



EXERCISE YOUR AUTHENTIC WRITER'S VOICE

a workbook by A Little Light

Your writing voice is a muscle that needs to be exercised. As we spend day after day writing something starts to happen. We learn that each piece needs a message, which ultimately helps us learn more about ourselves and the messages we really believe. As we uncover these deeper philosophies, views, and ideas we also widen our scope on ways to word them and convey them.

Practicing will result in your writing becoming more creative and satisfying to write. Your storytelling will become more entertaining. Your message will be conveyed more concisely and clearly.

The practice of writing on a regular basis allows us to make space for it, think about throughout our day and develop our authentic voice. If we can spend 10 minutes a day practicing our emoji use on facebook then we can spend 10 minutes a day writing something, anything.

**SIMPLE WAYS TO
EXERCISE YOUR
WRITING SKILLS
AND DEVELOP
YOUR AUTHENTIC
WRITER'S VOICE**

a little light



SWITCH MODES

We often get channeled into one mode of writing - of course, you should stick with what is working well, but new approaches to writing allow you to expand your repertoire.

Write....

- a handwritten letter
- a cold email to someone who doesn't know you
- a list (google list prompts for some great ideas)
- a summary of information
- in your private journal
- within the margins of your fave book
- stream of consciousness writing
- outline a novel idea
- outline a blog post idea
- list of headline ideas

CHANGE THE SCENERY

Most of us need to write in uninterrupted silence. Try writing in unique places with unique background to rustle up some new tones to our words.

- write at a bar with glass of wine or at a cafe with a chia latte
- write alone in your basement or with your family at the kitchen table
- write in the early morning, in the dark of night
- write near a window while it's raining, or outside in the sun

LISTEN TO YOUR VOICE

Your voice will change depending on your audience, but it is still your voice. Pay attention to how you talk to different people in your life, and how you listen to and process the words of others.

- write a conversation you just had
- write about a conversation you just heard
- write like it is anonymous, what do you really want to be saying but are holding back
- write to a specific audience you haven't before (your kids, professionals, creatives, etc.)

GET INSPIRED

We often forget that we can turn to God to inspire our writing. He has crafted us to create and it pleases him to see us enjoy it, practice it and produce good work.

- pray for your inspiration
- listen to different types of music
- listen to podcasts
- read a book
- read your fave blogger

WRITE WITH YOUR SENSES

Good writers can describe a scene to make you feel like you are experiencing it rather than observing it. Don't get lost in adjectives and redundant descriptions, but write for the full sense experience.

- draw from where you are drawn when you describe the scene (e.g. physical people pay attention to and are apt to describe body language, posture, proximity. Vocal people pay attention to tone, volume, and projection
- think of the connections between senses and emotion, the smell of cookies makes us feel something different than the smell of campfires.

REWRITE IT

There are a few camps of writers. Some get it out of their brain and immediately press publish. Some agonize through draft after draft after draft in an attempt to perfect it. The sweet spot is often somewhere in the middle. The editing stage is vital to refining each piece and teaching you about your own writing.

- go back to old posts and rewrite them
- rewrite someone else's post (privately of course)
- write from another character's point of view
- never stick with the first joke/conclusion/big message, scrolling through ideas will often uncover a better punchline.

read: tips on making your blog post more readable

PRACTICE WITH PROMPTS

Every writer has that period of time where they feel like they have no ideas about what to write on, but they have that urge to write or feel the discipline to practice. Writing prompts are a fun way to uncover new writing that you might not have otherwise found. Google has many prompts, there are sites with generators, and blog link ups based on them. Here are a few ideas...

- One thing that infuriates me ...
- God didn't answer my prayers ...
- Something I've recently taught myself ...

GET TO KNOW YOUR WRITING

Look back on your writing to determine your style, this helps you have a foundation of what you are working with

- colour code your writing with different aspects such as key message, use of descriptions, emotions, etc.
- read old emails you sent to close friends years back
- read your writing out loud
- describe your writing with three adjectives
- write a list of your most recent ten posts, the main message you conveyed in each one and the tone you used to convey that message (humour, empathy, nostalgia, etc)



**THIS WORKBOOK WAS DEVELOPED BY A LITTLE LIGHT,
A COMMUNITY FOR CANADIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN SOCIAL MEDIA. JOIN US!**



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