBLEM — EMPTY AND BROKEN WELLS

“Out of the **overflow** of the heart the **mouth** speaks.”

You can't **overflow** with something you're not **full** of.

In Jeremiah 2, God names two evils:

1. They **forsook** the **fountain** of living water.
2. They dug **broken** cisterns that can hold **no water**.

When we write from empty wells, it may look like:

- Forced “Christian” moments
- Moralizing instead of storytelling
- Writing for **man's** approval
- Producing from **spiritual** dryness

A forced God moment feels **fake**.
But a God-free story from a God-shaped life feels **false**.

THE VISION — A DEEP WELL OVERFLOWING

The goal isn't to insert God like a **plot** device.
The goal is to write from a life that has actually been **with** Him.

A deep well doesn't **announce itself**.
It reveals itself by what **overflows**.

INDICATORS OF A DEEP WELL

1. Presence Before Production

Don't **write** first.
Sit with God first.

A simple rhythm:

- **Scripture**
- **Silence**
- **Response**

We don't write to **get to** God.
We write from having been **with** Him.

2. Noticing God in Everyday Life

A deep well trains your **story** lens.

Redemption usually doesn't **shout**.
It **whispers** through ordinary moments.

This week:

Write down **three** moments where you noticed **grace**.

3. Watch Your Input

What you **consume** will shape what you **create**.

What are you:

- Reading? (**books, articles, Scripture**)
- Watching? (**shows, movies, media**)
- Singing? (**worship, playlists, lyrics**)

A deep well isn't filled **accidentally**.

It's filled **intentionally**.

4. Write *With* God (Not Just *About* Him)

God's people didn't ask:

"**Where** is the Lord?"

The invitation is not to write **for** God,
but to write **with** Him.

5. Stay Connected to the Source

Your writing life cannot **outpace** your spiritual life.

What fills you will shape what **flows** out:

- **Scripture**
- **Worship**
- **Community**
- **Rest**

A deep well isn't formed in **isolation**.

It's shaped through **shared** life with God and with others.

THE PRACTICES — How We Fill the Well

These habits give us a way to show up in God's Word with intention and attention.

Bible Interaction Tool Exercises (BITEs):

1. **Read** in context
2. **Start** with God

3. Learn about **people**
4. **Meditate** on Scripture
5. **Journal** your interaction with God

Education without **application** is entertainment.

INTERACTION PRACTICE — Jeremiah 2

Start With God

Circle at least one example of God's:

- Character (faithful, generous, patient)
- Conduct (led, brought, contended)
- Concerns (being forsaken, replaced, forgotten)

One thing I noticed about God:

He is the Fountain of Living Water — the true source of life, provision, and relationship.

Learn About People (Created / Fallen / Redeemed)

Underline at least one example of:

- Created: **Enjoying the fruits and good things of the land**
 - Fallen: **Forsaking God / chasing worthlessness**
 - Redeemed: **Living as people who remain connected to the true source**
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Journal Your Interaction (Choose ONE)

- What does God want me to **understand**?
- What does God want me to **believe**?
- What does God want me to **desire**?
- What does God want me to **do**?

(Leader note: responses will vary; emphasize *relationship* over “application.”)

INTEGRATION MOMENT — Choose Now, Write Later

WIP Focus

Scene / Character / Plot Point

Track

Scene Work / Character Work / Plot Work

Prompt

(Leader: based on Jeremiah 2 imagery)

Jeremiah Image

Fountain (true source / true need):

God, life, belonging, truth, identity, sustenance

Cistern (substitute / leak):

Approval, control, performance, success, validation, safety apart from God

FINAL COMMISSION

You can't **fake** depth on the page
if you **avoid** depth in your life.

**May you write—not from empty wells—
but from an overflow of living water.**