

Walking Through School With Jesus



VISHAL SETHI

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*A Testimony of Misunderstanding,
Spiritual Warfare, and God's Faithfulness*

Vishal Sethi

“Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

Matthew 28:20 (KJV)

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

Galatians 6:9 (KJV)

Dedication

This book is lovingly dedicated to my late aunt, Kanta.

You taught me, often without many words, what it means to persevere when life is hard and the path is long. You carried quiet strength, steady faith, and a stubborn love that refused to give up.

In seasons when it felt like no one understood, your example reminded me that God sees every tear and honors every step taken in faith. Thank you for showing me how to keep going, how to trust God in the dark, and how to believe that His plans are still good, even when the road runs through disappointment.

May the same God who carried you, and who has carried me, use this book to encourage every student, every parent, and every reader who feels forgotten, misunderstood, or left behind. Your legacy of perseverance lives on in these pages.

With love,
Vishal

Foreword

There are some stories that do more than explain what happened in a person's life. They help us see what God was doing behind the scenes, even when things were painful, confusing, or unfair. This is one of those stories.

In these pages, Vishal shares from his heart about growing up, going to school, wrestling with feelings of being overlooked, and trying to understand why it seemed like he did not do as well as he could have. On the surface, it might look like just another story of a student who struggled in school. But as you read, you will see that there is much more going on.

There is a moment early in his journey that seems small and even humorous at first: a little boy in grade one walking past his sister in the hallway and letting out a belch in her face. The kids laugh, someone gives him a high five, and life moves on. But later, the Lord revealed something deeper. The enemy of our souls twisted that moment into a lie in his sister's heart: "Your brother does not care about you. He disrespects you. He is against you." From there, things began to feel different. Control, distance, and tension grew. Teachers seemed not to care. Friends did not step in to help. School became a place of

struggle rather than support.

What Vishal describes is more than just a difficult school experience. It is a picture of spiritual warfare—subtle, quiet, yet very real. The Bible tells us that we have an adversary, the devil, who is “a liar, and the father of it” (John 8:44, KJV). He takes small moments and whispers lies, trying to create division, bitterness, and hopelessness. He wants brothers and sisters to be separated. He wants students to believe they are alone and that no one cares. He wants God’s children to give up.

But that is not the end of the story.

Through years of working, pressing, fighting discouragement, and crying out to God, Vishal came to see that Jesus had been walking with him the entire time. Even when teachers did not notice his potential, even when friends were silent, and even when family relationships were strained, the Lord never left him. In Christ, he has discovered that your value is not determined by your report card, your popularity, or how many people cheer you on. Your worth is anchored in the heart of a God who loves you, sees you, and has a plan for your life.

This book is written especially with young students in mind, but it carries a message for readers of every age. If you have ever asked questions like, “Why did I not do better in school?” or “Why did no one seem to help me?” or “Why does it feel like the cards have been stacked against me?”—you will find comfort and clarity in these pages.

Vishal does not pretend that everything has been easy. He does not deny the pain of feeling overlooked or mis-

understood. Instead, he invites you to look at your story through the lens of Scripture. You will read about perseverance, the long race of life, and the God who promises that if we do not grow weary in well-doing, we will reap in due season if we do not faint (Galatians 6:9). You will see that even when the enemy tries to line things up against you, God is still able to bless you, heal you, and lead you into the purpose He has for you.

As you read, you will also find prayers and declarations you can speak over your own life. You will be invited to stand on God's Word, to forgive where there has been hurt, to release bitterness, and to trust that the Lord is able to redeem every chapter of your story. If you are not yet a believer in Jesus Christ, there is also a clear invitation and a sinner's prayer toward the end of the book, so that you can begin a relationship with the One who walks with you through every hallway and every season.

My prayer is that as you journey through this book, you will not only understand more about Vishal's testimony—you will begin to see your own with new eyes. May the Holy Spirit use these words to pull down lies, expose the schemes of the enemy, and lift your heart with hope. You are not forgotten. You are not alone. The race is long, but you do not run it by yourself. Jesus is with you, step by step, day by day.

A Friend in Christ

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CHAPTER 1

The Belch in the Hallway

I was only in grade one when it happened. It was one of those ordinary school days where nothing felt special, nothing felt unusual, and nothing felt out of place. My class was walking down the hallway in a straight line, heading either to an assembly, gym class, or some routine destination. At that age, you do not pay much attention to the purpose—you simply follow your classmates, step by step, because the teacher says, “Let’s go.”

On that particular day, as my class moved through the hallway, we crossed paths with my older sister’s class. They were a grade ahead of us, walking in the opposite direction. As we passed each other, something mischievous rose up in me—a childish urge, nothing more. I leaned over toward my sister and belched right in her face.

It was not anger. It was not hatred. It was not disrespect. It was childish silliness. Just a little boy trying to be funny, trying to get a reaction. And I did. One of her classmates gave me a high-five and laughed. The moment passed quickly. My class kept walking. Life continued. I did not think about it again for years.

But the enemy did.

Later in my life, the Lord revealed something profound to me: that moment in the hallway became a doorway. The devil used it to whisper lies to my sister's heart. He planted a thought: *"Your brother doesn't care about you. He disrespects you. He thinks nothing of you."* She never said those words out loud, but her behavior toward me began to shift. Something changed. A quiet distance grew between us.

The Bible says, "Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:27, KJV). All he needs is a moment, a misunderstanding, or a hurt feeling to plant division. And once he plants it, he nurtures it with lies, assumptions, and emotional reactions that grow roots deep into the heart.

I did not know any of this at the time. I was just a kid. But that one hallway moment—that silly belch—became the beginning of a spiritual battle I did not understand.

And it did not stop with my sister.

Slowly, classmates became distant. Teachers seemed not to care. I struggled through subjects that I should have excelled in. It felt like the support that every child should naturally have—from teachers, friends, peers—was missing from my life. I did not know why. It just felt like something unseen was stacked against me.

What I later realized is that misunderstanding often opens the door for spiritual attack. Where there is confusion, the enemy whispers. Where there is hurt, he accuses. Where there is immaturity, he lies.

And yet, through all of this, God had a plan. I just could not see it yet.

CHAPTER 2

When Misunderstanding Becomes Warfare

The devil is subtle. He rarely shows up in the ways we imagine—with horns or fire or dramatic displays. Instead, he works through thoughts, assumptions, whispers, and misunderstandings.

Jesus said plainly, “He is a liar, and the father of it” (John 8:44). His strategy is to twist, distort, and manipulate the truth until the truth becomes unrecognizable.

That is exactly what happened with my sister.

She did not wake up the next morning thinking, “I’m going to treat my brother differently.” She did not consciously decide to distance herself or take on a more controlling posture. But the enemy used that one childish moment to slip in a lie: **“Your brother thinks nothing of you.”**

What begins as a feeling becomes a belief. What becomes a belief shapes behavior.

And as her behavior changed, my environment changed.

I began to sense that something was off. Teachers seemed more impatient with me. I received less under-

standing, less patience, less support. Children are perceptive. You can feel when someone does not care—when someone has written you off, underestimated you, or made assumptions about your character.

School became a lonely place. I struggled not only academically but emotionally. It felt like invisible walls were erected around me. Everyone else seemed to have teachers who encouraged them, supported them, and celebrated their growth. Meanwhile, I felt like I was fighting alone.

But here's the truth the Lord showed me later:

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” (Ephesians 6:12, KJV)

My sister was not the enemy. My teachers were not the enemy. My classmates were not the enemy.

It was spiritual warfare.

The devil saw potential on my life. He saw calling. He saw a future testimony. And he wanted to shut it down early—by isolating me, confusing me, and making me feel worthless.

But he underestimated something far more powerful:

God's purpose. God's grace. God's plan for my life. God's ability to redeem every chapter of my story.

CHAPTER 3

Why I Didn't Do Better in School

People often assume that if someone does not perform well in school, they must not be smart, disciplined, or capable. But life is not that simple. What happens in the spirit can affect what happens in the classroom.

Looking back, I now realize the truth:

I did not fail because I was not smart. I struggled because I was under spiritual pressure with no support system.

When a child feels unsupported, misunderstood, or unseen, it affects their confidence. Confidence affects performance. And performance affects opportunities. A cycle begins.

Teachers did not offer extra help. Friends did not step in to encourage me. Adults did not advocate for me. It felt like all the places where children normally receive support had been cut off.

This is what spiritual warfare looks like—not always dramatic attacks, but subtle systems of discouragement

designed to wear down the soul.

The Bible says:

“Hope deferred maketh the heart sick.” (Proverbs 13:12, KJV)

When hope is constantly delayed, when encouragement is lacking, when you feel like the cards are stacked against you, something in the heart grows weary.

But here is the part that amazes me when I look back:

Even though I struggled academically, God kept me. Even though I felt unsupported, God carried me. Even though I did not understand the battle I was in, God protected my future.

I may not have done better in school, but I am still here. I am still standing. And God is still writing my story.

CHAPTER 4

When God Stands With You

One of the greatest revelations of my life is this:

When everyone else steps away, Jesus steps closer.

When I think back to how isolated I felt in school, I now realize that Jesus was with me in every hallway, every classroom, every lonely moment, and every silent struggle.

He saw what no one else saw.

He saw the potential in me when teachers overlooked it. He saw the pain in me when friends ignored it. He saw the spiritual attack when I did not understand it.

The Bible says:

“When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.” (Psalm 27:10, KJV)

This is not saying parents always abandon their children. It is saying that even if every earthly support system fails, God Himself becomes the support you need.

He becomes your counselor. He becomes your advocate. He becomes your encouragement. He becomes your strength.

There were many moments when I felt like giving up. Many nights I wondered what was wrong with me, why school felt so hard, why I never seemed to get the help others received so easily.

But looking back, I can see the fingerprints of God all over my journey.

He was shaping me into someone who can endure. He was teaching me to rely on Him, not people. He was preparing me for a future where perseverance would become my strength.

And the truth is, every student—every young person reading this—needs to know:

Your struggle is not a sign of God's absence. Your struggle may be the very place where God is forming you.

If you feel alone in school, Jesus is walking with you. If you feel misunderstood, He understands you perfectly. If you feel like the odds are stacked against you, He is the God who overturns every card the enemy tries to stack.

CHAPTER 5

The Race Is Long

Life is not a sprint. It is not a quick dash from one success to another. It is a long, steady race.

The Bible says:

“Let us run with patience the race that is set before us.” (Hebrews 12:1, KJV)

Patience does not mean slowness. Patience means endurance. Patience means perseverance.

What matters most is not how fast you start, but how faithfully you continue.

Some people excel in school early but struggle later in life. Some struggle early but rise later with strength, character, and wisdom. God is not measuring you by the grades of your childhood but by the faith you develop through the journey.

My story is living proof that God can bless you, lift you, and prosper you—even if you did not shine academically, and even if your support system failed you.

It is written:

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due

season we shall reap, if we faint not.” (Galatians 6:9, KJV)

Your due season will come. Your breakthrough will come. Your blessing will come. Your harvest will come.

The key is simple: keep walking with Jesus.

When the enemy stacks the cards against you, keep walking with Jesus. When misunderstanding surrounds you, keep walking with Jesus. When discouragement pulls at your heart, keep walking with Jesus.

He will get you to the finish line.

CHAPTER 6

What Young Students Can Learn

This book is written not only as a testimony but also as wisdom for every young person who feels discouraged, overlooked, or confused about their school experience.

Here are truths I wish someone had told me when I was young:

1. A moment does not define your worth.

One misunderstanding or mistake does not shape who you are. You are more than a single moment in a hallway.

2. Spiritual warfare is real.

Not every problem is academic or emotional. Sometimes the enemy is trying to discourage you because he sees your potential.

3. Jesus walks with you even when people don't.

You may feel alone, but you are never abandoned.

4. Perseverance matters more than perfection.

Even if school is hard, if you keep pressing forward, you will see the blessing of God.

5. Your future is bigger than your childhood struggles.

God has plans for you that go far beyond your school years.

And finally:

God can redeem every chapter of your story.

Whatever you are facing now, He can use it for your good and for His glory.

CHAPTER 7

Prayers for Perseverance, Healing, and Strength

God never intended for you to go through school, life, or spiritual battles alone. Prayer is not a ritual—it is a lifeline. It is how you receive strength, clarity, healing, direction, and comfort from the Lord.

Below are prayers you can speak over your life as you walk through difficult seasons, especially when you feel unseen or unsupported.

A Prayer for When You Feel Alone

Heavenly Father, I come before You with honesty and humility. There are moments when I feel alone, unseen, and misunderstood. But Your Word says You will never leave me nor forsake me. Lord, remind me that You walk with me into every classroom, every hallway, every situation. Fill my heart with Your peace and assurance. Help me feel Your presence beside me right now. In Jesus' name, Amen.

A Prayer for When the Enemy Lies to You

Lord Jesus, I reject every lie the enemy has spoken over my life. Every thought of inferiority, failure, shame, or rejection—I cast it down in Your mighty name. Let the truth of Your Word replace every lie. Strengthen my mind. Guard my heart. Fill me with confidence and boldness in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

A Prayer for Perseverance in the Long Race

Father, You see how tired I am on some days. You know the battles I face and the discouragement I feel. Your Word tells me not to grow weary in well-doing. So today, Lord, refresh my spirit. Renew my strength. Give me the endurance to keep going, even when things are hard. Help me run the race with patience. In Jesus' name, Amen.

A Prayer for Healing from Past Hurts

Jesus, You know everything I've been through—the misunderstandings, the disappointments, the moments I felt rejected. Heal every wound that still hurts today. Break every chain the enemy tried to put on my life. Restore my joy. Restore my confidence. Restore my peace. I trust You with my story. In Your name, Amen.

A Prayer for Students Going Through Difficulties

Lord, I lift up every student who feels discouraged, who struggles in school, who feels unseen or unsupported. Wrap Your loving arms around them. Let them know they are valued, chosen, and deeply loved by You. Give them strength. Give them wisdom. Give them hope. And walk with them daily, just as You walked with me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

CHAPTER 8

Declarations for Victory and Identity

Declarations train your spirit to believe the truth about who you are in Christ. Speak these aloud with authority.

Declarations:

- **I am not alone. Jesus walks with me daily.**
- **I am loved, valued, and created with purpose.**
- **I reject every lie of the enemy over my life.**
- **I will not compare myself to others. God's plan for me is unique.**
- **I choose forgiveness, healing, and freedom.**
- **My past does not determine my future. God does.**
- **I have the mind of Christ and the strength of the Holy Spirit.**
- **I am running my race with patience and perseverance.**

- **What God has for me, no one can take away.**
- **I will fulfill the destiny God has planned for me.**

Each declaration uproots lies and plants truth. Say them daily. Say them boldly. Say them with faith.

CHAPTER 9

The Sinner's Prayer

If you have never received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, or if you want to rededicate your life to Him, this is your moment. He is ready to forgive, restore, and walk with you—just as He walked with me.

Pray this with sincerity:

Lord Jesus, I come to You today because I need You. I confess that I am a sinner and I need Your forgiveness. I believe You died on the cross for my sins and rose again. I open my heart and ask You to come into my life. Be my Lord, my Savior, and my closest friend. Walk with me from this day forward. Thank You for saving me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

If you prayed that prayer, your life has changed forever. Heaven rejoices. And Jesus now walks with you—not only through school, but through every chapter of your life.

CHAPTER 10

Closing Encouragement: God Will Finish Your Story

If there is one message I want every reader—every young student, every parent, every person carrying old wounds—to remember, it is this:

God finishes what He starts.

You may feel like your life has been shaped by misunderstandings. You may feel like school bruised your confidence or affected your future. You may feel like the enemy stacked the cards against you.

But listen:

The story is not over. Your struggle is not the end. Your past is not your prophecy.

The same God who walked with me through years of loneliness, confusion, and hardship— that same Jesus walks with you right now.

The race is long, but God is faithful. You will reap if you do not faint. And the blessing of the Lord will meet

you in due season.

Your story is going to glorify God. Your future is secure in His hands. And your life will be a testimony of His goodness.

Hold your head high. Walk with Jesus. He will lead you all the way home.

To God be the glory.

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Scripture quotations from the King James Version (KJV).

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