

Sara Thurman

Author, Creative Educator, Mentor, Artist & Inspiring Speaker

SaraThurman.com



#1 Bestselling Author, Creative Educator,
Mentor, Artist & Inspiring Speaker





Meet Sara

“It all started with a dream.”

~ Sara

Sara Thurman, EdD is founder of **Acts 1:8 Blessings**, a creative art ministry serving creatives all over the world. Sara facilitates spiritual creative retreats and mentors, teaches, writes, and paints to share her love of the connections with God in this devotional process. Sara is also the host of a podcast *Small Beginnings with Sara*. After a successful Season 1 with 25 episodes and guests that present their own Small Beginnings, she is now working on Season 2, which will also include people’s stories of how they have walked through grief as their small beginnings. Her authenticity in sharing her own story draws others to share their story through creativity.

Sara has written two #1 bestselling books: ***Small Beginnings***, her memoir of becoming a prominent artist in her late 50’s with no previous art experience, encouraging others to take the first steps for their own small beginnings, along with an accompanying journal. In 2021, she wrote and illustrated her first children’s book ***How Good Can God Be?*** using her own childhood memories of God’s goodness on a Texas ranch. Her book ***Reflecting on Grief and Moving Beyond Pain*** presents journal entries and reflections on living with loss and discovering new meaning within the first 100 days after her husband passed from this earthly life into eternity. ***27,000 Miles in Love***, which recounts her epic story of faith in marriage with her husband and its legacy, and ***Give Me Some Baby Grins***, the second book in the ***How Good Can God Be*** series, are her most recent books.

Sara enjoys life in Wimberley, Texas, when she is not on an adventure traveling the world, inspiring others on their journey of creativity. Sara lives to motivate and tell others about the goodness of God through encouraging creativity all over the world.

Why Interview Sara?

Sara is a #1 bestselling author, inspiring speaker, and woman of faith. Her natural ability to connect and share with her audiences brings forward her calming approach to life and her transformative expertise. She merges faith, energy, and enthusiasm to empower, and encourage any audience. Learn more now about how to feature Sara's books, interview Sara, or invite Sara to speak at your event.

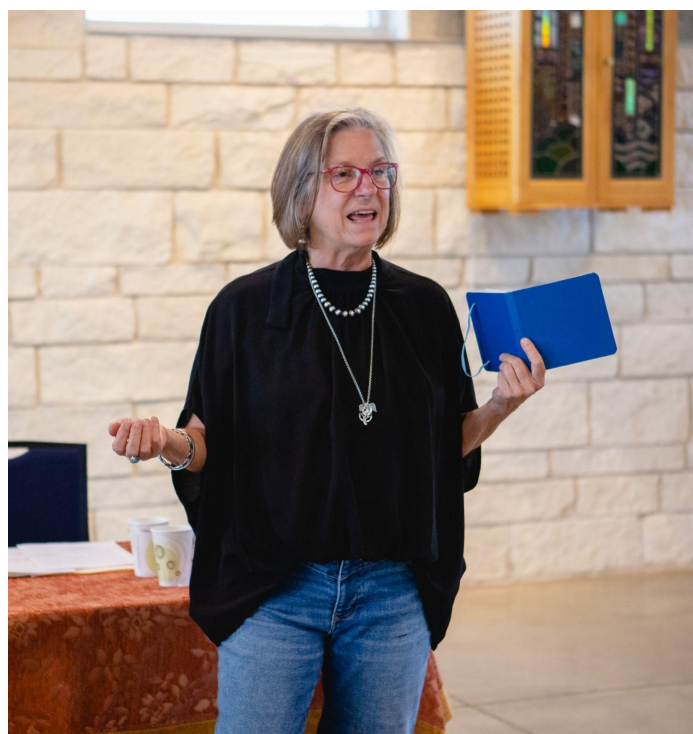
Suggested Interview Topics:

- How intertwining creativity and spirituality can deepen one's relationship with God. The artist, multi-book bestselling author, and Christian mentor Sara Thurman can show you the way.
- Listen to God's calling and pursue your dreams at any age. Learn from Sara Thurman's inspiring story of becoming a prominent artist in her late 50s without prior experience.
- The new book *27,000 Miles in Love* recounts Thurman's epic story of faith in marriage and how small steps and little changes can purposefully make your husband and wife relationship a holy journey.
- How to discover new meaning within the first 100 days after your spouse's passing? Sara Thurman's book *Reflecting on Grief and Moving Beyond Pain* is a heartfelt and personal reflection on loss that can guide your grief journey.
- Shape your children's view of God's goodness with the new book series *How Good Can God Be* by Sara Thurman.

Suggest Discussion Questions:

1. You have spoken about the important connection between creativity and spirituality. How do you see the two intertwining, and how does it deepen one's relationship with God?
2. You say you live to motivate and tell others about the Goodness of God through encouraging creativity worldwide. Where do you get your motivation from?
3. What led you to found Acts 1:8 Blessings, and whose idea was yours or Wayman's? What is the ultimate goal of the ministry? You also offer deep, meaningful, spiritual, creative retreats. What can attendees expect from them? Is it for all types of creatives?

1. How do you balance your work as a Christian mentor, teacher, writer, and painter in your ministry and creative pursuits?
2. In your first memoir, *Small Beginnings*, you share your journey of becoming a prominent artist in your late 50s without prior experience. What advice would you give someone wanting to pursue a creative passion later in life?
3. Your children's book, *How Good Can God Be?*, draws from your childhood memories on a Texas ranch. What inspired you to write a children's book, and how did those memories shape your view of God's goodness?
4. Your book *Reflecting on Grief and Moving Beyond Pain* is a heartfelt and personal reflection on loss. Can you share how you discovered new meaning within the first 100 days after your husband's passing?
5. *27,000 Miles in Love* recounts your epic story of faith in marriage with your husband. Can you share a favorite memory or moment from your journey together?
6. What inspired your second children's book, *Give Me Some Baby Grins*, a heartwarming tribute story of the love and affection a father had for his sons and is now being passed on from generation to generation?
7. As the host of the podcast *Small Beginnings with Sara*, what have been some of your favorite episodes and guests to feature?
8. What are some future projects or plans for *Acts 1:8, Blessings*, and your creative pursuits?



The Books

WHY READ ALL THE BOOKS

Sara's books will expand your knowledge and strengthen your faith in marriage, parenting, grief, and legacy, providing insights and perspectives to help you grow spiritually and live a more purposeful, fulfilling life.

**Each of the books can be purchased through Amazon along with other fine retailers and bookstores globally. Retailers may purchase through Ingram.*



SMALL BEGINNINGS

A Journey to the Impossible

Take a step forward. Enjoy the process. Dare to listen to God's Voice and hope for the impossible.

In *Small Beginnings*, Sara Thurman, artist, author, and founder of a Christian business called **Acts 1:8 Blessings**, pens her inspiring true story of becoming an artist by pursuing God's calling. Sara shares how her creative path intertwines with our own impossible journey by giving hope to what seems unreachable. *Small Beginnings* is anchored on Sara's belief that we all have an innate ability to create and it will teach you how to discover and focus on your own gifts to build a life and work full of purpose.

This woven tapestry of devotional stories and testimonies gives light to the steps she took to reach goals beyond her wildest dreams. For more than 56 years, this former teacher and public school administrator never considered herself an artist. In fact, Sara had never taken a single art class. After believing the truth of a new identity spoken over her, she began to paint and sell her faith-based art. In two short years, she has painted and sold over 800 pieces of Christian inspired art.

Sara writes as if you two are talking in her living room or art studio. These poignant and relatable stories go beyond the art world. She will have you laughing, crying and believing you, too, can reach the impossible and be a servant of God.

LAUNCH DATE – July 1, 2019

BOOK SIZE – 5.5" x 8.5" (13.97 x 21.59 cm)

OF PAGES – 142

PAPERBACK ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-1-0

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-4-1

HARDCOVER ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-0-3

AUDIOBOOK ASIN # – 978-1-7341560-0-3

LCCN # – 2019914606

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SMALL BEGINNINGS - Companion Prayer Journal

A Journey to the Impossible

Have you ever considered your life as a tapestry? God weaves a beautiful tapestry for all of our lives, so ask God to show you His plans in the weaving. I pray He will show you His thread of gold as He weaves beauty and dreams into your story.

God wants to heal our past by bringing beauty from ashes, using our experiences to help define our current realities with our own small beginnings. God redeems things in the past to weave new and beautiful things for your present and future. Using the visual of a tapestry, Sara will help you through guided prayer journaling to ask God to show you how He has woven healing and freedom through your life.

As you go through the book, may God open your ears to hear Him more clearly. May you stretch and grow all of your senses to know Jesus in greater ways as your Great Creator. Through this process of discovering more of God, He will receive more glory for His goodness. With chapters like *Walk Out on the Water: God is up to something in the detours* and *Hold It all Lightly: We are never finished, always in process*, you will be inspired with the Scriptures, meditate with Psalms, and work on the reflections and action steps.

It all leads to one action that can be taken: changing your relationship with God. What is God telling you about your “something impossible” right now? Just start dreaming. You have permission from the God who gave you dreams to take the next step. May this journal bless you.

My prayer is that you will hear clearly from God as you meditate, reflect, and consider the answers to all your questions.

LAUNCH DATE – November 23, 2020

BOOK SIZE – 8" x 10" (20.32 x 25.4 cm)

OF PAGES – 80

PAPERBACK ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-2-7

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-3-4

LCCN # – 2020920560

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HOW GOOD CAN GOD BE?

A Story About A Little Girl And Her Daddy

Have you ever wondered if God loves you? This question has been asked by children of all ages and the answer sometimes is that they feel unloved. We often make the connection with our feelings about God in the heavens, to how we feel about our fathers on earth. If children have grown up in a harsh and unloving environment, they may have made a connection that God also gets angry easily and is not loving.

***How Good Can God Be?* is an inspiring book to all humans who want to feel the universal emotion of love and shows the example of a loving earthly father to his daughter through the growth stages of life, as a reflection of our loving and kind heavenly Father, God.**

Sara Thurman beautifully connects the earthly relationship of father and daughter to the heavenly relationship with God and His children. In *How Good Can God Be?* the dad includes his daughter in purposeful activities on a big ranch in Texas, where they live, while he teaches her how to garden and to patiently wait for the harvest. He also uses words of affirmation to his adult daughter to declare her identity as a loved child. He makes himself present in his daughter's life since she was a little girl and watches her become a teenager and young adult, continuing to be involved in her life.

Offering layered meanings written within the storyline to make the relationship of parent to child positive through a lifetime, *How Good Can God Be?* is a book for all ages and all children. There is even a hide and seek element in the illustrations with an armadillo to add interest to each stage of life. **The purpose behind this book is to give hope to all children, no matter what age, to be able to develop a loving relationship with Father God who wants to spend time, help, teach and affirm His children.**

LAUNCH DATE – September 30, 2021

BOOK SIZE – 8.5" x 8.5" (21.59 x 21.59 cm)

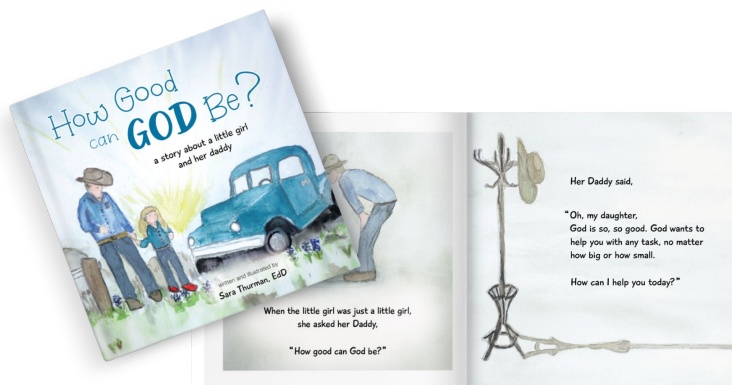
OF PAGES – 28

PAPERBACK ISBN # – 978-17341560-5-8

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-6-5

AUDIO ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-7-2

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REFLECTING ON GRIEF AND MOVING BEYOND PAIN

Living with Loss and Discovering New Meaning

How does one grieve the loss of a loved one? How does one help others in the grieving process?

Losing a loved one is often our greatest fear in life. We are trying to find our way on unfamiliar grounds, not knowing where it will lead us to. Working through grief is such an unknown journey yet, one we must learn to navigate with new meaning and clarity. Without a one size fits all approach to grieving, we are unsure of what to do in our own grief when it hits us. We often don't know what to do or what to say when trying to help others grieving a loss either. Thinking we are going to cause more pain, we do nothing to help the bereaving or we try to "fix them".

By sharing private journal entries of her first 100 days of being a widow, Sara Thurman beautifully shares her heart and struggles of living with the loss of her husband of nearly 35 years. You will be able to see the transitions of healing in her grief journey. Sara even shares her prayers and the beautiful and meaningful responses of Jesus to her prayers and tears of grief.

With valuable insights on what was helpful in the grieving process she practiced herself and what others did to walk with her in the grieving process, *Reflecting on Grief and Moving Beyond Pain* also includes a list of what was NOT helpful for Sara to provide grief education in knowing what to do to help others. **Sara unpacks her new normal with a life even after the first 100 days including some of her self-care practices and reflective writing exercises which moved her from pain to healing. One cannot grieve wrongly; however, this book offers some key strategies to help others learn to live again with loss.**

LAUNCH DATE – November 29, 2021

BOOK SIZE – 5.5" x 8.5" (13.97 x 21.59 cm)

OF PAGES – 170

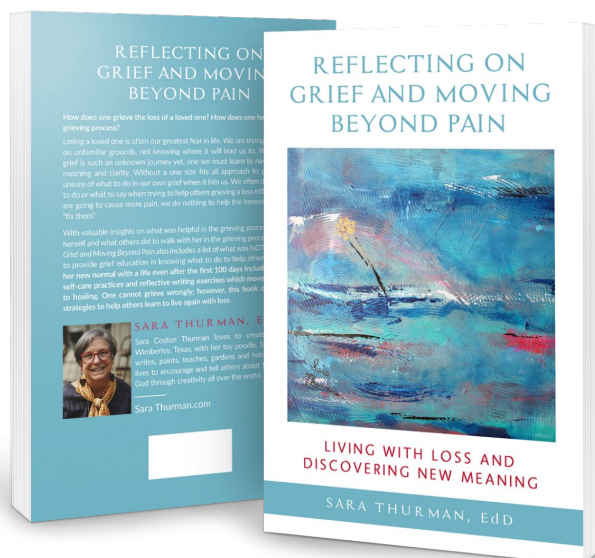
PAPERBACK ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-8-9

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-9-6

AUDIO ISBN # – B0B1HZ66ZD

LCCN # – 2021921411

AMAZON – [Read Now](#)



REFLECTING ON GRIEF AND MOVING BEYOND PAIN

- Companion Reflection Journal

Living with Loss and Discovering New Meaning

May this journal bring healing to your soul.

May you be met with the unfailing love and care from God in these uncharted waters.

May this journal help you move through the pain with grace.

My prayer is you will hear from God as you meditate, reflect, pray and journal using His Word along your unique journey of grief. You are not alone. No one person can fix your grief.

May this journal be an anchor of healing for you and others as you write your own story of grief.

This unique journal will help guide you through 100 days of journaling. Each day includes a scripture passage from the Bible, a prompt for journaling, and a place to respond. It also has a space to write what you hear from God in prayer, called Jesus Stream. **This journal is designed to help guide you in grief by processing and reflecting your emotions and feelings by writing your own story. Finding meaning in your grief and moving through the pain of your loss will become evident as you journal for 100 days.**

LAUNCH DATE – November 29, 2021

BOOK SIZE – 8" x 10" (20.32 x 25.4 cm)

OF PAGES – 138

PAPERBACK ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-2-7

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 978-1-7341560-3-4

LCCN # – 2020920560

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27,000 MILES IN LOVE

An Epic Marriage Story Guided by Faith Leaving a Legacy

How small steps and little changes can purposefully make your spousal relationship a holy journey.

Are you weary in your marriage relationship and not feeling heard? Does your spouse seem more interested in other things than you? Are disagreements on finances and parenting strategies constant? Do you feel you are going down two different paths with your faith walk but don't know what to do?

27,000 Miles in Love shares the nitty gritty of Sara and Wayman Thurman's difficult journey with infertility, bankruptcy, and financial struggles. Although they encountered disagreements and tough decisions throughout their 35 years of marriage and a twenty-year age difference, their marriage was an epic love story, a union of faith which guided them every step of the way.

Their daily walks that totaled more than 27,000 miles set their marriage apart. This time spent together holding hands, and walking and talking fueled rhythms of clear communication between them. When conflict arose about finances, parenting, or anything else, they were able to come to an agreement and move forward in step with each other.

This vulnerable story of a husband and wife will encourage you to focus on clear communication by taking a daily walk. And when you look for ways to serve your spouse, you will increase respect and honor in your marriage in ways you never imagined. And, at the end of each section, Sara provides suggestions to improve your relationship for that season of your marriage. Even if you are not married, *27,000 Miles in Love* will give you encouragement in your heart for what a marriage should be like.

LAUNCH DATE – May 4, 2023

BOOK SIZE – 5.5" x 8.5" (13.97 x 21.59 cm)

OF PAGES – 122

PAPERBACK ISBN # – 979-8-9852011-2-3

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 979-8-9852011-3-0

LCCN # – 2023907631

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GIVE ME SOME BABY GRINS

A Story about a Dad and His Sons

There was once a little boy who grew up in the sandy red dirt fields of West Texas where the horned toads and rattlesnakes roamed. This little boy did not get told he was loved by his father. In fact, he never was told he was loved or that his dad was proud of him. He made a promise to himself that when he became a father someday, he would be sure to tell his sons he loved them and he was proud of them, and he did. With positive words of encouragement, sage advice, and undivided attention, he showered his sons with unconditional love creating a multi-generational blessing's tradition.

Give Me Some Baby Grins is a heartwarming tribute story of the love and affection a father had for his sons that now pours over his grandchildren and will continue to do so FOR GENERATIONS. It will inspire you to do the same and never spend a day without telling your children you love and care for them.

LAUNCH DATE – July 1, 2023

BOOK SIZE – 8.5" x 8.5" (21.59 x 21.59 cm)

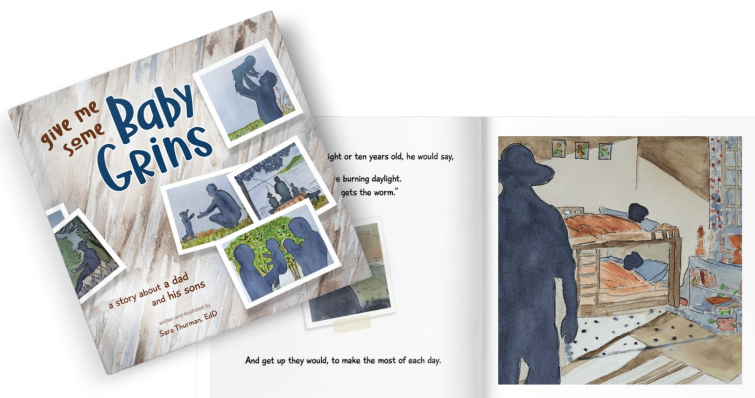
OF PAGES – 28

PAPERBACK ISBN # – 979-8-9852011-4-7

ELECTRONIC ISBN # – 979-8-9852011-5-4

LCCN # – 2023907889

AMAZON – Launching July 1, 2023





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*Better Together. It will be a blessing for us to connect.
Please reach out to me today!*

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