

Ideas for New Things This Summer

1. Make a scrapbook of favorite memories, including photos you love.
2. Write a poem or song to praise and thank God.
3. Start each morning by thanking God for 5 everyday things (examples: a hot shower, clean sheets, a cup of good coffee, sweet watermelons and strawberries, a hug from someone you love, the fragrance of your favorite perfume, the mockingbird's song, bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwiches, the laughter of a little girl dancing with red shoes and a pink tutu)
4. Take lessons in piano or guitar, flower arranging, gardening, painting, or learning to speak Spanish.
5. Invite a homeless person to enjoy coffee and biscuit out with you, and listen to her story and then pray with her.
6. Plant a backyard garden (even in pots) and enjoy homegrown tomatoes!
7. Write thank you notes to 5 people who have influenced your life in some way.
8. Try journaling a little each day after you read from Scripture and talk to your Father.
9. Make 5 new recipes (you know, all the ones you've collected but never tried!).
10. Find a walking partner and set a time each day to walk at least 20 minutes (hopefully outside).
11. Clean out a closet and keep only the clothes you really enjoy wearing. Get rid of anything you haven't worn in the last year, that doesn't fit, that you don't really like. Choose 5 attractive items to give away. No, you don't really need 38 tee shirts or sweaters!
12. Read a new book at least every 3 weeks this summer! Get recommendations from people you admire and trust. Try biographies of outstanding Christians, a new book by a favorite author, or book that promotes spiritual growth. I recently read Calvin Miller's biography, *Life is Mostly Edges*, to my husband, and we alternately laughed and cried through it. It is a wonderful story that will enrich your life! If you haven't read *Heaven* by Randy Alcorn, make that a *must* read this summer.

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