



# Women Of The Word

## Welcome

Welcome to the New Year! The Lord makes all things new, including our annual journey around the sun. Let's use this time to reflect on ways to grow closer to God, to make changes that have eternal value. New Year's resolutions often fail after just a few weeks. Only God can make changes that last forever. Consider some of the following:

- Commit to reading through the New Testament chronologically (with our church family). Expand your personal prayer life.
- Intentionally increase fellowship with believers. Cultivate quiet times to meditate on Scripture or simply sit in God's presence.

These are just a few suggestions to help you know God better. Whatever you do, make sure to pray and commit it to the Lord. He will direct your paths and enable you to maintain your commitment.

Seeking His glory,  
 Melanie Woltje  
 Women's Ministry Team Leader

## Mission Statement

FBC Women's Ministry exists to empower our ladies to use their God-given gifts in accordance with God's will.

Women's  
 Ministry

## Lessons From The Proverbs 31 Woman

As we continue our study through the poem of the virtuous woman found in Proverbs 31, I want to focus next on the role that I like to call: caretaker of the home. The Bible has a great deal to say to women about the responsibility of making their family and home a priority.

She carefully watches everything in her household and suffers nothing from laziness (Proverbs 31:27).

She gets up before dawn to prepare breakfast for her household and plan the day's work for her servant girls (Proverbs 31:15).

She makes sure her dealings are profitable; her lamp burns late into the night (Proverbs 31:18).

Similarly, teach the older women to live in a way that honors God. They must not slander others or be heavy drinkers. Instead, they should teach others what is good. These older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children, to live wisely and be pure, to work in their homes, to do good, and to be submissive to their husbands. Then they will not bring shame on the word of God (Titus 2:3-5).

Sadly, and much to the detriment of the family, our modern culture puts little value on prioritizing care of the home. In a society saturated with a continual hunger for more, women often find themselves working outside of the home. This often leaves a woman with little left over to give to her family and the care of her home at the end of a busy day. I encourage you dear sister,

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as I encourage myself, to go against the cultural grain. Make your family and your home a top priority! I've learned in life that oftentimes to care for our family and our home well, we may have to do without some worldly comforts. I've also learned that investing in the eternal well-being of our family matters more than any passing luxuries that this world can provide.

Ladies, may we rise early with eagerness to invest in our family in a way that honors God. May our lamps burn late into the night as we work hard providing a loving, peaceful, comfortable, and Christ honoring environment for our family. May we be women who prioritize our time and energy for the work God has assigned us. I'll leave you with one last challenging scripture:

A wise woman builds her home, but a foolish woman tears it down with her own hands (Proverbs 14:1).

In Christ,  
Vanessa



### *Bible Studies*

Sundays @ 5:00 pm - Church - New Testament Journey Study - This study is open to men and women to discuss our [New Testament Reading Plan](#). The study begins January 8.

Wednesdays @ 9:30 am - Joan Little's Home - Topic Varies

Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm - Fellowship Hall - Growing In Grace: Knowing and Loving God Through Spiritual Disciplines - Cost is \$10. - Begins February 7 - [Sign up here](#).



### *Follow Us*

Did you know we have a Women's Ministry Facebook Group? If you are not currently part of the group, we would love for you to be in the group. Look for us as Holton First Baptist Women's Ministry or click <https://www.facebook.com/groups/244260275623062>



### *Upcoming Events*

Jhett's Lunch - Tuesday, January 10 @ 11:30  
We meet the second Tuesday every month.

Girls' Night Out - January 24 - Trail's Cafe - 6:15 pm

Coffee & Conversation - March 4 @ 9:30 - Bring your own drink and meet in Fellowship Hall.



### *Online Resources*

K-Love

Our mission: To create compelling media that inspires and encourages you to have a meaningful relationship with Christ.

<https://www.klove.com/>

Kaylene Yoder

Wife. Mom. Author. Speaker. Grace Dweller. Wisdom Seeker. Broken Vessel. King Esteemer. Glory Hunter. Grow Meeker.

<https://kayleneyoder.com/>

### *FBC Women's Ministry Team*

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje  
Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Berges  
Bible Study Coordinator:

Event Coordinator:  
Encouragement Coordinator:

Contact Us: [womensministry@fbcholton.com](mailto:womensministry@fbcholton.com)



## Woman of the Bible

Sarah: Genesis 12 - 23

Sarah is remembered as the mother of the nation of Israel. As the wife to Abraham, her life is quite the adventure. When we meet Sarah in Scripture, she is already 65 years old and yet she has never borne a child.

Throughout the Biblical account, we see that her greatest desire was to have a child. It was a dream that already seemed impossible to her by the time we meet her. Her desire for children ate away at her. It was the thorn in her side, and every time we see strife in Sarah's life, it comes back to her desire for a child. Her heart was broken, and she felt that God must have been keeping her from bearing children. Sarah must have felt so confused as God promised to make a great nation out of her husband. The Lord made so many promises to Abraham, and yet to Sarah it must have felt that all these promises that the Lord had made depended on her ability or inability to bear a child.

Sarah felt that the promise of God was dependent on something she had to do, but she would eventually learn that God's promise was completely dependent on Him. God had promised the miraculous, and He would bring it to pass.

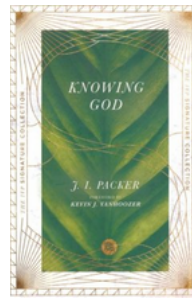
It was her desire to bring about God's promises on her own terms that led to one of Sarah's greatest downfalls - a plot for her husband to have a son through her servant. Yet the beauty of Sarah's story is this: despite the strife her desire for a child sometimes caused and her impatience as she waited for God to fulfill the promise He made, Sarah held on to hope and believed that "the one who had promised was faithful".

Sarah's life reminds us that we do not have to earn God's favor. We already have it, and He always keeps His promises. He will always be faithful.



## Book Recommendations

### Non-Fiction



*Knowing God* by J.I. Packer

Packer's modern classic has been helping Christians discover the joy of *Knowing God* for more than 45 years. Rooted in profound theological knowledge, yet readable and practical, this thought-provoking work will renew and enrich your understanding of the Lord. *Knowing God* brings together two important facets of the Christian faith— knowing about God and also knowing God through the context of a close relationship with the person of Jesus Christ.

### Fiction



*The Tinderbox* by Beverly Lewis

With her Amish parents' twentieth anniversary approaching, eighteen-year-old Sylvia Miller stumbles across a surprise—the old brass tinderbox her clockmaker father keeps in his Lancaster County shop has been left unlocked.

Against her better judgment, Sylvia opens the cherished heirloom, not realizing that what she is about to discover will splinter apart her happy life.

Sylvia's bewilderment grows when her father confronts her about snooping in the box. To her amazement, the respected convert to the Old Order reacts as if he has something to hide.

Burdened by the weight of his deception, Earnest Miller decides he must reveal the details about his past to his beloved wife, Rhoda. The long-kept secret alters everything for the close-knit family, jeopardizing Earnest and Rhoda's relationship, as well as threatening Sylvia's recent engagement to the preacher's grandson.

Can the Millers find a way forward through the turmoil to a place of forgiveness and acceptance?

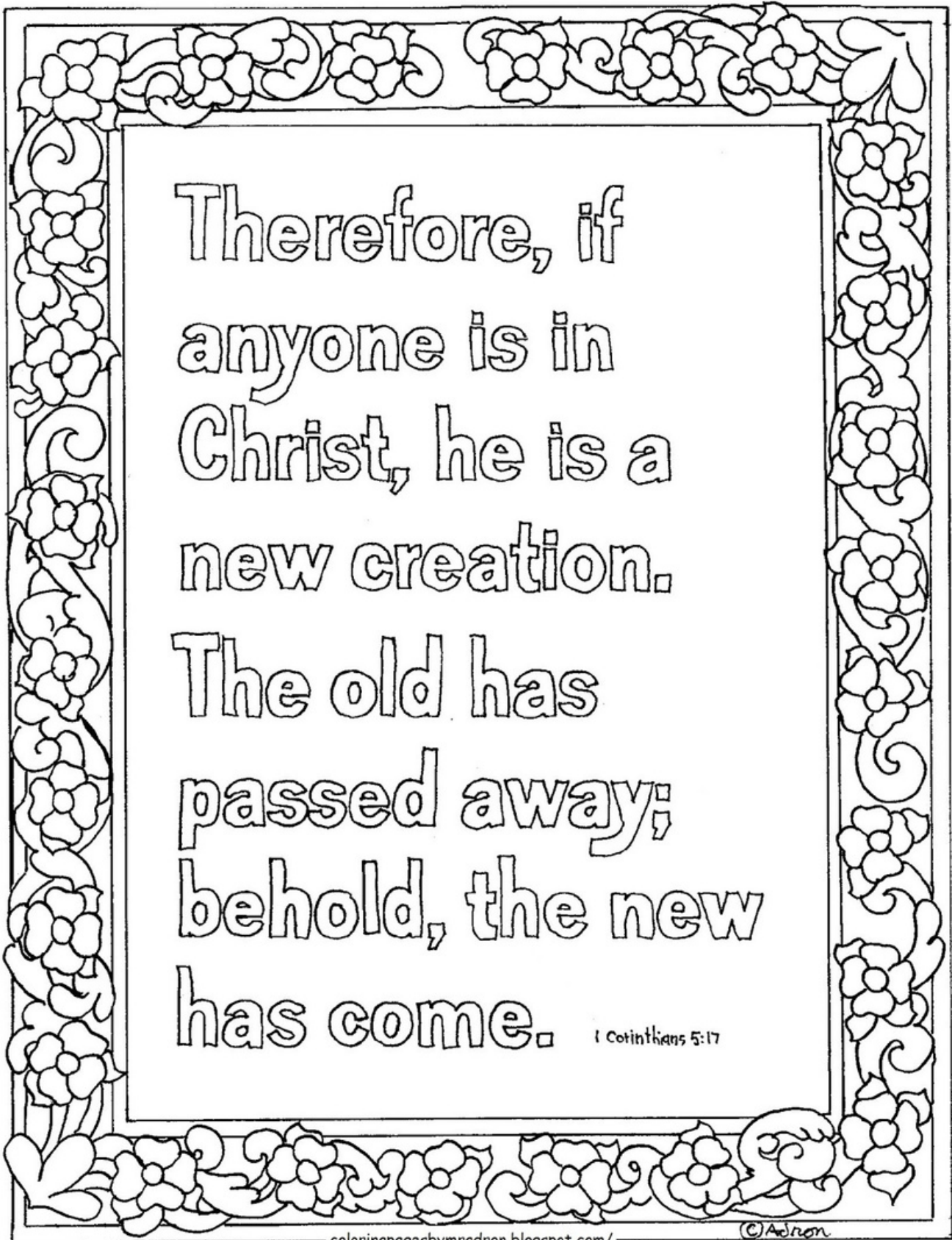
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Therefore, if  
anyone is in  
Christ, he is a  
new creation.  
The old has  
passed away;  
behold, the new  
has come. 1 Corinthians 5:17

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