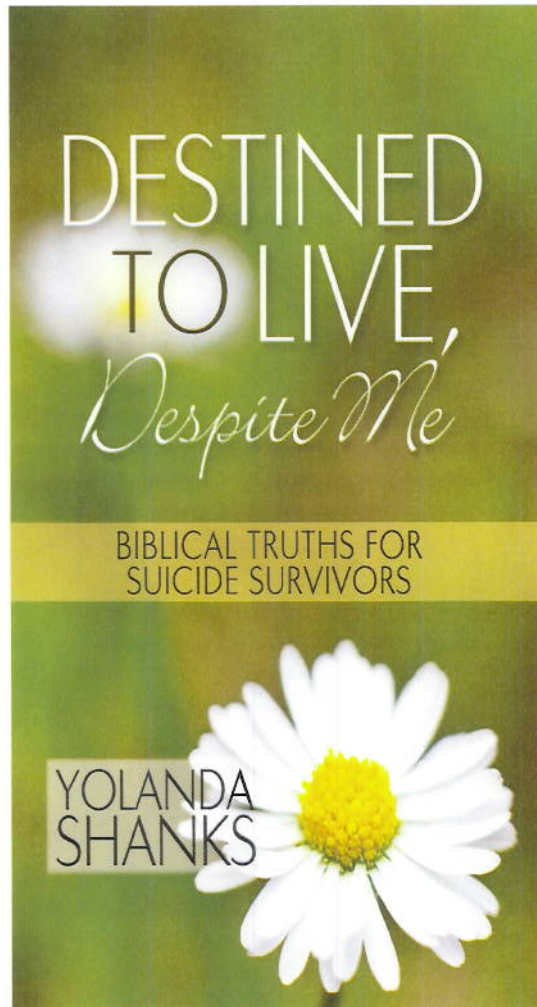


Destined to Live, Despite Me - Biblical Truths for Suicide Survivors

Yolanda Shanks



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Focus

Destined To Live, Despite Me speaks on the topic of suicide directly to the actual suicide attempter in terms of **spiritual direction**, after they have sought counseling. It's coffee table tone also invites anyone, including individuals who may not have ever contemplated suicide, but who simply need direction in living a meaningful and purposeful life built on biblical truth. While **D2LDM** steers clear of giving medical or psychological guidance (The author understands and supports the need of individuals obtaining necessary medical counseling first), it doesn't apologize for its direct approach in providing spiritual guidance for the rebuilding of one's life on the fundamentals of our faith in God, and salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Exhaustive Detail

Choosing to deliberately live life to its fullest; in peace and freedom, yet not absent from the storms of life, which are certain to come, but "through" the torrent conditions during this journey requires something other than "a name and claim it attitude" or "a wishful thinking mindset." It demands faith in our Creator to perform the work that He has begun in us.

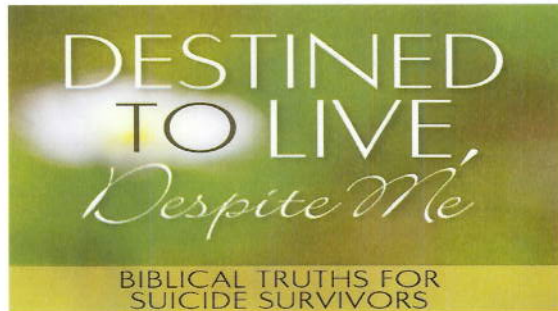
Transparent & Engaging Conversational Style

This book takes the authors previous suicidal thoughts to achieve an atmosphere, which incites Q & A with regards to matters of eternal salvation. This book encourages readers to perform their own self-evaluation and keeps readers attention.

About the Author

Yolanda A. Shanks is a Bible study facilitator and small group leader. Having survived a suicide attempt early in life, Yolanda writes with warmth and compassion offering scriptural truths and practical solutions for the many painful issues attempted suicide survivors face. Yolanda has an amazing family and a rewarding career.

Destined to Live, Despite Me -
Yolanda Shanks



Endorsements

This book is a blueprint for the journey from life's breaking point to the victorious life in Jesus Christ. God allows people to have extreme experiences, and then live to talk about it so they can be a blessing to others. Yolanda takes her experiences and uses them to guide, direct and strengthen those of us who find ourselves dangling on the EDGE.

— **Ralph Fairley**, Pastor
Fort Bend Bible Fellowship

Enlightening and inspirational. This journey from embracing the edge of death to its very brink, to embracing and experiencing the love of God, is truly an inspiring story.

— **M.V. Ellison**, Pastor
Zion Hill Baptist Church

Destined to Live is destined to become a life-altering encounter for those who embrace this piece of work. It is written from the heart and valiantly declares and offers Jesus as the solution for life's struggle. For those who share this writer's story: I personally believe you will be blessed.

— **Henry Thomas, Jr.**
Pastor, True Fellowship Baptist
Church

Marketing

Public Speaking Engagements: Yolanda has been actively teaching biblical principles in living life deliberately, and participating in speaking engagements advocating suicide.

Radio/ T.V. Interviews: Yolanda has hired Marketing Consultant, Marnita Coleman, who has begun booking interviews across the country.

Mass Mail Marketing Campaign: We have created a list with well over one hundred national, regional, and local crisis centers focused on suicide prevention and the recovery of attempted survivors. Strategic efforts such as introductory letters, partnership requests, and free book copies, are being sent to these entities plus Church organizations announcing new book as an available resource. Efforts are unremitting.

Strategic Blog/Local Newspaper Ads: These ads are currently being placed within Christian community.

Social Networking: Yolanda is actively utilizing all contacts on facebook, blogs, and eblasts.

Strategic Partnerships: Yolanda will continue to look for venues, both online and off, to keep up the momentum in creating a buzz regarding suicide prevention and deliberately living life to its fullest in Christ.

Dear Media,

What sets *Destined To Live, Despite Me* apart?

With an abundant amount of books available providing important details on statistical data, recognizing the signs of suicide, psychological books of study, and books instructing individuals in learning how to pick up the pieces after a love one commits suicide, one might discharge *Destined To Live, Despite Me* as just another biography or self help book. Well hold on, not so fast... **What makes it different?**

Well, we are glad that you asked – Enclosed please find a press kit created personally for you!

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Introduction

- *A Quest for Truth*
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Chapter 1

I wish that I was dead and that I had never been born!

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- *What Course of Action Do I Take in Times of Storm?*
 - *Most disturbances in our lives form with little or no warning.*
 - *Storms can start off small and can change drastically overnight.*
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- *Where Can I Find Shelter from the Storm?*
- *What Foundation Is My New Home Built Upon?*



Houston Author Yolanda Shanks Releases New Book, 'Destined to Live, Despite Me,' Eradicating the Mask from Suicide

HOUSTON, July 19 /PRNewswire/ – According to published statistics by the CDC - *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* - in the United States it is estimated that 91 people will commit suicide this very day. This is equivalent to one successful suicide every 16 minutes. The CDC Summer of 2009 Statistics Publication article "Facts at a Glance" listed suicide as the eleventh leading cause of death among Americans, the second leading cause of death among 25- to 34-year-olds, and the third leading cause of death among 15- to 24-year-olds. The data states that suicide deaths are only part of the problem since more people actually survive suicide attempts than who actually die from suicide (<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/Suicide-DataSheet-a.pdf>).

Having survived a suicide attempt early in life, writer Yolanda Shanks, author of "Destined To Live, Despite Me," understands and tackles the stigma associated with surviving suicide directly. Shanks writes with warmth and compassion outlining the biblical approach to rebuilding one's life. Shanks offers scriptural truths and practical solutions for the many painful issues suicide-attempt survivors face after they have sought and obtained needed medical counseling.

As stated within the "U.S. Public Health Service, *The Surgeon General's Call To Action To Prevent Suicide*. Washington, DC: 1999" (<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/calltoaction/calitoaction.htm>), "Suicide is a serious public health problem." Shanks agrees: "As the American people continue to struggle with economic calamities, social woes, and family breakdowns, God is the inexhaustible component to combat this problem and provide spiritual healing."

Senior Pastor, Alief Baptist Church, Houston, TX, Donald G. Burgs, Jr., states, "This is the time for a book such as this! 'Destined to Live, Despite Me' shares with the reader Mrs. Shank's story of why and how she survived the attempt of suicide during her teenage years. Further, Yolanda expresses to the readers how she, as well as they, must toss the 'cookie-cutter image' of the face of suicide. Many more people within our church communities need to be as open, focused, and passionate about assisting persons within our congregation who wrestle with thoughts of taking their own lives. This is a definitive word with biblical principles for attempted suicide survivors."

With no medical or counseling background, Shanks has embraced a sensitive topic valiantly. She says, "In truth, *absolutely everyone has a breaking point*, whether they believe it or not. I am certain that this book will assist anyone who simply needs spiritual direction for purposeful and meaningful living!"

This book is written for everybody who has a PAST and a PRESENT, because it gives *Hope* for the FUTURE.

Media: Please contact author for interviews or review copies, or visit <http://www.yolandashanks.com> ("Attn: Media") for cover art and sample chapter.

ISBN: 978-0-578-05468-1; **Retail Price:** \$14.99; **Paperback;** **Pages:** 144; **Purchases:** Barnes and Noble, Anchor Distributors, through <http://www.yolandashanks.com> and at 888-433-3788.

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SOURCE Yolanda Shanks

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*One dollar from the sale of each copy of *Destined to Live, Despite Me* will be donated to the American Association of Suicidology's (AAS) One Million Voices Campaign, designed to raise one million dollars, **one dollar at a time**, toward the prevention of suicide. Learn more at:

<http://www.suicidology.org/web/guest/donate>