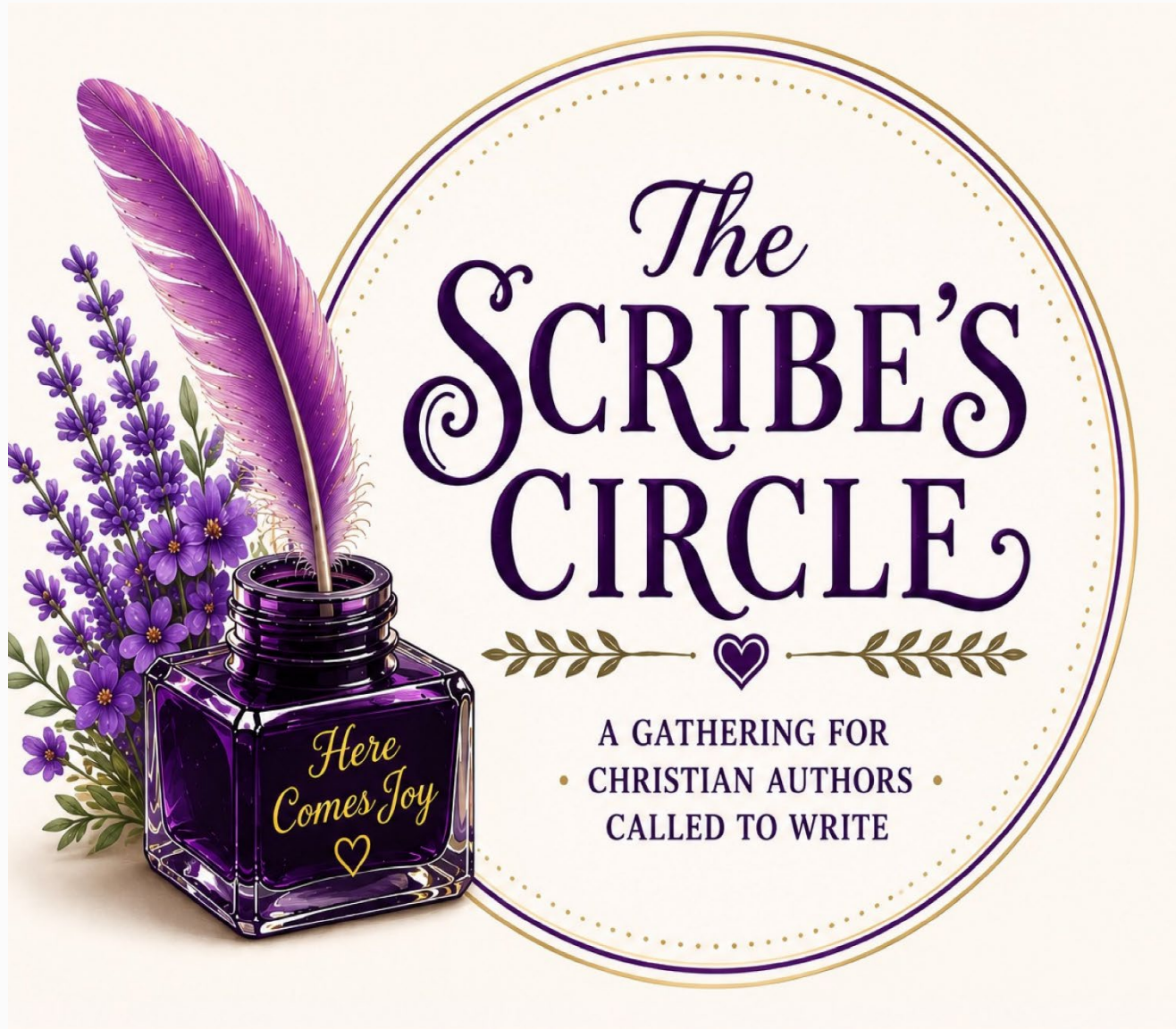




Your First Book

A Beginning Writer's Workbook

"Every book begins long before the first sentence."

Begin With the End in Mind

Every book begins with a purpose. Ask yourself: **Why is this book needed?** The best books most often come out of our own questions and needs. Your answer becomes the compass that guides every chapter you write.

Deepen Understanding

Share knowledge and wisdom

Bear witness and encourage

Preserve memories

Solve a problem

Enhance discipleship

Instruct and edify

Challenge assumptions

Bring healing and deliverance

Preach the Gospel

Finish This Sentence

Fill in the blank in your own words. There are no wrong answers.
— only honest ones.

I want to write this book because...

📌 Keep this sentence visible while you write. It will anchor you when the work gets hard.



Find Your Readers

Who are you writing for? What do you want them to experience? When they finish, what do you hope stays with them?

These questions work whether you're writing a memoir, a theological reflection, or a practical guide.

Biblical Teaching - Explores major revelations in Scripture to more clearly illuminate their meaning, context, and application to strengthen faith, knowledge, and wisdom in Christian living and witness.

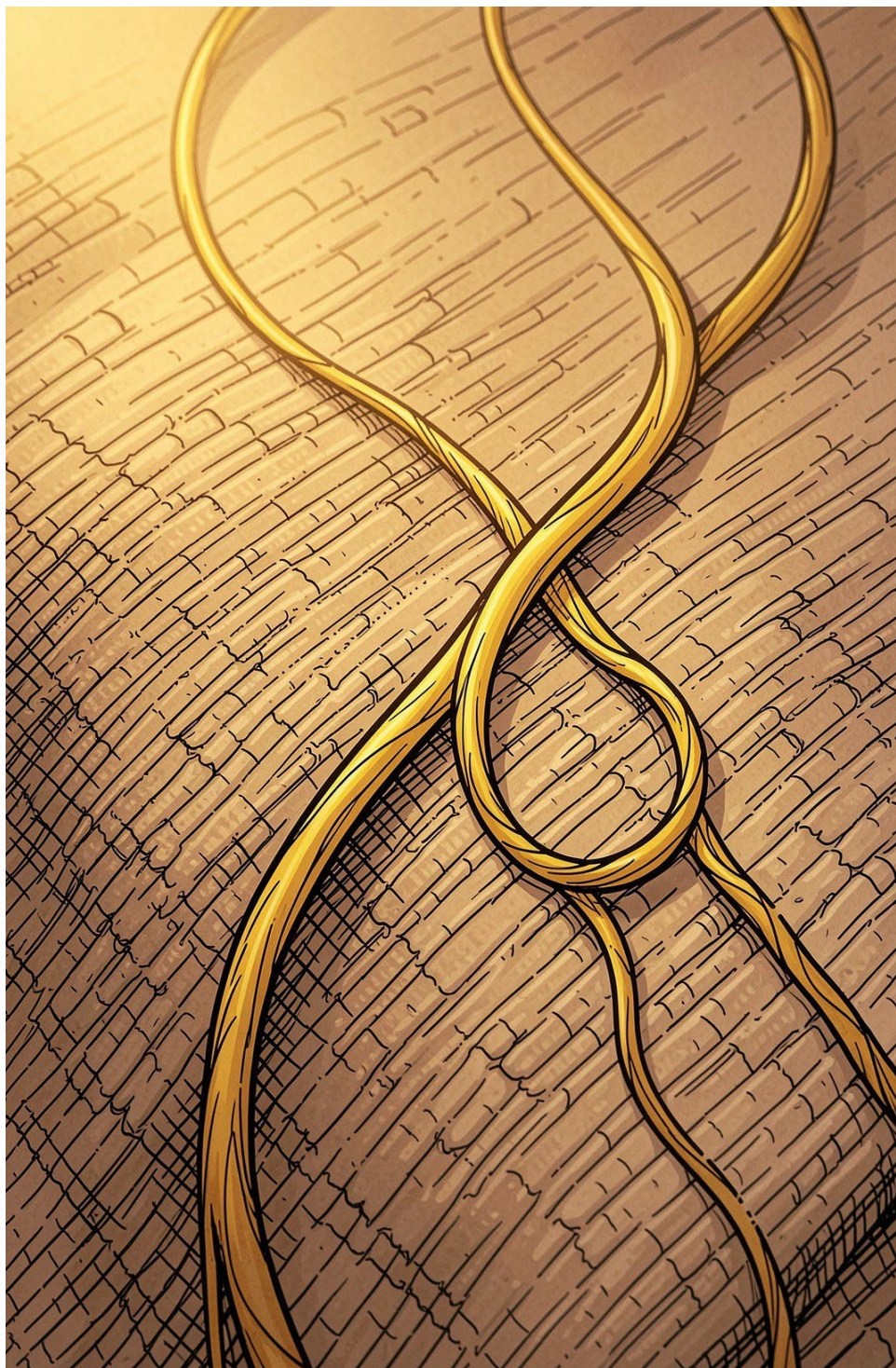
Prophetic Teaching - Studies prophetic gifts, revelation, and spiritual discernment in a biblically grounded way to personally hear and obey God's voice with maturity and wisdom.

Memoir - Shares a personal journey that reveals deeper truths or insights whereby readers are validated, encouraged, and inspired by seeing aspects of their own story reflected in the author's.

Devotional – Leads readers into structured, thoughtful reflections in Scripture wherein they encounter God personally, find encouragement, and develop a more consistent spiritual life through direct application of His Word.

Workbook - Guides readers through a process of learning, reflection, and practical application using exercises and activities to clarify thinking, nurture the development of new habits, and make meaningful progress toward a goal.

Educational and Informational - Explains an important topic and shares knowledge in a way that informs and engages readers.



Find the Thread

Every great book has one idea that holds everything together — a golden thread running through every chapter, story, and argument. Fill in the blank in your own words.

If readers remember only one thing after finishing my book, I hope they remember...

Gather Your Thoughts Don't Organize Yet — Simply Collect

Before structure, there must be raw material. Capture everything that belongs in your book — stories, questions, experiences, people, and sources.



Stories

Moments that shaped you or illustrate your key ideas.



Experiences

Personal encounters that give your book authenticity.



People

Characters, mentors, and voices that belong in your story.



Questions

The big questions driving your writing forward.



Ideas

Insights and arguments worth developing on the page.

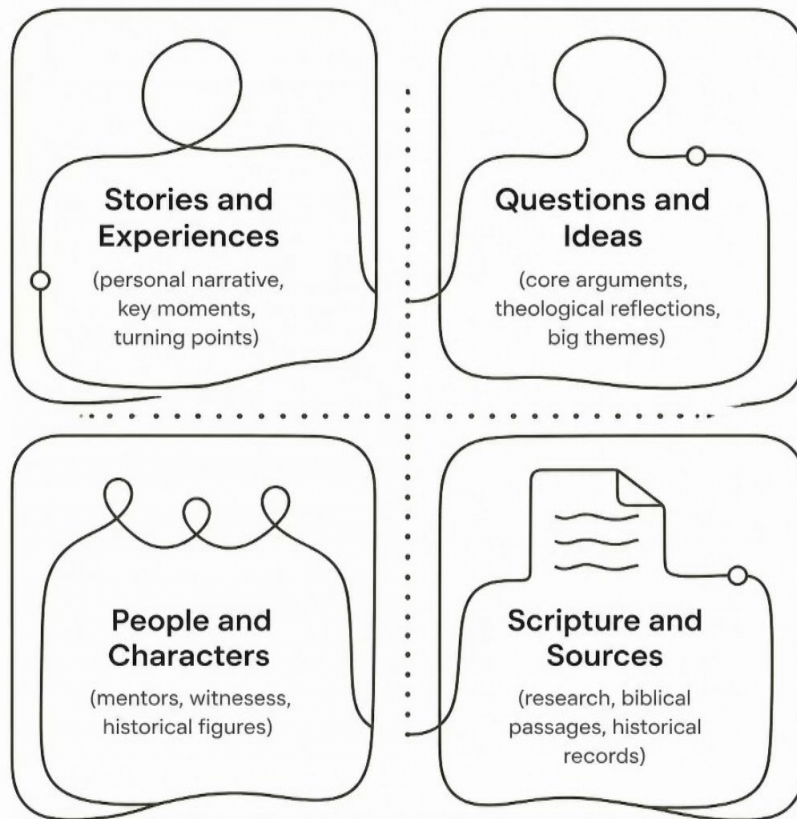


Scripture & Sources

Passages, research, and references that anchor your work.

Look for Connections

Now that your ideas are on the table, look for natural groupings. Which ideas belong together? These clusters may eventually become chapters, essays, meditations, or major sections.



From Clusters to Chapters

Each group you identify is a potential chapter or section. Don't force connections — let them emerge naturally from your material.

- What themes keep appearing?
- Which stories support the same idea?
- Where does one thought naturally lead to another?



These groupings are starting points, not final decisions. Your structure will evolve as you write.



Start Writing

You don't need to begin at the beginning. Start where the energy is strongest.

Write the Easiest Part First

Start with the story, memory, or idea that feels most alive right now.

Set a Timer

Write for 15-20 minutes without stopping. Don't edit. Just move forward.

Notice What Surprises You

The unexpected turns often point toward your book's true center.

Start with this intention: Today I will write about...

|

Pause & Reflect

Good writing requires both momentum and reflection. Use these prompts to check in with yourself and your work.

1

What felt alive while writing?

Notice which parts energized you — that's a clue about what matters most.

2

What felt difficult or stuck?

Resistance often points to something important waiting to be uncovered.

3

What surprised you?

Unexpected discoveries frequently become the heart of a book.

1

What do you want to explore next?

Let your curiosity guide your next writing session.



Your Book Is Already Beginning

Every great book starts exactly where you are now — with a purpose, a reader in mind, a thread to follow, and the courage to write one sentence at a time.

You have everything you need to begin.

The road ahead isn't meant to be rushed.

Take the next faithful step.