



# Women Of The Word

## Welcome

The book of Ephesians tells us about a heavenly garment that we are to wear. It's called the Armor of God. Why put this armor on? The Bible says that the battles we fight are not against our fellow members of the human race. After all, we are commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves. We would hardly wear armor while interacting with our neighbors, co-workers, friends, or our family. No, the battles we, as Christian women, fight are against Satan and the powers of darkness. The armor of God entails different aspects of the Christian life—salvation, righteousness, faith, truth, peace, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the very word of God! When applied to our lives, this armor girds us up to fight the good fight, so put it on daily!!

In Christ,  
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

## 2 Ways to Practice Discernment in the Digital World

My boys love to set up pretend shops for my wife and I to go to. These shops sell everything from pencils to hand-drawn pictures to “books” which consist of a cover page and a whole bunch of blank pages after it. But these fake shops require real money. My boys are neither fooled nor amused when I hand them a printed, black-and-white dollar bill that is smaller than usual and blank on the back. They can spot the fake immediately.

But some money is not so obviously fake. Counterfeit bills often look so much like the real thing that special tests are required. Special pens can sometimes determine if a bill is counterfeit, but even these are unreliable. According to the United States Federal Reserve, the best way to spot a fake is to familiarize yourself with the real thing.

The ability to tell the difference between something real and something fake is called discernment, and it's something we're called to have as Christians. Romans 12:2 calls us to be “transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.” Discernment means recognizing how to live in a way that pleases God, and to recognize when malicious (or even seemingly well-meaning) voices are calling us to disobey Him.

This has always been a need for Christians. In the Apostle John's day, there were many false prophets roaming around. To a degree, they certainly looked like they were Christians. But they were saying that Jesus hadn't actually taken on a human body, denying a core element of the Christian faith. So John cautions them to “not believe every spirit, but test [them] to see if they are from God” (1 John 4:1–3). In this case, prophets who denied

Jesus's incarnation were false; those who affirmed it were true.

Living in the digital age, the need for discernment is perhaps greater than it has ever been. Between the Google search bar and social media, there's no shortage of voices ready to give us advice on whatever we may be going through. Some advice might be obviously bad for someone trying to follow Jesus. But other bad advice is less obvious. So how do we practice discernment in a digital world?

1. First, we spend time in Scripture. Just as people train to spot counterfeit bills by studying the real thing, we will grow in our ability to discern truth from error by regularly reading God's Word. "Regularly" is important here. We often face situations in life that the Bible does not explicitly address. But as we spend time with the Lord by reading His Word, our hearts and desires will become aligned with His own, and we will be better equipped to approach such situations in ways that honor and please Him.

2. Second, involve other believers. Simply put, it is far easier to practice discernment when you are surrounded by other people who also love Jesus and who care for you. That's not to say that community is a fool-proof way to discern truth from error. But it is harder to distinguish between right and wrong on your own than it is within the context of the church.

As we grow in our knowledge of Scripture and surround ourselves with others who are doing the same, we will grow in our ability to know what does and does not please our God. Let us then approach God's Word prayerfully, asking with the psalmist: "give me understanding so that I may know your decrees" (Psalm 119:125).

(Scott Dickson @ Daily Grace Company)



## 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](#).

Wednesdays @ 9:30 am - Joan Little's Home (26675 P Rd) - Topic Varies

The Full Armor Of God - Mondays @ 6:30 beginning September 11 - Meet in Fellowship Hall - Please sign up to help us provide enough material for everyone. You may sign up on our app or on our [website](#).



## Upcoming Events

Jhett's Lunch - Tuesday, September 12 @ 11:30  
We meet the second Tuesday every month.

GNO (Girls' Night Out) - Fall Cookout @ Brooke Black's Home (12862 Oak Ridge Dr.) - 5:30 pm - We will provide everything. Please sign up by September 23 to help us prepare. 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>

## FBC Women's Ministry Team

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje

Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Berges

Bible Study Coordinator:

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

Event Coordinator:

Encouragement Coordinator:



## Woman Of The Bible

Rachel: Genesis 29-35

Rachel is known for her beauty and for the way that Jacob desperately loved her. But beauty and love were not enough to make her happy. Jacob would labor seven years to win her as his bride, but a trick from her father left him to wake up to Rachel's older sister the day after the wedding. We often focus on Jacob in this portion of the story as he was tricked by Laban into marrying a woman who he had not intended to marry; but imagine the anguish Rachel felt as she was forced by her father, at the last moment, not to participate in what would have been her own wedding. Instead, she watched her sister marry the man who she loved.

Rachel was loved, and she was beautiful, but she was also childless. While her sister bore children to her beloved husband, she had none. Envy of her sister stirred in her heart. Rachel felt bitter and forgotten. Her life had certainly not turned out the way that she had planned. Her romantic fairy tales had come crashing down. Her desire for children would cause strife between her, her sister, and her husband, and she was left feeling worthless and alone.

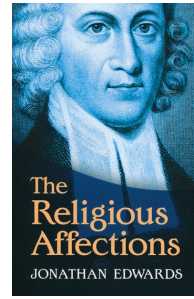
But God remembered Rachel (Genesis 30:22). When she felt forgotten and alone, she was seen by the Lord. She would bear two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, and God would use her children in His perfect plan. Her life may not have turned out the way that she had planned, but God would redeem her story.

God will use your story as well, even if life has not turned out the way that you planned. Even if you feel alone and rejected, He sees you. He remembers you. His plan for you is good.



## Book Recommendations

### Non-Fiction



*The Religious Affections*  
by Jonathan Edwards

In one of the unsurpassed religious masterpieces of American writing, Jonathan Edwards distinguishes between true and false religion by defining a believer's correct affections and explaining their importance. He further identifies the distinction between genuine-seeming and legitimate affections.

A Christian preacher and one of the greatest theologians of the English-speaking world, Jonathan Edwards played a critical role in the First Great Awakening and oversaw some of the first revivals in 1773 at his church in Northampton, MA. His famous sermon "Sinners in the Hands of Angry God" remains a classic of early American literature, and *Religious Affections* constitutes essential reading for divinity students and students in American religious history.

### Fiction



*Threads of Suspicion* by Dee Henderson

Get inside the minds of Evie Blackwell and the best of the best investigative team as they re-open cold cases for the Governor's new Missing Persons Task Force. Each has their own style when it comes to their search methods. Become a part of the intense details and find yourself on the edge of your seat as they pull that next thread that leads them yet another step closer to finding the abductors.

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## Online Resources

### **Revive Our Hearts**

Revive Our Hearts exists to help women thrive in Christ. Founded in 2001 as a successor to Elisabeth Elliot's ministry Gateway To Joy, Revive Our Hearts is making a difference through daily audio content, trusted resources, digital outreach, and impactful conferences. By elevating God's Word, Revive Our Hearts calls women to freedom, fullness, and fruitfulness in Christ.

[www.reviveourhearts.com](http://www.reviveourhearts.com)

### **Faithfully Following Ministries**

When reading their story, it states: "So what is our story? Our story is Jesus. His life on earth, His death on a cross, and His resurrection. His salvation, His love and His grace that is freely given in order to bring joy to us even in times when joy and pain collide. For He has called us to speak and sing His name – all for His glory!"

On this site, you will find a blog, free downloads, and Bible Studies.

[www.faithfullyfollowingministries.org](http://www.faithfullyfollowingministries.org)



Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. - Eph. 6:10-20

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